



## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Twelve Clans Welcomes New Leadership**

On March 22, Twelve Clans Inc., (TCI) welcomed Michael J. Roberts, JD, MBA, a Tribal Citizen of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, as the new CEO. Roberts brings over 25 years of expertise working with Tribal governments and Native-owned economic development businesses cultivating over 25 years of executive leadership in corporate strategy, business development, marketing management, finance, and business planning.

Roberts received his Bachelor of Science in Marketing at Northern State University in 1996. Furthering his academic career, he pursued a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix and his Juris Doctor from Hamline University School of Law in 2015.

Roberts has extensive leadership experience working in Tribal development for Section 17 Corporations. As the CEO of the Chicken Ranch Economic Development Corporation and the Tuolumne Economic Development Authority, Inc., Roberts provided diversified business and professional investment resources for the Tribal Corporations' future development.

Before his proven success in economic development, Roberts started his career in marketing. He was the Assistant Director of Marketing at the Dakota Sioux Casino and later worked as President and CEO at Marketing Evolution, Inc. In this position, Roberts worked with hundreds of clients from Tribal governments and communities, corporations, and entrepreneurs in business planning and economic development. He grew annual sales from \$7,000 to over \$14 million without a line of credit while operating with a strict operational cash flow.

In his free time, Roberts likes to carpet sculpture, upholster, read, and learn new skills. He enjoys spending time with his wife and four kids. He is a Veteran of the US Army and the National Guard.

A few weeks earlier, TCI appointed Joseph Brown Thunder, a Tribal Citizen of the Ho-Chunk Nation, to serve as the Chairman. Prior to this position, Brown Thunder was the Treasurer and Secretary of the Board.

"We are thrilled to have Roberts on our Team," Brown Thunder remarked. "He is a proven leader with the vision to expand on the success of Twelve Clans has built and to take us into our next phase of growth and innovation."