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For Immediate Release

Statement on the passing of Chairman Harold Monteau

Washington, D.C., December 31, 2025 – The National Indian Gaming Commission mourns the passing of former NIGC Chairman Harold Monteau, a dedicated public servant whose leadership helped shape the early direction of Indian gaming regulation and strengthened tribal self-determination.

Mr. Monteau served as the Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission during a pivotal period following the enactment of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. In that role, he played a key part in building the Commission's regulatory framework and guiding the growth of Indian gaming as a tool for economic development, government services, and community well-being for tribal nations. His work helped establish standards that continue to support the integrity and success of tribal gaming. Chairman Monteau's leadership ensured regulatory oversight was grounded in respect for tribal authority and the unique needs of each nation.

NIGC extends its sincere condolences to Chairman Monteau's family, friends, and all those who had the privilege of working with him. We remember his contributions to Indian gaming and to tribal nations and their lasting positive impact.

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The National Indian Gaming Commission's mission is to support tribal self-sufficiency and the integrity of Indian gaming through effective regulation. Together with tribes and states, NIGC regulates more than 500 gaming establishments operated by nearly 250 tribes across 29 states. To learn more, visit www.nigc.gov and follow us on [Facebook](#), [social platform X](#), and [LinkedIn](#).