



U. S. Department of Justice

Office of the Associate Attorney General

The Associate Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

May 20, 2011

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am honored to invite you to government-to-government consultations next month with the United States Department of Justice on possible Federal legislative proposals to address the issue of violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. As you know, the Department of Justice has been engaging in consultations with tribal leaders about public safety generally and violence against women specifically. Next month's consultations will be an opportunity to build on those earlier consultations and address specific Federal legislative proposals.

The Department of Justice will be hosting both in-person and telephonic consultations in mid-June. The in-person session will be held on Tuesday afternoon, June 14, 2011, at the Frontier Airlines Convention Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, during NCAI's Mid-Year Conference. The conference-call consultations will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 16 and 17, both at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time, to accommodate those who are unable to attend the consultation in Milwaukee or wish to continue the discussion. On June 16, please dial 888-790-3590 and enter the passcode 7643438; on June 17, please dial 888-790-3590 and enter the passcode 7643466.

Subject Matter of the Consultations

We expect that Congress will take up reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act this year and will be considering a number of proposals that will substantially impact tribal governments. The purpose of these government-to-government consultations is to solicit recommendations from tribal leaders on whether additional Federal statutory authorities could enhance the safety of Native American women.

Attached to this letter is a framing paper outlining some of the particular proposals on which the Department seeks your input at the consultations. In addition to the proposals outlined in the framing paper, we encourage you to raise any other issues or recommendations that you would like.

Registration and Logistics

If your tribe elects to designate someone who is not an elected or appointed tribal leader as its official representative for the consultation, we are requesting that the designee be prepared to submit either a resolution from your tribal council or a letter from you on official letterhead confirming his or her status as your tribe's official representative.

For those tribal leaders who are unable to attend the Milwaukee session in person or to participate in either of the telephonic sessions, as well as other tribal leaders who may wish to supplement their in-person or telephonic participation, the Department of Justice will accept written comments anytime before the close of business on Friday, June 17. Please send written comments to:

Office on Violence Against Women
United States Department of Justice
ATTN: Tribal Unit
145 N Street, NW, 10th floor
Washington, DC 20530
Fax: (202) 305-2589
E-Mail: OVW.VAIW@usdoj.gov

Additional information and updates about the consultations will be available at www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov. We hope you will be able to join us for some or all of these important government-to-government consultation sessions and look forward to meeting with you this June. If you have questions about the consultations, please contact Mr. Tracy Toulou, the Director of the Department's Office of Tribal Justice, at tracy.toulou2@usdoj.gov or at (202) 514-8812.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Perrelli
Associate Attorney General