

# **7th Annual Tribal State Court Consortium**

**“An Intersection of Courts and MMIWG”**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019**

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

HEATHMAN LODGE, VANCOUVER, WA

## **Presenter Bios**

### **Ms. Annita Lucchesi – Sovereign Bodies Institute**

Annita Lucchesi (Cheyenne) is Executive Director of Sovereign Bodies Institute, a research institute dedicated to community-engaged research on gender and sexual violence against Indigenous people. Sovereign Bodies Institute (SBI) builds on Indigenous traditions of data gathering and knowledge transfer to create, disseminate, and put into action research on gender and sexual violence against Indigenous people. For more information on SBI, please visit their website, at [sovereign-bodies.org](http://sovereign-bodies.org).

Annita is also a doctoral student at the University of Arizona, pursuing a PhD in Geography. She earned her BA in Geography, with a minor in Global Poverty & Practice, from the University of California, Berkeley, and graduated from Washington State University with her MA in American Studies. She is a survivor of domestic and sexual violence, as well as trafficking, and her experiences guide her work as a researcher and scholar. She is also the founder of the MMIW database, which is now housed at SBI.

### **Sheldon Spotted Elk – Casey Family Programs, Indian Child Welfare Programs**

Sheldon Spotted Elk (Northern Cheyenne) works for Casey Family Programs, Indian Child Welfare Programs, consulting in both state and tribal jurisdictions. He has extensive expertise and regularly speaks on Tribal law, child welfare and children legal issues. His area of focus also include cultural humility and ethics in children’s representation.

He was recently appointed as a judge on the Ute Indian Tribe (Uintah & Ouray) Court of Appeals. Also taught as an adjunct professor at Lewis and Clark Law School.

He published a law journal article on tribal constitutional reform and he has authored articles on the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Sheldon is a graduate from University of New Mexico School of Law, (*Juris Doctorate*), and Certificate in Federal Indian Law. He completed his undergraduate degree from University of Utah College of Social Work. He is the father of two sons.