



Greeting from U.S. Attorney Billy J. Williams

Introducing the United States Attorney's Office District of Oregon Indian Country Newsletter.

Our office is excited to launch this quarterly Indian Country (IC) newsletter. The overall purpose of the newsletter is to bring awareness to IC cases and issues being addressed by the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO). In each newsletter, we aim to highlight federal criminal prosecutions and civil litigation in the District of Oregon relevant to IC; shed light on the experiences of tribal crime victims; list significant trainings and events relevant to IC; identify national trends or issues that could impact IC in the District of Oregon; and provide a vehicle to encourage and facilitate communication with our tribal leaders, tribal communities and law enforcement partners in IC.

We view this newsletter as an ongoing communication with tribal representatives and tribal communities regarding our work in IC. And indeed we believe that tribal nations should be collaborators in this newsletter—identifying issues, cases, and events that should be addressed and discussed in future newsletters. We will reach out to tribal communities to solicit this information, and we are open to receive any information, topics, and feedback about our work in IC as we move forward.

In future editions of the newsletter, we will highlight criminal prosecutions by the USAO in IC. As you may know, our office has the authority and responsibility to investigate and prosecute crimes occurring on the reservations of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and Burns Paiute Tribe, as well as crimes committed by adults at the Chemawa Indian School. In addition, the USAO has federal jurisdiction over violations of general applicable crimes in Indian Country such as felons in possession of firearms/ammunition, drug trafficking, gaming violations cultural resource damage, and theft against tribal entities related to all nine of the federally recognized tribes in the District. Jurisdiction for these general applicable crimes applies to all of Indian Country, regardless of Public Law 280. (To read more about the history of PL-280, [click here](#).)

From my ten years as the IC prosecutor in Oregon to now serving the District of Oregon as United States Attorney, I've seen firsthand that the USAO is dedicated to address issues and enhance safety in IC and the District by working with tribal nations and our law enforcement partners. It is an honor to do this work. Our office's work in IC is reliant on the hard work and professionalism of our law enforcement partners. Our criminal prosecutions are based on the investigative work of tribal, federal, and state law enforcement personnel who sacrifice daily to protect tribal communities. I

support the good work done in IC by tribal nations, our law enforcement partners, and our USAO staff and personnel. I also recognize that there is always more work to be done.

Please continue reading to learn about our IC team in the District, upcoming trainings, funding opportunities, press releases, job postings, and other resources.

If you would like to unsubscribe from this newsletter, please click the *Manage your Subscriptions* link at the bottom of this email.

Sincerely,

Billy J. Williams

U.S. Attorney

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.

Meet Your USAO OR Indian Country Team

Craig Gabriel, AUSA, Violent Crimes Chief

Craig Gabriel has been with the USAO for about 12 years. He spent 5 years as the USAO's Indian Country prosecutor. Since February 2018, he has been the Chief of the Violent Crimes Unit, which includes Indian Country. He was a tribal liaison for the USAO during his time as the IC prosecutor, and now he is a tribal liaison again as the VC Chief. He can be reached at craig.gabriel@usdoj.gov or 503-727-1000.

Tim Simmons, AUSA Tribal Liaison

Tim Simmons has been with the U.S. Attorney's Office for 23 years and serves as a Tribal Liaison for all 9 Tribal Nations. AUSA Simmons also specializes in cultural resource matters. Prior to becoming an AUSA, AUSA Simmons was a Staff Attorney at the Native American Program Oregon Legal Services (NAPOLS). AUSA Simmons is located in our Eugene Office and can be reached at tim.simmons@usdoj.gov or 541-465-6740.

Jennifer Martin, AUSA focusing on CTUIR and Chemawa Indian School

Jennifer Martin began working at the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2002, and was assigned to the Violent Crime Unit in 2014. She works with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and Chemawa Indian School. Before coming to the USAO, Jennifer worked for the Oregon Department of Justice, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, and at a private law firm. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Sri Lanka and Romania between 1997-2000. She can be reached at jennifer.martin@usdoj.gov or 503-727-1000.

Paul Maloney, AUSA focusing on Warm Springs and Burns Paiute

Paul Maloney has been with the U.S. Attorney's Office since April 2016. Paul is assigned to the Violent Crime Unit and has worked with the Warm Springs and Burns Paiute tribes for the last two and half years. Paul comes to the U.S. Attorney's Office from the Washington County District Attorney's Office where he worked for fifteen years, the last 10 of which he specialized in cases involving child victims. Paul can be reached at paul.maloney@usdoj.gov or 503-727-1000.

Kevin Sonoff, Public Affairs Officer

As Public Affairs Officer, Kevin serves as the spokesperson and primary media contact for the USAO main office in Portland and the Eugene and Medford branch offices. He advises the U.S. Attorney and the U.S. Attorney's leadership team on issues involving media relations, public communications, the dissemination of court documents and information, and crisis communications. Kevin works closely with law enforcement partners across the state to provide timely updates about federal court in Oregon. Prior to joining the USAO, Kevin worked for FEMA Region 10 in Seattle where he designed and managed disaster response exercises. He entered federal services as a Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) in 2013 and has completed special assignments with TSA and EPA. He can be reached at usaor.publicaffairs@usdoj.gov or 503-727-1000.

Johanna Costa, Tribal Victim Assistance Specialist

Johanna Costa has worked in victim services for over 13 years, in both community- and system-based programs. She is currently the Tribal Victim Assistance Specialist for the USAO, one of twelve positions across the country designated specifically to support crime victims in federally charged cases out of Indian Country. She can be reached at johanna.costa@usdoj.gov or 503-727-1085.

In The News

Recent Prosecution Highlights from the USAO District of Oregon

US v. Don Lovell- AUSA Jennifer Martin prosecuted this CTUIR case where defendant pleaded guilty to Assault Resulting in Substantial Bodily Injury and Assault by Strangling. He was sentenced on September 20, 2018, to 64 months prison followed by 3 years of supervised release, where he must undergo treatment for substance and alcohol abuse and will be prohibited from entering CTUIR. The crime victim testified at sentencing and attempted to give a Victim Impact Statement.

US v. Shane Britton- AUSAs Jennifer Martin and Natalie Wight prosecuted this CTUIR case where defendant was convicted at trial by jury on October 17, 2018, of Abusive Sexual Contact. He is scheduled for sentencing on January 23, 2019. The crime victim testified at trial. USAO Press Release: [Pendleton Man Found Guilty of Abusive Sexual Contact on the Umatilla Indian Reservation.](#)

US v. Thomas Adams- AUSA Jennifer Martin prosecuted this CTUIR case where defendant pleaded guilty to Abusive Sexual Contact. On August 2, 2018, he was sentenced to 37 months prison followed by 5 years of supervised release, where he must undergo sex offender treatment and will be prohibited from entering CTUIR. The crime victim gave a Victim Impact Statement at

sentencing. USAO Press Release: [Umatilla Man Sentenced to 37 Months in Federal Prison for Abusive Sexual Contact with Minor.](#)

US v. Lawren Slockish- AUSA Paul Maloney prosecuted this Warm Springs case where defendant pleaded guilty to Abusive Sexual Contact with a Child. He was sentenced on July 9, 2018, to 300 months prison followed by lifetime supervision, where he must undergo sex offender treatment and must register as a sex offender. The crime victim's parent attended sentencing. USAO Press Release: [Warm Springs Man Sentenced to 25 Years in Federal Prison for Molesting Minor Victim.](#)

US v. Rhyan Smith- AUSAs Bill Narus and Craig Gabriel prosecuted this Warm Springs case where defendant pleaded guilty to two counts of Assault with the Intent to Commit Murder and one count of Possession of a Firearm in Furtherance of a Crime of Violence. She was sentenced on May 29, 2018, to 13 years in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release, where she must undergo treatment for substance and alcohol abuse and will be prohibited from entering Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. The crime victims gave a Victim Impact Statement at sentencing. USAO Press Release: [Warm Springs Woman Sentenced to 13 Years in Federal Prison for Assault with Intent to Commit Murder](#)

Oregon News

The CTUIR and USAO District of Oregon were awarded a 3-year \$437,500 grant to fund a new Tribal Special Assistant US Attorney (Tribal SAUSA) to prosecute crimes against women in Indian Country. The grant is from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), a division of DOJ, which provides federal leadership to reduce violence against women and administer justice for and strengthen services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The Tribal SAUSA award supports innovative prosecutorial collaborations to help ensure that tribal and federal authorities have a seamless response in prosecuting cases under their jurisdiction. DOJ's Press Release: [Justice Department Funds New District of Oregon Indian Country Prosecutor: Special Assistant U.S. Attorney \(SAUSA\) to Focus on Prosecutions Involving the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.](#)

News Outside Oregon

[Department of Justice Collaborates With Canadian and Mexican Partners on Programs and Best Practices to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls](#)

[Justice Department Will Award Up To \\$246 Million In Grants To Improve Public Safety In American Indian And Alaska Native Communities](#)

[Department of Justice and Department of Interior Team Up for Major Expansion of Tribal Access to National Crime Information Databases: Department of Justice Expands Tribal Access Program to Additional 25 Tribes This Year, Department of Interior Funds the Expansion of DOJ Tribal Access Program at 31 BIA Social Services and Law Enforcement Locations by 2020](#)

To sign up for future USAO OR press releases, [click here.](#)

Upcoming Trainings and Events

[Native American Heritage Month](#)

November 2018

[Culture Nights for Community Begins: Traditions and Fun for the Family](#)

October 2018- May 2019, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm on first and third Wednesdays of every month in Portland, Oregon at NAYA Family Center
Sponsored by Native American Youth and Family Center.

[2018 World Indigenous Law Conference](#)

Nov 18-21, 2018 in Windsor, Ontario at University of Windsor.

[Enhancing Tribal and State Collaborations to Build Sustainable Public Safety Partnerships](#)

November 28-29, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, The Dalles, Oregon

For More Information, contact [Mitch Hicks](#) (541-386-6363) or [Ashley Schaumburg](#) (503-751-4011)

This free training is provided by Western Oregon University and is supported by the U.S.

Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The host agency is Columbia River Inter-Tribal Enforcement.

[16th National Indian Nations Conference Justice for Victims of Crime](#)

Dec 5-7, 2018 in Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Reservation Coachella Valley, California
Sponsored by OVC, DOJ, Tribal Law & Policy Institute, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

[2018 Project Safe Neighborhoods \(PSN\) National Conference](#)

December 5-7, in Kansas City, Missouri

Sponsored by DOJ.

[The Good Road of Life \(GRL\) Training Conference: A Culture and Resilience Based Curriculum for DV response, suicide intervention, and substance abuse prevention](#)

December 10-12, 2018, 8:30-4:00pm in Albuquerque, New Mexico

[Confidentiality Between Victim Advocates and Survivors in the Tribal Criminal Justice System: Statutory/Funder Requirements and Best Practices webinar](#)

December 12, 2018 from 12:00-1:30 PST

Sponsored by National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.

Transforming Lateral Violence To Lateral Kindness: Indigenous Cultural Beliefs, Trauma-informed Knowledge & Lessons From Horse Nation

December 13, 14 & 15, 2018 in Rapid City, South Dakota

To register, contact [Brenda Hill](#) (605-545-0529) or [Karen Artichoker](#) (605-407-9425).

[National Institute on the Prosecution of Domestic Violence in Indian Country](#)

January 8-11, 2019 in Columbia, South Carolina

Training for tribal prosecutors, AUSAs, and SAUSAs, including licensed attorneys and lay counsel.

Sponsored by DOJ.

[Domestic Violence Safety Issues When Meth Is Present](#)

Previously recorded webinar

Sponsored by National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.

[Framing the Issues: Looking at the Opioid Epidemic in the Context of Trauma and Domestic Violence](#)

Previously recorded webinar

Sponsored by National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.

[Why Do Women Stay?](#)

Previously recorded webinar

Sponsored by National Indigenous Women's Resource Center.

Funding Opportunities

[Register for Listening Session on Potential Future Tribal Set-Aside Funding](#)

OVC is hosting a Listening Session for tribal leaders and representatives on how potential future tribal set-aside funding from the federal Crime Victims Fund should be administered.

Last year, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 included a 3% set-aside from the federal Crime Victims Fund for Indian tribes to improve services to victims of crime. In Fiscal Year 2018, the set-aside was \$133 million. The Listening Session will be held on December 4, 2018, from 1:30–5:30 p.m. on the reservation of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, near Palm Springs, California. It will immediately precede the 16th National Indian Nations Conference: Justice for Victims of Crime (December 5–7, 2018).

[OVW FY 2019 Justice for Families Program Solicitation](#)

The Grants to Support Families in the Justice System program (referred to as the Justice for Families Program) was authorized in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA) of 2013 to improve the response of the civil and criminal justice system to families with a history of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, or in cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse. The program supports the following activities for improving the capacity of courts and communities to respond to families affected by the targeted crimes: court-based and court-related programs; supervised visitation and safe exchange by and between parents; training for people who work with families in the court system; civil legal services; and the provision of resources in juvenile court matters.

[Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Planning](#)

This notice solicits applications for the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program- Planning (RCORP-Planning). The purpose of RCORP-Planning is to support treatment for and prevention of substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder (OUD), in rural counties at the highest risk for substance use disorder. The overall goal of RCORP-Planning is to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with opioid overdoses in high-risk rural communities by multi-sector consortiums (as defined in the "Eligibility Information" section) planning to strengthen their organizational and infrastructural capacity to address one or more of the following focus areas at the community, county, state, and/or regional levels: Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery. The program is part of a multi-year opioid-focused effort by HRSA.

Jobs

Advocates and Advocate Shift Leads at The StrongHearts Native Helpline

To view the job announcements, visit the [StrongHearts website](#).

Victims of Crime Coordinator with the Burns Paiute Tribe

For more information and to apply, [click here](#).

Director of Technical Assistance & Training at the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

Interested applicants may apply by sending a cover letter, completed job application, resume, original writing sample, and list of three references to Lucy Simpson at lsimpson@niwrc.org.

What We're Watching and Reading

Dawnland, a film by Adam Mazo and Ben Pender-Cudlip, tells the story of the first government-sanctioned truth and reconciliation commission in the U.S., investigating the devastating impact of Maine's child welfare practices on Native American communities. With intimate access to this groundbreaking process, the film reveals the untold narrative of Indigenous child removal in the United States. From the point of view of the Passamaquoddy people, this documentary reveals the recent history of genocide against Native American people and discusses the role of non-Indian people as allies. Dawnland will broadcast on PBS in November; please contact your local PBS station for show times. Check [here](#) for more information.

Supreme Court of the United States declines to hear North Dakota voting ID law case Richard Brakebill, et al. v. Alvin Jaeger, North Dakota Secretary of State
On October 9, 2018, the Court declined to intervene in a challenge to a North Dakota law requiring voters to present identification that includes a current residential street address. Read Justice Ginsburg's [dissent here](#).

The Urban Indian Health Institute released a report on the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in urban areas. This first-of-its-kind report aims to provide a comprehensive snapshot of the MMIWG crisis in urban American Indian and Alaska Native communities and the institutional practices that allow them to disappear not once, but three times—in life, in the media, and in the data. Read the report [here](#).

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month and that includes teen dating violence. With the We R Native team the Response Circles project and Mallory Black from StrongHearts Native Helpline (1-844-7NATIVE), northwest tribal youth created an amazing teen dating violence prevention short film. Please check out a [sneak peek here](#) and stay tuned in February for the full version!

October was also National Bullying Prevention Awareness month. At the 2018 THRIVE Conference for Native youth, Steven Paul Judd and Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board's Danica Brown, helped youth created clay stop motion films that focused on anti-bullying/cyber-bullying and suicide prevention. You can [check it out here](#).

Resources

[Tribal Resource Tool](#) - This is a project to create a web-based resource mapping tool that will provide a listing of all services available for American Indian and Alaska Native survivors of crime and abuse and help identify gaps in services so those can be addressed. To register your program and/or find resources near you, [click here](#). Sponsored by the Office for Victims of Crime, the National Congress of American Indians, the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, and the National Center for Victims of Crime with the input and guidance of tribal stakeholders across the country.

[StrongHearts Native Helpline](#) 1-844-7NATIVE - This is a safe, anonymous and confidential service for Native Americans affected by domestic violence and dating violence. Advocates are available at no contact Monday through Friday from 9am to 5:30pm CST when you are ready to reach out.

Tribal Victim Services Programs in Oregon

[Burns Paiute Tribe Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program](#)
(541) 573-8053, (541) 413-0216 (cell)

[Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Family Violence Services](#)
(541) 429-7045, (888) 809-8027 (toll free)

[Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Victims of Crime program](#)
(541) 553-2293

[Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians CARE Program](#)
(541) 994-5959

[Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Program](#)
(971) 832-0730

[Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians Domestic Violence Advocacy](#)
(541) 888-1309

[Coquille Indian Tribe Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Program](#)
(541) 888-9494, ext. 2219

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians Adult and Family Services
(541) 677-5575

The Klamath Tribes Healing Winds Domestic Violence Services
(800) 524-9787 x1

[NAYA: Native America Youth and Family Center Healing Circle](#)
(503) 288-8177 x219

[FBI Indian Country Victim Specialist](#)
Erin Ludwig
(541) 728-1544

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