



JPCNAA
JUSTICE PROGRAMS COUNCIL
ON
NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS
CHARTER

July 12, 2007

JPCNAA

Justice Programs Council on Native American Affairs

CHARTER

I. NAME

The name of the Council shall be the Justice Programs Council on Native American Affairs (JPCNAA).

II. PURPOSE

The JPCNAA is organized for the following purposes:

In keeping with the President's priorities and the Attorney General's goals and objectives, the Justice Programs Council on Native American Affairs, hereinafter referred to as JPCNAA or Council, is established at a senior level in the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) to ensure tribal justice and safety policy issues and strategies are developed and embraced by OJP leadership in response to the OJP Strategic Plan's "One OJP" model. This policy advisory body will (a) help to identify opportunities and programs relevant to Indian tribes and Native communities, (b) address issues of concern to Indian tribes and Native communities, (c) serve as a focal point within OJP for coordination, outreach and consultation on justice and safety issues affecting the American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native American (AI/AN/NA) population nationwide, and (d) serve as a liaison advisory body to other Department of Justice (DOJ) agencies, bureaus and offices that desire to participate on the Council.

To effectuate these goals, the JPCNAA will perform the following activities.

1. Formalize a structure for programs, policy priorities, and soliciting feedback by creating an environment for leadership to introduce innovation and recommend action required to effect new and improved Native American strategies.
2. Educate employees and increase attention to the need to address AI/AN/NA justice and safety issues.
3. Create baseline measures, and establish and achieve goals that are consistent with the AI/AN/NA challenges and priorities.
4. Reaffirm the Department of Justice's (DOJ) recognition of the sovereign status of federally recognized Indian tribes as domestic dependent nations and the adherence to the principles of government-to-government relations.

5. Inform Department personnel, other federal agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, and the public of the Department's working relationships with federally recognized Indian tribes, and guide the Department in its work in the field of Indian affairs.
6. Develop and promote a DOJ policy to provide greater access and quality services for American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Americans (AI/AN/NAs) throughout the Department and where possible, the Federal government.
7. Promote implementation of DOJ policy and DOJ agency plans with AI/AN/NAs and Tribal governments in accordance with statutes, executive memorandum and executive orders.
8. Identify and develop legislative, administrative, and regulatory proposals which promote an effective, meaningful AI/AN/NA policy to improve tribal justice systems and public safety for AI/AN/NAs.
9. Identify and develop a comprehensive Departmental strategy proposal which promotes self-sufficiency and self-determination for all AI/AN/NA people.
10. Promote the Tribal/Federal government-to-government relationships on a Department-wide basis that builds on the principals of Executive Orders 13336, 13270, 13175, 13132, and 13007.

III. **FUNCTIONS**

The functions of the JPCNAA may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Promote the highest quality tribal justice systems and enhance the public safety of AI/AN/NA people by enhancing the coordination, collaboration, and consultation processes with AI/AN/NAs, Tribal leaders and local communities in the design of Federal policies regarding tribal justice and safety.
2. Promote a Departmental strategy to provide a comprehensive service delivery system for AI/AN/NAs, which identifies and targets priority needs related to tribal justice and safety in the AI/AN/NA Community and focuses on interagency coordination with other Departments and non-Federal organizations to meet these needs, in accordance with Presidential executive memorandum, executive orders, and the DOJ Policy on Tribal Sovereignty and government-to-government relations with Indian tribes.
3. Monitor and track Departmental Attorney General initiatives for AI/AN/NA inclusion.

4. Provide recommendations for developing short, intermediate and long-range solutions to improve Department policy and programs that target AI/AN/NAs.
5. Distribute information, data and statistics that accurately describe the tribal justice and safety needs of AI/AN/NAs and the Departmental resources expended to meet these needs.
6. Advise and provide input to the OTJ on Department-wide implementation of the DOJ policy in furtherance of Executive Order 13175 (November 2000) which reiterates the government-to-government relationship and the requirement that each Department develop a mechanism to coordinate and consult with Tribal governments. It is the policy of the Department to consult with AI/AN/NA people to the greatest practicable extent and to the extent permitted by law before taking actions that affect these governments and people. The OTJ has lead responsibility for DOJ consultation, including consultations with Tribal Governments and AI/AN/NA communities, and serves as the DOJ central point of contact for AI/AN/NA governments and their representative organizations.

IV. AUTHORITY

The JPCNAA, which will be responsible for achieving the purposes set forth in this Charter, is established in the Office of the Assistant Attorney General (OAAG), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), with oversight provided by the Assistant Attorney General for OJP (AAG) as the Council Chairperson, and the JPCNAA executive direction provided by the Senior Advisor to the AAG for Tribal Affairs/JPCNAA Executive Director. This Charter is established for the JPCNAA to reflect the responsibilities conferred on the JPCNAA by the AAG, authorized under the general authority of the AAG. *See, e.g.*, Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act (Public Law 90-351), 42 U.S.C. Chapter 46, subchapter I and 42 U.S.C. Chapter 46, subchapter VIII; Section 108(a) of the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2000, (Public Law 106-113); and Atty Gen. Order No. 1473-91, ¶¶ 1, 7 (Feb. 19, 1991).

V. ORGANIZATION

A. Justice Programs Council on Native American Affairs

1. **Chairperson:** The AAG will serve as the Council Chairperson and the Chief of Staff (COS) for OJP will serve as the alternate.
2. **Council:** The JPCNAA will serve as a senior level advisory body to the AAG regarding Native American affairs. The authority exercised by the JPCNAA to implement its various actions is the authority of the JPCNAA and not the individual authority of its respective members. This authority shall always

rest within the JPCNAA, but may be delegated with the approval of the AAG to Committees, Workgroups, Officers, or representatives, as determined by the JPCNAA.

3. **Members:** The JPCNAA membership shall be appointed by the Chairperson, and shall be the heads of principal operating divisions within the OJP, as determined by the Chairperson, and such persons in the Office of the AAG as the Chairperson may designate. The Chairperson may also appoint other DOJ agency, bureau or office heads, or their designees, who wish to participate.
4. **Executive Director:** The Senior Advisor to the AAG for Tribal Affairs will serve as the JPCNAA Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible to the JPCNAA Chairperson. The Executive Director serves as the principal management officer for all JPCNAA functions and is the principal JPCNAA liaison between and among the JPCNAA's membership, and other agencies.
5. **Liaisons:** Each JPCNAA member shall identify at least one staff person to serve as a liaison to the Council. The Council Liaison must be knowledgeable about their respective agency, bureau, or office's programs and budgets, and have ready access to senior program leadership and be empowered to speak on behalf of their respective DOJ agency, bureau, or office. Members may identify additional agency, bureau, or office staff members they believe are necessary to perform the JPCNAA Liaison functions.
6. **Workgroups and Advisory groups:** The JPCNAA may create workgroups and advisory groups as necessary to carry out the work of the JPCNAA. Members may identify staff experts they believe are necessary to perform the JPCNAA Workgroup or Advisory group activities.

B. Responsibilities of the Chairperson

The Chairperson of JPCNAA is charged with the overall direction of the JPCNAA. The Chairperson shall preside over all JPCNAA meetings or activities.

The JPCNAA Chairperson, through the Executive Director, will be responsible for the flow of information between and among participating JPCNAA members, the Department, and other interested parties.

The Chairperson may make all other appointments, officers, representatives and staff, as may be considered necessary and appropriate to accomplish the functions of the JPCNAA.

VI. COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

A. Management and Administrative Staff

The JPCNAA's Executive Director is responsible for the management and administration of JPCNAA activities; the administration of funds provided for JPCNAA activity; preparation of agendas for meetings, and maintaining the records of all JPCNAA business, including the preparation and dissemination of minutes from JPCNAA meetings.

JPCNAA staff may be provided to the JPCNAA through the Office of Assistant Attorney General, as directed by the JPCNAA Chairperson. JPCNAA staff shall be directly responsible to the Executive Director. Staff support for the JPCNAA may come through personnel details of DOJ staff. Staff identified as potential details to the JPCNAA should be highly qualified with knowledge and/or experience in AI/AN/NA issues. Detailed employees to the JPCNAA will be selected by the Chairperson, and Executive Director, with the concurrence of the applicable agency, bureau, or office head.

When necessary, the Council Liaisons will be assigned to assist the Executive Director on special projects, with the concurrence of the applicable agency, bureau, or office head.

Space, equipment, supplies, materials, administrative support, and funds for JPCNAA activities will be managed and coordinated by the Executive Director.

B. Meetings

The JPCNAA shall meet at such places it considers appropriate, on no less than a bi-annual basis. The Chairperson through the Executive Director shall make every effort to provide JPCNAA members a thirty-day advance notice of JPCNAA meetings.

The JPCNAA Tribal Liaisons, and other established committees or work groups, shall meet with such frequency and at such places as it considers appropriate.

C. Quorum

A majority of Members of the JPCNAA shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of official business.

D. Issue Resolution

The JPCNAA will make every effort to resolve issues by developing a consensus among the Members. In the event a consensus cannot be reached, the JPCNAA will resolve issued based on a vote of the members present at a meeting, conducted through a show of hands.

APPENDIX

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WORKGROUPS

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Tribal Public Relations, Education and Outreach Workgroup

Purpose: To ensure a coordinated approach for all tribal press and related public relations activities, increase tribal education efforts regarding OJP and other DOJ components, develop internal communications strategies recommendations, and maintain up to date information for the "Tribal Justice and Safety Website."

Research, Data Collection and Information Sharing Workgroup

Purpose: Improve the coordination among OJP and other DOJ components working on Indian country issues for the improvement of the quality, accessibility, and completeness of tribal justice statistics, research, evaluation, information technology, and information sharing.

Youth Initiatives Coordinating Workgroup

Purpose: Improve coordination and information sharing between OJP and other DOJ components on Department initiatives and programs for youth, e.g., (TYP, DEC, AMBER, Helping America's Youth, etc.)

Tribal Grants Policy/Training & Technical Assistance Workgroup

Purpose: Develop a recommended AAG tribal grants policy, coordinate OJP training and technical assistance providers serving Indian country, and develop a recommended training & technical assistance process for OJP to implement which can serve as a model for other DOJ components.

Tribal Codes Development and Infrastructure Workgroup

Purpose: Support the White House Indian Affairs Executive Working Group May 15-17, 2007 National Native American Economic Summit in Phoenix, Arizona, an interdepartmental effort focused on economic policy for Indian country; and, provide the follow up support for the summit outcomes and recommendations.

Federal Employee/Workforce Native Education & Training Workgroup

Purpose: Support the White House Indian Affairs Executive Working Group to develop a draft Executive Order (EO), and an education and training program to implement a government-wide federal employee/workforce education and training program about American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) tribal governments; and, to provide recommendations to implement the same program tailored for DOJ purposes.