



*the* Catawba Nation

## **Office of Tribal Government**

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### **Catawba Nation Tribal Police Swear-In First Catawba Citizen as Sergeant**

**ROCK HILL, SC-** The Catawba Nation Tribal Police Department welcomed their first Catawba Nation Citizen as the new Tribal Sergeant in their police force. Issac Rodgers was sworn-in today by Catawba Nation Chief Brian Harris.

Sergeant Rodgers comes to the Catawba Nation with over four years of law enforcement experience with the Camden South Carolina Police Department as a Patrol Corporal, and then previously as a Sergeant with the Winthrop University Police Department.

Growing up on the Reservation, Sgt. Rodgers said he became interested in becoming a police officer when he met one at a career day at Southpoint High School. "No one saw this [a tribal police department] happening in the near future until [Executive Director of Public Safety] Shawn (Butler) and his team came in and did a great job establishing the police department," he said. "I'm excited that I can serve my people in this capacity. My dad always said serving others, you develop love for a lot of people, and give as much love as you can."

"Today, we celebrate the swearing-in of a Native American police officer, embodying the strength, resilience, and unity of our diverse communities," said Catawba Chief Brian Harris. "Let this oath serve as a reminder that together, we can bridge divides, foster understanding, and safeguard justice for all."

Sgt. Rodgers is the Nation's first sworn police officer where he will serve as a first line supervisor for future patrol officers that the Nation hires. He will undergo several months of field training before he is deployed on his own to begin patrolling the Catawba Nation Reservation answering calls for service for our citizens. As a supervisor, he will also be responsible for training recruit officers once they graduate the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy on the policies and procedure of CNTPD, as well as ensuring new officers understand and incorporate restorative justice into their policing duties.

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