

# Poarch Creek Tribe Partners in Increasing Law Enforcement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Poarch Creek Indian Reservation**, Alabama – August 22, 2006 – The Poarch Band of Creek Indians will dramatically increase the number of police officers in the Montgomery and Wetumpka area this week. The Poarch Creek gaming enterprise, PCI Gaming, is hosting a cross-deputization ceremony of tribal police officers by county and city officials Thursday, August 24, 2006.

Fifteen tribal officers will be sworn in at 9:00 A.M. at the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office "Muster Room". Ten additional officers will be sworn in by the City of Wetumpka at Alliant Bank at 11:00 A.M.

The officers, whose salaries are paid by the tribe, have received extensive training and were employed by tribal government prior to undertaking their new joint duties. The tribal officers have completed Alabama Peace Officer certification for state jurisdiction, and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Law Enforcement Services certification for federal jurisdiction.

"I think this is great for everyone involved," says Larry Hammonds, Police Chief of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. "By joining our departments together, we all benefit from increased manpower and coverage. We have had the same type of mutual law enforcement agreement in place with the Escambia County Alabama Sheriff's Office for over twenty years. We have great working relationships with both the Montgomery

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County and City of Wetumpka departments. The tribe has hosted training in numerous law enforcement techniques and cross-jurisdiction for the departments we have mutual agreements with.”

“These officers are some of the finest in law enforcement”, said Buford L. Rolin, Chairman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. “We feel honored to be able to share their abilities and professional services with our neighbors. Safety and security of our communities is a top concern for all of us in Alabama and we are proud to have the resources to do our part in this effort.”

“Being good neighbors is part of our culture,” added Chairman Rolin. “If there is a need that we can help meet, we are always happy to do our part.”

### **About the Poarch Band of Creek Indians**

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is the only federally recognized Indian Tribe in the state of Alabama, operating as a sovereign nation with its own system of government and bylaws. The Tribe operates a variety of economic enterprises, which employ hundreds of area residents. Poarch Creek Indian Gaming manages three gaming facilities in Alabama, including: the Creek Entertainment Center in Atmore; Riverside Entertainment Center in Wetumpka; and Tallapoosa Entertainment Center in Montgomery. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is an active partner in the state of Alabama, contributing to economic, educational, social and cultural projects benefiting both tribal members and residents of these local communities and neighboring towns. The Tribe’s Planned Giving Campaign includes significant donations to local schools, education scholarships, senior centers, youth athletics, and charitable organizations.

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