

Shawn Chase

Regulatory Specialist

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“My specialty is providing mentoring support to clients, Tribal leader training, and developing robust, risk-based regulatory strategies that align with today’s modern gaming best practices. I work quickly to provide clients with innovative solutions that help overcome obstacles and support Tribal and gaming operation objectives.”

Shawn Chase is a member of the Ko Kwel Indian Tribe and is an experienced regulatory specialist focused on tribal governmental gaming regulation and intergovernmental relations. He brings over 29 years of expertise in federal gaming law, including Class I, Class II, and Class III gaming, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), Tribal gaming ordinance development, General Welfare Ordinances, Revenue Allocation Plan development, and State Tribal gaming compacts. Shawn provides accurate, timely interpretations of regulations, laws, policies, and procedures to help clients achieve their objectives while maintaining strong regulatory compliance. He advises tribes and their enterprises on the development of internal controls, risk mitigation measures, and compliance systems that support effective and sustainable regulatory operations.

Shawn brings deep experience in government relations. He has a proven record of building and maintaining collaborative relationships among tribal, federal, and state governments, and of fostering mutual understanding among diverse constituent groups. His work reflects a strategic, practical approach informed by a strong understanding of governance structures and regulatory processes at all levels.

Shawn’s perspective is grounded in extensive experience working both within tribes and for tribal regulators. Prior to joining Miller Nash, he served as Director of Gaming Commission Compliance for the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation. He has also worked as a policy advisor for the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Office of Indian Gaming, as a Region Director for the National Indian Gaming Commission, and as a gaming inspector, police officer, and Tribal Housing Board Commissioner for the Coquille Indian Tribe.

Education

M.S., Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Native American leadership, 2026 (anticipated)

B.S., Eastern Oregon University, anthropology & sociology, Native American studies minor, 2017

Languages

Miluk (Ko Kwel Indian Tribe)

Shawn has also served on numerous committees and boards within his own Tribe, such as Culture and Education, Health, Natural Resources, and Strategic Visioning. This background enables Shawn to provide informed, balanced guidance tailored to the operational realities facing tribal governments and gaming enterprises across a wide spectrum of areas.

Presentations

- “Ready to Improve Your Environment, Public Health, and Safety (EPHS) Program? Join Us to Learn How!” Indian Gaming Tradeshow & Convention, panelist (Mar. 2026)
- “Reliability = Trust: Commission Compliance and Game Integrity,” Indian Gaming Tradeshow & Convention, panelist (Mar. 2026)
- “Part 293 Regulations,” The Seminar Group, Northwest Gaming Law Summit (Dec. 2025)
- “Compacting A-Z: Mastering Compacting Regulations,” Glacier Peaks Resort (Sept. 2024)
- “Revenue Allocation Plans,” U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region, Partners in Action Conference (Aug. 2024)
- “Compacting 202,” U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region, Partners in Action Conference (Aug. 2024)
- “Compliance Roles and Responsibilities,” National Indian Gaming Commission, Washington D.C. Regional Training Conference (Nov. 2019)
- “Tribal Background and Licensing,” National Indian Gaming Commission, Washington D.C. Regional Training Conference (Nov. 2019)

Recognition & Honors

- National Indian Gaming Commission, Trainer of the Year, 2021

Personal Activities

In his off-time, Shawn’s family and Tribe keep him busy! Shawn participates on numerous Tribal committees and boards, and when he is not doing that he can be found hanging out with his family, fishing, playing pickleball, or enjoying the bountiful outdoor opportunities the Pacific Northwest provides.