



National Training Conference (NTC)

Tuesday, July 7, 2026			
SESSION TIMES (CDT)	SESSION TITLES <i>*Virtual Live Stream Options are not recorded</i>		
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION		
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	WELCOME & ICE BREAKER ACTIVITY Opening and Introductions		
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. <i>*Virtual Live Stream Option</i>	GENERAL SESSION: Cyber Threats Targeting the Gaming Industry *		
BREAK / NETWORKING			
11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. <i>*Virtual Live Stream Option</i>	GENERAL SESSION: NIGC Agency Update *		
LUNCH (On Your Own)			
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Track 1 <i>Virtual Live Stream Option</i>	Track 2	Track 3
	Essential Roles of a Regulator IGRA § 2710 and 25 CFR Parts 502, 543, 556, 558, 559 *	Understanding MICS Requirements: Manual vs. Electronic Bingo 543.8	Creating, Implementing and Activating your Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
BREAK			
3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Gaming Ordinance 522*	Incorporating and Regulating AI in Tribal Gaming	How to Conduct an EPHS Assessment for TGRAs and Operations

Agenda Subject to Change





National Training Conference (NTC)

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

SESSION TIMES (CDT)	SESSION TITLES <i>*Virtual Live Stream Options are not recorded</i>		
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Track 1 <i>Virtual Live Stream Option</i>	Track 2	Track 3
	Background Investigations 556 and Gaming Licenses 558 *	Surveillance 543.21 MICS	Information Technology (IT) Threats for Casinos 543.20
BREAK			
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Licensing Process 556 and 558 *	Intro to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) 25 U.S.C. §§ 2701–2721	NIGC and/or FBI NIGI / NCJITS Audit(s): What to expect!
LUNCH (On Your Own)			
12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.	EPHS Panel Discussion: Fires, Floods and Evacuations! Are You Prepared? *	Requirements of IGRA and Pitfalls of Non-Compliance 25 U.S.C. §§ 2701–2721	Inside Player Tracking Systems: From Operation Controls to Audit Essentials 543.12 and 543.24
BREAK			
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Compliance Meets Innovation: Using AI to Develop TICS and SICS *	When Records Go Wrong 543.23	What to Expect on a Site Visit
BREAK			
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) and Compliance with 25 CFR Part 558.3(f) *	When Records Go Wrong 543.23 Continued	Cloud Computing in Tribal Gaming: Common Questions and Concerns 543.20
BREAK			
4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	NTC Wrap-up		

Agenda Subject to Change



GENERAL SESSION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Cyber Threats Targeting the Gaming Industry

This session shares the cyber threats targeting the gaming industry and identifies core concepts in mitigating cyber threats.

Presenter(s): Frank Corral, Special Agent, FBI

NIGC Agency Update

This session highlights the National Indian Gaming Commission's latest achievements, initiatives, and modernization efforts. Participants will get clear updates on agency operations, training opportunities, cybersecurity advancements, and upcoming priorities, along with a look at how the NIGC continues to strengthen support for Tribal gaming through expanded resources, renewed travel and training, and improved digital services. The session concludes with an open conversation, giving attendees a chance to connect, ask questions, and engage directly with NIGC staff.

Presenter(s): NIGC Leadership

SESSION TRACKS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Background Investigations 556 and Gaming Licenses 558 (25 CFR Parts 556 and 558)

This power packed session breaks down NIGC's Regulation 556, guiding you through the essential requirements for conducting background investigations on key and primary management officials. Participants will explore background investigations, Tribal eligibility determinations and the report to the commission. This session helps equip compliance professionals and regulators with the tools necessary to ensure suitability, protect Tribal gaming integrity and maintain the highest standards of trust.

Presenter(s): TBA – STP CO's

Cloud Computing in Tribal Gaming: Common Questions and Concerns (25 CFR § 543.20)

This course will focus on cloud-based computing, what it is, how it is being utilized in gaming, and technical and regulatory challenges to consider before, during, and after incorporating cloud-based systems in a Class II or Class III casino environment. Participants will gain an understanding beyond a definition of "the cloud," as real-life examples and commonly asked questions from tribes to the NIGC will be covered throughout this session.

Presenter(s): Jeran Cox, TRACS Auditor

Compliance Meets Innovation: Using AI to Develop TICS and SICS

This session demonstrates how AI can serve as an innovative and technological partner in developing TICs (Tribal Internal Controls) and SICs (Standard Internal Controls) under NIGC guidelines. Participants will learn how to leverage AI to streamline compliance workflows, enhance oversight, and ensure alignment with regulatory standards, while maintaining data security, privacy, and ethical AI practices. Through practical examples and engagement, attendees will gain actionable strategies to use AI responsibly for smarter, faster, and more innovative internal control development, strengthening both compliance and operational integrity.

Presenter(s): Kirian Fixico, Training Specialist

Creating, Implementing and Activating your Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan

In this session you will be able to access the Model Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan template from NIGC's website, draft an emergency response and preparedness plan for your facility/facilities, implement part of an emergency preparedness and response plan in a scenario-based group activity.

Presenter(s): Eddie Ilko, Safety and Occupational Health Manager

Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) and Compliance with 25 CFR Part 558.3(f)

The NIGC Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Audit Unit (CAU) is responsible for the implementation of the NIGC's external and internal compliance strategies to achieve and demonstrate compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and NIGC concerning Noncriminal Justice Fingerprint Submissions.

Presenter(s): Amber McDonald, CJIS Auditor, Derek Holbert, CJIS ISO, and Steven Steiner, Deputy CJIS Systems Officer

EPHS Panel Discussion: Fires, Floods and Evacuations! Are You Prepared?

In this panel discussion you will hear from the Potawatomi TGRA and Casino Operations on how they prepare for and respond to different types of emergencies. From fires, floods and evacuations, learn about the advantages of not only having and developing an emergency preparedness plan but also having and developing a proactive rather than a reactive approach and why that matters when disaster strikes.

Presenter(s): Eddie Ilko, Safety and Occupational Health Manager, Wayne Perry, Compliance Officer Forest County Potawatomi Gaming Commission, Sam Wetzler, Training Specialist

Essential Roles of Regulator (IGRA § 2710 and 25 CFR Parts 502, 543, 556, 558, 559)

In this session, Regulators, like all staff in gaming operations, are asked to perform many tasks. Being an expert in all things gaming is difficult, if not impossible. Let us break down some essential roles of regulators to ensure compliance. We will also look at some areas throughout the gaming operation that have valuable reports (e.g., revenue audit, surveillance, internal audit) to help with your day-to-day activities.

Presenter(s): Shannon Wilmeth and Valarie Longhair, Compliance Officers.

Gaming Ordinance (25 CFR Part 522)

Join us for an informative session on Tribal Gaming Ordinances! This session will outline the essential regulatory requirements for gaming operations, while incorporating best practices to enhance compliance, safety and efficiency. Whether you're a Tribal leader, regulatory leader or operations leader, this session is your opportunity to learn how your ordinance can set a strong foundation for gaming regulation.

Presenter(s): Daneille Wu, Staff Attorney

How to Conduct an EPHS Assessment for TGRAs and Operations

In this session you will be able to explain the purpose and methodology of an EPHS Assessment, locate and download the EPHS Site-Visit Checklist from the NIGC website, assess potential EPHS findings and risk levels in a group activity and explain the development and implementation of a Corrective Action Plan (CAP).

Presenter(s): Eddie Ilko, Safety and Occupational Health Manager

Incorporating and Regulating AI in Tribal Gaming (25 CFR § 543.20)

This session will focus on Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the gaming industry and elsewhere. Participants will learn how AI has been used in gaming for years, and how AI will continue to evolve and affect our work environments. From a gaming regulatory perspective, the course will address some of the benefits and dangers of this rapidly progressing technology, and ways to reduce risk to tribal assets via effective controls.

Presenter(s): Jeran Cox, TRACS Auditor

Information Technology (IT) Threats for Casinos (25 CFR § 543.20)

The course will assist tribal gaming regulators, operations, and IT personnel to gain understanding of how to protect gaming operations from threat actors. Topics will include but not be limited to current and trending threats to IT systems, security within the technological framework (i.e. ransomware, social engineering, etc.) and focus on threats, vulnerabilities and processes in the casino. Attendees will learn what risks exist and how best to combat them.

Presenter(s): Eddie Hall, TRACS Auditor

Inside Player Tracking Systems: From Operation Controls to Audit Essentials (25 CFR § 543.12 and 543.24)

This course introduces the minimum control requirements essential for effective oversight of Player Tracking Systems (PTS). Participants will explore the key components that make up a functional and compliant PTS, gaining a deeper understanding of how each piece fits into the larger operational picture. The training also highlights best practices for auditing these systems, equipping learners with practical methods to identify issues and verify control integrity. By the end, attendees will be prepared to confidently evaluate and audit player tracking environments.

Presenter(s): Gena Caviness, Supervisory Auditor and Charlie Parker, Analyst

Introduction to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) (25 U.S.C. §§ 2701–2721)

Join us for a review of the document that created the regulatory framework for the Indian Gaming we see today. We will be discussing IGRA's history, purpose and results. Covering IGRA requirements as well as submission requirements. To get back to the basics, we need to start from the beginning!

Presenter(s): Daneille Wu, Staff Attorney

Licensing Process (25 CFR Parts 556 and 558)

This session will provide an overview of using Kiteworks for Notice of Results (NORs), Issuance of License (IOL), and other licensing submissions, including how submissions are processed, common issues and errors, ways attendees can help ensure accurate and timely submissions, and the types of reports available to TGRAs. The session is designed for Commissioners, TGRA Executive Directors, Licensing Supervisors, and Licensing Agents and will focus on practical guidance and best practices to improve the overall submission process.

Presenter(s): Debra Bailey and Jennifer Hammer, Administrative Specialists

NIGC and/or FBI NGI / NCJITS Audit(s): What to expect!

The NIGC Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Audit Unit (CAU) is responsible for the implementation of the NIGC's external and internal compliance strategies to achieve and demonstrate compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and NIGC concerning Noncriminal Justice Fingerprint Submissions. CAU staff deliver training, provide technical assistance and conduct selective audits / investigations of those Tribes with an executed, suspended, or terminated MOU with the NIGC regarding CHRI.

Presenter(s): Amber McDonald, CJIS Auditor and Derek Holbert, CJIS ISO

Requirements of IGRA and Pitfalls of Non-Compliance (25 U.S.C. §§ 2701–2721)

This session will provide an overview of the IGRA requirements and explain how non-compliance with one or more of these requirements can constitute a violation of IGRA. Participants will learn what happens when an IGRA violation is identified by the NIGC. But, most importantly, we'll highlight proactive strategies and best practices so that Tribes and gaming operations can prevent issues before they occur.

Presenter(s): Daneille Wu, Staff Attorney

Surveillance 543.21 MICS (25 CFR § 543.21)

Join us for an engaging deep dive into the minimum Internal Control Standards for **Surveillance 543.21**. We'll break down what you *need* to know and connect it to real-world regulatory impact. But that's not all—this session also showcases a powerful resource: **NIGC's Surveillance Tool Kit**. You'll walk away with practical tools, sharper awareness, and stronger confidence in your surveillance responsibilities. Don't miss this chance to strengthen your skills and elevate your oversight capabilities!

Presenter(s): TBA

Understanding MICS Requirements: Manual vs. Electronic Bingo (25 CFR § 543.8)

This course provides a comprehensive overview of the Minimum Internal Control Standards (MICS) as they apply to both manual and electronic bingo operations. Participants will explore the key differences between manual and electronic control environments, gaining an understanding of how each system functions, what risks they mitigate, and why specific controls are required. Through practical examples and comparisons, the course equips auditors, compliance professionals, and operational staff with the knowledge necessary to evaluate bingo processes effectively and ensure regulatory compliance.

Presenter(s): Gena Caviness, Supervisory Auditor

What to Expect on Site Visit

This session will help guide you through what to expect before, during and after an NIGC Site visit. You will learn about NIGC's authority, pre-site visit communications, understand what documentation may be requested and reviewed, and gain insights into the steps following a site visit. This is a great opportunity to learn about NIGC and one of the many roles of our Compliance Officers.

Presenter(s): Sandra Smalley, Compliance Officer and Compliance Officer, Armando Zaragoza

When Records Go Wrong (25 U.S.C. § 2710)

Gaming revenue is the cornerstone of tribal operations, but when misused, it can lead to serious compliance violations. This training dives into the use of gaming funds, with a focus on one of the pitfalls: credit card misuse. You will explore real-world scenarios of revenue misuse and the consequences. How credit card misuse occurs, from personal expenses to unauthorized purchases. Additionally, you will learn to spot red flags, implement strong controls to protect your organization's gaming revenue.

Presenter(s): Shawwna Castellano, Region Director and David Privratsky, Auditor