## OGLALA SIOUX TRIBAL PRESIDENT

## JULIAN R. BEAR RUNNER

## **BIOGRAPHY**

President Julian R. Bear Runner is currently serving as the 43<sup>rd</sup> President of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. His political service has just begun and is on an exciting track. He is 2<sup>nd</sup> youngest Tribal President in Oglala Sioux Tribal history. President Bear Runner has overcome many odds, yet is inspired to bring in a new generation leadership, working hard for the Lakota people's survival and dignity. He is a strong advocate and voice for exercising and protecting the Oglala Sioux Tribe's sovereignty and ensuring that the United States honors and adheres to its Treaty obligations as well as their federal trust responsibility.

President Bear Runner is a proud U.S. Army veteran and proudly served as an Infantryman from 2008 to 2011. He was also employed at the Oglala Sioux Tribe Clinical Lab as a Lab Technician prior to taking office in this political arena. He also worked for the Oglala Sioux Tribe Department of Public Safety, as well as the Oglala Sioux Tribe Ambulance Service.

President Bear Runner is an active advocate for improving conditions for the elders by meeting their unmet needs; seeking solutions for improved health care for all Tribal Members; elevating the youth voice for issues facing them today (as they will be the future leaders); providing youth-focused opportunities by initiating a youth internship program, and seeking funding for constructing or creating 'safe spaces' for the youth. Many of these issues will be helped through President Bear Runner's platform to increase revenue, small businesses and provide job opportunities through economic development.

During President Bear Runner's administration, he is committed to improving the quality of life for the Oglala Sioux Tribal Members through a few different endeavors, such as but not limited to, creating specialty markets for our Tribal buffalo herds; potential hemp production through a Tribal farm; international commerce through such activities associated with Black Hills and Badlands tourism; health care and increase opportunity for home ownership for our Oglala Lakota veterans; and emergency management related issues that the federal government denies assistance for; continued wind farm production; initiate Green New Deal support; and seeking opportunities for tiny eco homes for both young adults and veterans.

President Bear Runner is a lifetime resident of the Pine Ridge Reservation, other than his service to the U.S. Army. He takes pride in working and helping the youth and his relatives to empower their identity.