

## MEMBERSHIP RELEASE

September 4, 2024 - Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

Yesterday, President Reider and Vice President Weddell was invited to attend Governor Noem's follow up meeting to the Law Enforcement Summit held in June. The meeting was very product with the Sissetonwans, Crow Creek, Yanktonais and our nation Wakpa Ipaksan in attendance.

Discussions included the successes that have been experienced across the state, when engaging in cooperative partnerships. The governor's hope is to convince the five remaining Native nations to join the partnerships being established, while ensuring the respect of each government's sovereign rights and territorial boundaries. In addition, the governor made mention of her desire to draft a bill for the next legislature; ensuring that Native American law enforcers are recognized throughout the state as Peace Officers.

The Governor and her staff relayed to the assembly that 21 candidates graduated from the state's 13 Week Law Enforcement Training program, which began on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, of which nine (9) are Native American candidates. The graduation ceremony was held on Tuesday at the George S. Mickelson's Criminal Justice Center in Pierre.