



**U.S. Department of Justice**

Office of Justice Programs

*Bureau of Justice Assistance*

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*Washington, D.C. 20531*

August 10, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

You are invited to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Tribal Consultation Program consisting of two virtual sessions described below. The goal of the BJA annual consultation with tribal leaders and tribal designees is to identify criminal justice policy issues and tribal priorities to support tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. The ultimate goals are to improve law enforcement and public safety in tribal communities and native villages; and support grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal law enforcement in achieving safer communities.

The BJA Tribal Consultation Program includes two sessions. They are:

- **Overview of BJA Tribal Justice Funding and Programs / Pre-Consultation Session**

*Date:* Wednesday, August 25, 2021

*Time:* 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) will provide information on tribal justice funding and programs; and preview questions that will be posed during the upcoming Tribal Consultation Virtual Session on September 15<sup>th</sup>. To register, click [here](#).

- **BJA Tribal Consultation Virtual Session**

*Date:* Wednesday, September 15, 2021

*Time:* 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

During this session, BJA will hear from tribal leaders and stakeholders to help inform how BJA tribal assistance funds and programs can best support Tribal and Native communities. Focus areas will include: 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 session will result in more efficient delivery of needed grant funding, and in turn enhanced safety and security in tribal communities and native villages. This session will include a facilitated question-and-answer session for tribal leadership. To register, click [here](#).

Tribal Leaders are invited to both sessions. Other tribal stakeholders are also invited to participate including tribal justice practitioners, grantees, evaluators/researchers, statisticians, tribal organizations, nonprofit organizations working on tribal issues, and representatives of tribal,

federal, state, and local governments working on public safety in tribal communities and native villages.

A [framing paper](#) has been developed to help guide tribes as they consider and provide their positions during the virtual session and is available online at the [BJA Tribal Consultation](#) webpage.

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.

For more information or questions, please contact Norena A. Henry, Senior Policy Advisor for Tribal Affairs at [Norena.Henry@usdoj.gov](mailto:Norena.Henry@usdoj.gov) or 202-598-9465.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristen Mahoney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristen Mahoney  
Acting BJA Director