

BJA Virtual Listening Sessions: Setting Priorities for Tribal Appropriations

You are invited to participate in two webinar sessions, hosted by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), which will gather the views of tribal stakeholders in order to inform the federal-tribal partnership and grant-making priorities. Your voice and perspective—along with those of your fellow stakeholders—are *the* essential building blocks of a successful tribal funding agenda that addresses both urgent and ongoing criminal justice needs.

The **Tribal Stakeholder Preparatory Session**, scheduled for Wednesday, <u>March 13</u>, and **the Virtual Tribal Listening Session**, scheduled for Tuesday, <u>March 26</u>, fulfill a FY 2019 Congressional directive that BJA consult closely with tribal stakeholders in determining how BJA tribal assistance funds will be awarded for comprehensive justice system planning; tribal justice facilities; court system enhancements; alcohol and substance abuse programs; civil and criminal legal assistance; alternatives to incarceration; addressing violent crime in Native communities; and other priorities. By identifying and clarifying those priorities, the sessions will result in more efficient delivery of needed grant funding, and in turn enhanced safety and security in Indian Country.

In order to maximize flexibility in its tribal grant programs, BJA welcomes input about additional ways its funding can enhance tribal safety and security, and whether its existing training and technical assistance meets needs to build capacity and expertise within tribal justice systems. BJA is also working to improve the grant-writing capacity of tribes generally, so that the geographic representation of its funding reaches areas of greatest need.

Stakeholders invited to participate include tribal leaders, tribal justice practitioners, grantees, evaluators/researcher, statisticians, tribal organizations, nonprofit organizations working on tribal issues, and representatives of tribal, federal, state, and local governments working on public safety in Indian Country, tribal communities, or native villages.

Both sessions will be streamed live over the Internet and require prior registration. Both are closed to the press. Information about joining the sessions will be emailed to registered participants prior to the session(s). The Tribal Stakeholder Preparatory Session will be available for playback.

Tribal Stakeholder Preparatory Session *Date*: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 *Time*: 1:00 – 3:00 pm Eastern Time *Registration*: Click here to register. Virtual Tribal Listening Session Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 Time: 12:00 – 2:00 pm Eastern Time Registration: <u>Click here to register.</u>

Additional information and future listening session materials will be posted at <u>BJA Tribal Listening Sessions webpage</u> and <u>DOJ Tribal Justice Safety webpage</u>. If there are more specific requests or questions, please send an email to BJA at <u>DOJtribalfunding@usdoj.gov</u>.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs supports tribal governments in addressing their public safety needs. In addition to providing grants to tribal governments to support public safety efforts, BJA provides training and technical assistance (TTA) to tribal governments and supports implementation of evidence- and research-based practices.