

**MEDIA ADVISORY** For Events Occurring May 30, 2015 CONTACTS: Tracy Reinhard: 303 882-7222 Jorge Castillo: 213 840-3336 Michael Scippa: 415 548-0492

# The Struggle to Stop Whiteclay Nebraska's Alcohol Bootlegging

## Denver REEL Recovery Film Festival Panel and Premiere of Documentary Radical Resistance Tour: Pine Ridge, South Dakota

DENVER, COLORADO (May 27, 2015) -- Industry watchdog Alcohol Justice has organized a post-film panel discussion on the impact of the illegal alcohol activity taking place in the town of Whiteclay, Nebraska, which borders the Pine Ridge, South Dakota Native American Reservation.

**What:** Panel discussion following the Denver premiere screening of *Radical Resistance Tour: Pine Ridge, South Dakota* 

When: Saturday May 30, 2015, at 4:30 P.M.

Where: Sie FilmCenter 2510 E. Colfax Ave. Denver, CO 80206-1411

Who: Panelists:

- Olowan Martinez, Oglala Lakota Activist
- Evelyn Nieves, Independent Journalist
- Sonny Skyhawk, Founder and CEO, American Indians in Film and Television
- Bruce Livingston E.D. / CEO, Alcohol Justice
- Jorge Castillo, Advocacy Director, Alcohol Justice (Moderator)

### Why:

- 25% of Pine Ridge Reservation youth suffer from Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- 2/3 of Pine Ridge Reservation adults suffer from alcoholism
- To stop the illegal alcohol activity at Whiteclay, Nebraska such as:
  - o Retailer participation in alcohol smuggling into the Pine Ridge Reservation
  - Trade of alcohol for sex
  - Loitering at the premises of alcohol retailers with open containers
  - The inability of Nebraska Liquor Commission to stop illegal retailer activity
  - Recent homicides and physical violence
  - Alcohol sales to minors
  - Alcohol sales to intoxicated people

### About the REEL Recovery Film Festival:

The film and the panel are part of the REEL Recovery Film Festival Denver Edition. The festival is presented by CeDAR, the Center for Dependency, Addiction and Rehabilitation. Tickets to the film and panel can be purchased online or at the event.

### About the Film:

Four liquor stores in the town of Whiteclay Nebraska (population 12), are selling and bootlegging 3.5 million cans of beer a year into the Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota, where it is illegal to possess or consume alcohol. All types of criminal activities take place at the stores yet local law enforcement and the Nebraska state government have failed to act. The documentary shows what activists at Pine Ridge are doing to change the situation. The Radical Resistance Tour that produced the documentary is an autonomous project by a group of mediamakers and organizers. The film, produced in 2014, runs 25 minutes.

To buy tickets online: http://www.denverfilm.org/filmcenter/detail.aspx?id=27360&FID=85

To learn more about Pine Ridge: <u>http://www.nytimes.com/2012/05/06/opinion/sunday/kristof-a-battle-</u>with-the-brewers.html?\_r=0

To see the full schedule of the Denver REEL Recovery Film Festival: http://www.denverfilm.org/filmcenter/detail.aspx?id=27365

RELATED LINKS http://www.AlcoholJustice.org

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