Mark Phillips serves as the Portland Region Director at the National Indian Gaming Commission. As Region Director, he is responsible for the technical assistance, training and compliance at 53 Indian gaming facilities owned and operated by 48 federally recognized tribes located in the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Prior to becoming Region Director in 2008, Phillips was a Field Investigator for three years. Before joining the NIGC, Phillips spent 26 years in law enforcement. He started with the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office from 1979 to 1983. In October of 1983, he joined the Oregon State Police and served in various capacities including an assignment to the Forensic Services Division where he participated in the development of Oregon’s first Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). In 1996, he joined the newly-created OSP Tribal Gaming Section during the early introduction of class III gaming in Oregon. In 2002, he became part of team within OSP that established a multi-agency task that focused on tobacco tax diversion schemes and product smuggling.

Phillips graduated from the Board on Police Standards and Training Academy in 1979 at the Oregon College of Education in Monmouth, Ore. He is also a graduate of the Oregon State Police Academy and in addition to three years of course work in Optical Technology and Criminology education. He has completed specialized Criminal Science education courses at the FBI Training Academy in Quantico, Va.

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act created the National Indian Gaming Commission to support tribal self-sufficiency and the integrity of Indian gaming. The NIGC has developed four initiatives to support its mission including (1) To protect against anything that amounts to gamesmanship on the backs of tribes; (2) To stay ahead of the Technology Curve; (3) Rural outreach; and (4) To maintain a strong workforce within NIGC and with its tribal regulatory partners. NIGC oversees the efficient regulation of 497 gaming establishments operated by 244 tribes across 29 states. The Commission’s dedication to compliance with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ensures the integrity of the growing $29.9 billion Indian gaming industry. To learn more, visit www.nigc.gov and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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