



Greetings from U.S. Attorney Scott Asphaug

I hope this spring edition of our Indian Country newsletter finds everyone well. As you will see in the sections below, 2022 is off to a busy start for our Indian Country team (IC team).

In February, we welcomed two new members onto our IC team. Both are experienced prosecutors who bring a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm to our office's Tribal work. In their individual capacities, they will focus on the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Chemawa Indian School, respectively.

In March and April, we secured an important plea from a defendant who defrauded the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and charged another case involving the theft of a vehicle from the Burns Paiute Tribe. We also announced charges against a former WNBA player for allegedly assaulting her partner on the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

In May, we joined President Biden in recognizing Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day and used the commemoration to reaffirm our commitment to solving these cases and addressing their underlying causes. We also celebrated the appointment of a Grand Ronde Tribal member and an Oregon State Police captain to the Department of Interior and Department's of Justice's joint Not Invisible Act Commission.

Like many Oregonians (at least west of the Cascades), I am looking forward to welcoming more sunny days as we move from spring into summer. This is not without some concern, however, as we all know warmer and dryer weather will once again aggravate persistent drought conditions across the state and increase the near-constant threat of wildfire. Our office, especially the members of our IC team, will continue to do everything we can within our authority to support the Tribes and Tribal communities who continue to navigate both environmental issues.

Despite the recent increase in cases here in Oregon and around the country, our office is optimistic about our collective pandemic trajectory and hope we will continue to see improvement. With improving conditions, we sincerely hope to resume meeting in-person with many of you. I'm sure everyone would agree that there is no substitute to meeting and working together in-person as we have for so many years.

I will end my note by sincerely thanking each of you for your service to your communities and your continued partnership with our office. We are deeply committed to our Indian Country work and if there is ever anything I can do to support you and your community, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm always just a phone call or email away.

Sincerely,

Scott Erik Asphaug

U.S. Attorney

District of Oregon



U.S. Attorney's Office Indian Country Team

The U.S. Attorney's Office is excited to announce two new changes to our Indian Country team (IC team). In February 2022, AUSA Ashley Cadotte was assigned as the lead prosecutor for violent crime in Indian Country related to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and AUSA Scott Kerin has been assigned as the lead prosecutor for crimes related to the Chemawa Indian School. Both AUSA Cadotte and AUSA Kerin are excited to join the existing IC team members and look forward to addressing relevant issues. Below is a brief bio and contact information for AUSA Cadotte and AUSA Kerin. In addition, the other IC team members are listed.

2022 Indian Country Team Additions

AUSA Ashley Cadotte (CTUIR): AUSA Ashley Cadotte has been with the U.S. Attorney's Office since December 2019 and is the dedicated prosecutor for crimes related to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. AUSA Cadotte is located in our Portland Office and can be reached at ashley.cadotte@usdoj.gov or (503) 727-1000.

AUSA Scott Kerin (Chemawa Indian School): AUSA Scott Kerin has been with the U.S. Attorney's Office since 2002 and is the dedicated prosecutor for crimes related to the Chemawa Indian School. AUSA Kerin is located in our Portland Office and can be reached at scott.kerin@usdoj.gov or (503) 727-1000.

Existing Indian Country Team Additions

AUSA Craig Gabriel, Chief, Organized & Violent Crime: AUSA Craig Gabriel is Chief of the Organized & Violent Crime Unit.

AUSA Natalie Wight, Deputy Chief, Organized & Violent Crime: AUSA Natalie Wright has been an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice since 2003 and with the District of Oregon since 2012.

AUSA Tribal Liaison Tim Simmons (All 9 federally recognized tribes): AUSA Tim Simmons has been an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice since 1995 and serves as a Tribal Liaison for all 9 Tribal Nations. AUSA Simmons is located in our Eugene Office and can be reached at tim.simmons@usdoj.gov or (541) 465-6740.

AUSA Pam Paaso (Warm Springs): AUSA Pam Paaso has been with the U.S. Attorney's Office since February of 2017 and is the dedicated prosecutor for crimes related to the Warm Springs Tribe. AUSA Paaso is located in our Portland Office and can be reached at pamela.paaso@usdoj.gov or (503) 727-1000.

AUSA Jeff Sweet (Burns Paiute and Cow Creek): AUSA Jeff Sweet has been with the U.S. Attorney's office for 12 years and is the dedicated prosecutor for crimes related to the Burns Paiute Tribe and Cow Creek Tribe. AUSA Sweet is located in our Eugene Office and can be reached at jeff.sweet@usdoj.gov or (541) 465-6903.

Tribal Victim Assistance Specialist Ella LeVally: Ella LeVally became the Tribal Victim Assistance Specialist in 2020 and is located in the Portland Office. Ella can be reached at ella.levally@usdoi.gov or at (503) 727-1172.

MMIP Coordinator Cedar Wilkie Gillette: Cedar Wilkie Gillette has been the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) Coordinator since June 2020 and is located in our Eugene Office. Cedar can be reached at Cedar.Wilkie.Gillette@usdoj.gov or (541) 465-6045.

AUSA Erin Greenawald (Law Enforcement and Community Outreach Coordinator): AUSA Erin Greenawald has been with the USAO since May 2021 and focuses on law enforcement and community outreach coordination. AUSA Greenawald is located in our Portland Office and can be reached at Erin.Greenawald@usdoj.gov or (503) 781- 8144.

Public Affairs Officer Kevin Sonoff: Kevin Sonoff serves as the spokesperson and primary media contact for the USAO and is located in our Portland Office. Kevin can be reached at kevin.sonoff@usdoj.gov or (503) 727-1000.

In the News

In March, Congress <u>reauthorized</u> the Violence Against Women Act and expanded its protections for particularly vulnerable groups of people, including Native American women.

The Supreme Court of the United States will consider whether the State of Oklahoma has jurisdiction, concurrent with the United States, to prosecute non-Indians for crimes against Indians committed in Indian country. The <u>underlying case</u> deals with a non-Indian defendant charged with child neglect of an Indian victim. The United States filed an Amicus brief in the case agreeing that the federal government has exclusive jurisdiction over crimes by non-Indians against Indians in Indian Country.

The Department of Interior was <u>requesting nominations</u> for Tribal member representatives for the new Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC). The STAC, which was announced as part of the 2021 White House Tribal Nations Summit, will ensure Tribal leaders have direct and consistent contact and communication with the current and future Department officials to facilitate robust discussions on intergovernmental responsibilities, exchange views, share information and provide advice and recommendations regarding Departmental programs and funding that impact Tribal nations. The STAC will be composed of a Tribal member representative from each of the 12 Bureau of Indian Affairs Regions, and one alternate member. The members will be appointed on a staggered term for up to two years. The Secretary, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, will designate one member of the STAC to serve as chairperson.

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) tribal attorney <u>Brent Leonhard</u> was one of 21 citizen members appointed to President Biden's Committee on People with Intellectual Disabilities (CPID) on March 11. The committee serves as a federal advisor to the President and Secretary of Health and Human Services on matters relating to persons with intellectual disabilities.

The Department of Justice Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco and Department of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland announced on May 5 the members of the <u>Not Invisible Act Commission</u>, which includes Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde member Delight Satter and OSP Captain Cord Wood.

Recent Prosecution Highlights from the USAO District of Oregon

- U.S. v Shoni Iman Schimmel: AUSA Ashley Cadotte indicted this case charging a former WNBA player with assaulting an intimate dating partner on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Shoni Iman Schimmel has been charged with assault by strangulation of an intimate dating partner and assault resulting in substantial bodily injury. According to the indictment, on June 13, 2021, Schimmel allegedly strangled her partner on the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Schimmel further assaulted her partner causing substantial bodily injury. Trial is scheduled to begin on June 14, 2022. This case was investigated by the FBI and the Umatilla Tribal Police Department.
- U.S. v Roderick Ariwite: On March 14, 2022, a resident of the Fort Hall Reservation in Idaho and former CEO of the Warm Springs Economic Development Corporation (WSEDC) plead guilty for his role in a fraud scheme targeting the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Roderick Ariwite plead guilty to theft of funds from a tribal organization and interstate transportation of a security taken by fraud, resolving two separate criminal cases against him. As part of his plea agreement, Ariwite has agreed to pay \$39,613 in restitution to the Warm Springs Tribes and \$3,000 to an unnamed adult victim. In September 2020, Roderick Ariwite and a co-defendant was federally indicted with conspiracy and theft of funds from a Tribal organization. Ariwite will be sentenced on June 6, 2022. The case is being prosecuted by AUSA Seth Uram and AUSA Meredith Bateman.
- U.S. v Sara Janeese Hawley: AUSA Jeff Sweet indicted this case on April 21, 2022, related to a theft on the Burns Paiute reservation. Sara Janeese Hawley stole a van from the Burns Paiute Tribe and then crashed the vehicle off the reservation. She is a member of the Burns Paiute Tribe and had previously worked with the Tribe.
- U.S. v. Jerome Albert Stanley, Jr.: On May 17, 2022, Jerome Albert Stanley, Jr. pleaded guilty for sexually assaulting a woman on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. Stanley, Jr., pleaded guilty to one count of abusive sexual contact, faces a maximum sentence of two years in prison, a \$250,000 fine and five years' supervised release. He will be sentenced on August 8, 2022. As part of the plea agreement, Stanley will pay restitution to his victim and must also register as a sex offender. This case was investigated by the FBI and the Warm Springs Tribal Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Pamela Paaso and Erin Greenawald are prosecuting the case.

News In Oregon

NPS Director Visits Oregon: In March, National Park Service Director Chuck F. Sams <u>visited</u>
<u>Oregon</u> and discussed tribal co-management of lands. Sams is a member of the Cayuse and Walla
Walla tribes, which are part of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Chief Ivy Memorial: On May 7, there was a <u>memorial and celebration</u> of the life and memories of Coquille Tribal Chief Don Ivy.

Indigenous Language Class: The Madras High School established an <u>Indigenous language class</u> dedicated solely to a tribal language.

Hardy Myers Award: The Oregon DOJ Bias Response Coordinator <u>Johanna Costa</u>, previously the USAO's Tribal Victim Assistance Specialist, received the 2022 Hardy Myers Victim Advocacy

Award. The Award recognizes those who advance the interest of crime victims through advocacy, ingenuity, and courage.

Oregon DOJ BIA Response Emergency Fund: The Oregon DOJ Bias Response Hotline has opened an emergency fund to assist victims of hate crimes or bias incidents in their recovery. If you or someone you know has been targeted based on race, color, national origin, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity, the fund can pay up to \$1,000 for bias-related costs that a survivor is otherwise unable to afford. The fund covers expenses such as:

- Security measures
- Relocation
- Rent, food costs, phone or other utility bills.
- Repairs/clean-up

The Bias Response Hotline is 1-844-924-BIAS (2427).

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) Information

In November 2019, the Department of Justice launched a national strategy to address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) that included the hiring of MMIP coordinators to serve with U.S. Attorney's Offices. In June 2020, Cedar Wilkie Gillette became the District of Oregon's MMIP Coordinator. In this edition, MMIP Coordinator Wilkie Gillette provides an update on the establishment of the District of Oregon's MMIP Working Group, issuance of Savanna's Act Regional Guidelines for responding to MMIP cases, the DOJ Office of Tribal Justice creation of its own MMIP webpage, and the State of Washington's creation of a missing Indigenous persons alert.

- As part of the District of Oregon 2021 MMIP Action Plan, at the beginning of 2022, the
 District of Oregon established an MMIP Working Group to increase multi-agency
 communication and collaboration in support and response to Oregon connected MMIP
 cases. The Working Group includes at least one tribal representative from each of the nine
 federally recognized Tribes in Oregon, the FBI, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA),
 Department of Interior Regional Solicitor's Office, the U.S. Marshals Service, the State
 Attorney General's Office, and the Oregon State Police.
- In April 2022, the District of Oregon issued Savanna's Act Regional Guidelines for responding to MMIP cases. Savanna's Act requires United States Attorneys to develop "regionally appropriate" guidelines to respond to cases of missing or murdered American Indian and Alaska Natives. 25 USC § 5704. These guidelines address: (1) interjurisdictional law enforcement cooperation and protection order enforcement, (2) best practices for searching for missing persons, (3) standards on data collection, reporting and analysis, and identification and handling of human remains, (4) law enforcement agencies responsible for entering information into appropriate databases when Tribal law enforcement agencies do not have access to such databases, (5) improving law enforcement agency response rates and follow-up responses to missing persons cases, and (6) access to culturally appropriate victim services. The guidelines provide a roadmap for how missing persons cases should be handled in the District of Oregon and suggest protocols for addressing missing cases expeditiously. The District of Oregon Savanna's Act Regional Guidelines are law enforcement sensitive are available to law enforcement officials upon request.
- The Operation Lady Justice website is now archived but the DOJ Office of Tribal Justice
 has created its own MMIP webpage to provide DOJ's current efforts on MMIP, Savanna's
 Act implementation information, and Operation Lady Justice website materials.
- The State of Washington created the first <u>statewide alert system</u> for missing Indigenous people.

Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Information

Available OVC Funding to Enhance Services to Crime Victims in Tribal Communities

In FY 2022, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) anticipates awarding \$133 million to enhance services to American Indian and Alaska Native crime victims and survivors through a variety of programs.

FY 2022 Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside

Congress first created a Tribal victim services set-aside (TVSSA) from the Crime Victims Fund in the fiscal year (FY) 2018 budget. The amount of the first set-aside was 3 percent—totaling \$133 million—and was made "available to OVC for grants, consistent with the requirements of the Victims of Crime Act, to Indian tribes to improve services for victims of crime." Congress authorized subsequent Tribal set-asides of:

- \$167.65 million in 2019;
- \$132.50 million in 2020;
- \$100.75 million for 2021; and
- \$130 million in 2022.

OVC consulted Tribal leaders each year on how to disburse the funds to their communities. In FY 2020, OVC established the TVSSA formula program, which distributed the set-aside funds using a population-based formula. The program is not competitive and is open only to federally recognized Indian Tribes (applying individually or as consortia), Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) regional corporations, and their authorized designees.

In accordance with testimony received during OVC's January 2022 Tribal consultation, OVC again used an administrative formula to determine FY 2022 allocations for each eligible applicant based on the Tribal Population Certifications submitted earlier this year. OVC received 192 population certifications in FY 2022—the highest number submitted since Congress authorized the set-aside. During the consultations, Tribal leaders conveyed to OVC the importance of flexibility for grantees designing and implementing victim services programs to support the families of missing and murdered indigenous persons (MMIP). As a result, OVC broadened the scope of the TVSSA formula program to allow grantees to use their funds to address the needs of families of missing persons. This effort aligns with President Biden's Executive Order 14053 and creates an opportunity for Tribal communities to direct funding towards meeting the needs of the loved ones of MMIP, generating awareness of MMIP, and creating systemic change that can remove barriers to helping victims of MMIP and their loved ones find justice and healing.

Project Beacon: Increasing Access to Services for Urban American Indian and Alaska Native Victims of Human Trafficking Program

This program aims to—

- 1. increase the quantity and quality of services available to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) victims of human trafficking who reside in urban areas;
- 2. develop the capacity of urban Indian centers to address the needs of AI/AN victims of human trafficking; and
- 3. provide capacity-building training and technical assistance to urban Indian centers.

The <u>Grants.gov</u> deadline for this solicitation is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on Tuesday, May 31, 2022, and the JustGrants application deadline is 8:59 p.m. eastern time on Monday, June 6, 2022.

Alaska Native Crime Victims Center of Excellence Pilot Program

The goals for the Alaska Native Crime Victims Center of Excellence Pilot Program are to:

- Engage Tribes and other Alaska-based experts and organizations with expertise in responding to Alaskan crime victims to identify the needs of victims statewide.
- Assess the availability of crime victim services in each of the 12 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act regions, ensuring that the focus is appropriate to the language, cultural traditions, and values of each region.
- 3. Promote the use of the Community-Based Participatory Research approach that facilitates social change by engaging community members in defining the problems and eases the translation from research to practice.
- 4. Develop recommendations to OVC to address identified needs.

The <u>Grants.gov</u> deadline for this solicitation is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on June 1, 2022, and the JustGrants application deadline is 8:59 p.m. eastern time on June 21, 2022.

For information about additional funding opportunities, visit the <u>OVC website</u>, <u>Grants.gov</u>, and the U.S. Department of Justice <u>Program Plan</u>.

Visit OVC's Tribal page for more information about the set-aside program and other initiatives that enhance services for victims of crime in Tribal communities. You can also learn more about the 17th National Indian Nations Conference—scheduled for December 6–9, 2022—which will have inperson and virtual components and register to receive News From OVC.

Upcoming Training and Events

Please note that these dates and venues may change- please check with the individual sponsoring agency for updates and confirmation.

2022 Tribal Justice, Safety, and Wellness Summit

On June 6-9, 2022, the National Indian Country Training Initiative will host the 2022 Tribal Justice, Safety and Wellness Summit sponsored by the Department of the Interior and Department of Justice. The Summit is virtual and is intended for federal, state, and tribal law enforcement, prosecutors, advocates, court staff, victim/witness services staff, and tribal leaders.

17th National Indian Nations Conference

Training focused on the unique needs of American Indian and Alaska Native crime victims scheduled for December 6-9, 2022.

NCMEC Resources and Assistance

Previously recorded webinar discussing the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) resources and assistance for American Indian & Alaska Native Communities.

AMBER Alert in Indian Country

Previously recorded webinar sponsored by the National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) discussing the ongoing efforts by the AMBER Alert Training and Technical Assistance Program (AATTAP) to support the implementation of the Amber Alert in Indian Country Act.

AMBER Alert- Law Enforcement Response

Previously recorded webinar sponsored by NCJTC discussing the law enforcement criteria necessary to request an AMBER Alert activation and the importance of having a plan or policy in place.

AMBER Alert- Law Enforcement Field Guide

Previously recorded webinar sponsored by NCJTC aimed at law enforcement agencies and 1st Responders designed to provide administrators with a document on what to expect in the event of an endangered missing or abducted child investigation, as well as provide their personnel with a reference manual to help jump start an effective response and investigation.

AMBER Alert - Community Response

Previously recorded webinar sponsored by NCJTC discussing law enforcement's response to missing and abducted children, when an AMBER Alert is an effective tool, and recognizing the importance of bridging the gap between law enforcement and the community.

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Development in Tribal Communities

Previously recorded webinar sponsored by NCJTC discussing how to develop a SART, how a SART can help your tribal community, and the benefits of collaboration utilizing a multidisciplinary team approach when developing protocols.

Building Better and Stronger Tribal Justice Systems

Previously recorded webinar. Sponsored by NCJTC.

Funding Opportunities

OVC FY 2022 Advancing the Use of Technology to Assist Victims of Crime: The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) seeks to provide funding to organizations that demonstrate innovative strategies to create, expand, or enhance the use of technology to interact directly with crime victims; improve the quality of services; and improve the accessibility and responsiveness of victim service organizations. OVC anticipates making up to four awards of up to \$750,000 each for up to a 36-month period of performance, to begin on October 1, 2022. Application deadline is May 26, 2022. Click here for more information.

FY 2022 Collaborative Crisis Response and Intervention Training Program: The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks applications for funding support to law enforcement on how to effectively partner with mental health, substance use disorder, and community service agencies to promote public safety and ensure appropriate responses to individuals who have behavioral health conditions, intellectual disabilities, developmental disabilities, or physical disabilities (disabilities). Application deadline is June 1, 2022. <u>Click here</u> for more information.

OVC FY 2022 Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking Grant: The purpose of this program is to develop, expand, or strengthen a multidisciplinary approach to fight human trafficking. This collaborative approach must include victim and social service providers, law enforcement and prosecution personnel, survivors, and range of other governmental and non-governmental partners that work together to provide a diverse set of appropriate services for trafficking victims. The OVC anticipates making 18 Purpose Area 1 awards (for 9 task forces) of up to \$750,000 per award (\$1.5 million per task force) and up to 12 Purpose Area 2 awards (for 6 task forces) of up to \$750,000 per award (\$1.5 million per task force). Awards will be for a 36-month period of performance, to begin on October 1, 2022. Application deadline is June 9, 2022. Click here for more information.

OVC FY 2022 Housing Assistance Grants: The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) seeks applications for funding to support housing assistance for victims of all forms of human trafficking throughout the United States. Rapid Rehousing—a type of housing assistance in which supportive services and transitional housing are provided to assist victims to move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability—is the primary focus of this solicitation. Application deadline is June 9, 2022. Click here for more information.

DOJ COPS Hiring Program: The Fiscal Year 2022 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) is a competitive grant program designed to provide funding directly to law enforcement agencies to hire and/or rehire additional career law enforcement officers to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. Application deadlines are June 9 and 16, 2022. <u>Click here</u> for more information.

DOJ COPS STOP School Violence Prevention Program: The Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence Act of 2018 (STOP School Violence Act of 2018) gave the COPS Office authority to provide awards directly to States, units of local government, or Indian tribes to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the jurisdiction of the grantee through evidence-based school safety programs and technology. Application Deadlines are June 14 and 21, 2022. Click here for more information.

DOJ BJS Solicitation to Administer Census of Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies & Census of Tribal Court Systems: Provides funding to administer the Census of Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies and Census of Tribal Court Systems. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by protecting civil rights, addressing inequities, and advancing criminal justice reform; keeping the country safe; advancing juvenile justice reforms and investing in youth; advancing science and innovation; and serving victims of crime. Application deadlines are June 9 and 16, 2022. Click here for more information.

For more information regarding federal funding opportunities see the Office of Justice Programs (https://www.oip.gov/); Office on Violence Against Women (https://www.justice.gov/ovw); the COPS Office (https://cops.usdoj.gov/); and the Office for Victims of Crimes (https://cops.usdoj.gov/).

What We're Watching and Reading

There is an <u>interesting article</u> regarding a Umatilla tribal member that has combined different powwow dance styles and Indigenous teachings with yoga to create what she calls "powwow yoga" and "seven generations yoga," with the goal to promote contemporary Indigenous healing through movement and dance.

A <u>Seattle hockey team</u> is embracing Indigenous traditions and attempting to elevate Native voices by wearing specially designed jerseys inspired by traditional Karuk basketry and hosting Indigenous People's Night.

The first Indigenous woman to scout in the NHL, for the Chicago Blackhawks, seeks more diversity.

Cynthia Chavez Lamar, San Felipe Pueblo, became the <u>first Native woman</u> to lead a Smithsonian Museum- the National Museum of the American Indian.

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute recently released a <u>Guide for drafting and revising Tribal laws on crimes against children</u>. The Guide provides a starting point for drafting or revising tribal laws addressing crimes committed against children. It is written with the philosophy that tribal laws should reflect tribal values.

The United National Indian Tribal Youth recently <u>released a report</u> which presents the proceedings of four Native youth-led Town Halls held virtually to provide Native youth the opportunity to share

their concerns about public safety and tribal juvenile justice issues and included are youth responses to a survey following the Town Halls.



A Note About Our Language

"Indian Country" is the legal term used to describe reservations and other lands set aside for Indian use, such as Indian allotments and lands held in trust for Indians or Indian tribes, and is defined under 18 U.S.C. § 1151. We use the term Indian Country versus the term Native American or some other term because it describes the statutory jurisdiction of the U.S. Attorney's Office.

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This newsletter is brought to you by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Oregon Indian Country (IC) Program.

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