



Tribal Justice and Safety

Tribal Training and Technical Assistance – Session Three

April 18, 2007

Shelton, Washington

June 4 - 6, 2007

Dear Tribal Leaders and Tribal Colleagues:

The Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA); the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); and the Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP) are pleased to announce the third in a series of four cross-cutting Tribal Training and Technical Assistance (TT&TA) sessions that are being held across the country to focus on tribal priorities related to public safety and public health for families and communities. This session will be held June 4-6, 2007 at the Squaxin Island Tribe's Little Creek Casino Resort in Shelton, Washington. The fourth session will be held on July 30 – August 1, 2007 at the Sheraton Crescent in Phoenix, Arizona.

In response to tribal leader comments at the December 2006 TT&TA session in Palm Springs, California, the March, June and July/August agendas were revised to provide formal consultation policy sessions with elected tribal officials about tribal justice/safety and public health topics. The Tribal consultation will be held on June 4, 2007 at the Squaxin Island Tribe. The Phoenix, Arizona Tribal consultation is tentatively scheduled for July 31, 2007. Other federal agencies will be invited to join in the consultations.

OJP is dedicating a special portion of the June consultation session to discuss the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-248). While federal law predating the Adam Walsh Act provided national standards for state sex offender registration programs, it made no comparable provision concerning sex offenders convicted in tribal courts or who enter the jurisdiction of a tribe following conviction in some other jurisdiction. Section 127 of the Adam Walsh Act gives tribes in non-Public Law 280 jurisdictions a choice between functioning as a registration jurisdiction or delegating sex offender registration and notification functions to the states in which they are located.

Tribal governments have until July 27, 2007 to make their election. DOJ is responsible for providing guidance and assistance to state and tribal jurisdictions in implementing the Adam Walsh Act sex offender registration and notification reforms.

SAMHSA would like to consult with tribes about nearly \$3 million that has been slated for an American Indian/Alaska Native Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative to provide evidence-based programming in tribal communities to prevent suicide and reduce the factors that contribute to youth suicide and violence.

At the December and March TT&TA sessions, we listened to tribal leaders and tribal officials discuss the overwhelming impact methamphetamine abuse is having in their communities. In March, methamphetamine continued as priority and the session included topics such as: identification of methamphetamine labs, impact on families and communities, national initiatives, anti-meth coalitions, and addressing trafficking and task force development.

We are pleased to announce that the June session will focus on youth. Specifically, the session agenda will incorporate information on the challenges youth face and will incorporate youth recommendations to address these challenges. There will also be an opportunity for participants to provide feedback on the FY 2007 DOJ and HHS/SAMHSA funding announcements as well as the identification of tribal priorities and joint planning for FY 2008.

<http://www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov>

Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice - Washington, DC 20531

The fourth session will include a national tribal summit on methamphetamine in conjunction with the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, as well as a two-day Tribal Crime Data and Information Sharing Conference on August 2-3, 2007. This Crime Data Conference, "Strengthening Sovereignty through Justice Data and Information Sharing" will have multiple workshop tracks, including statistics and data collection, research and evaluation, information technology, and information sharing and data exchange to address the needs of tribal law enforcement, court and correctional personnel, and victim advocates and practitioners. Separate registrations are required for the fourth session and the Information Sharing Conference. To register for both events, visit the Tribal Justice and Safety Web site at www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov.

The tentative agendas for the remaining TT&TA sessions include:

Session #3 – June 4-6, 2007 – Squaxin Island Tribe, Shelton, WA

- Formal policy consultation with tribes.
- Focus on federal agency youth programs/initiatives.
- Overview of open FY 2007 public safety and health funding announcements.
- Evaluation of FY 2007 DOJ and HHS/SAMHSA funding announcements.
- Methamphetamine training and technical assistance.
- Identification of tribal priorities and joint planning for FY 2008.

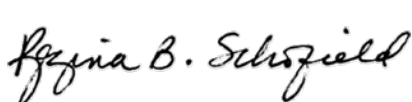
Session #4 - July 30 – August 1, 2007 – Sheraton Crescent, Phoenix, AZ

- Formal policy consultation with tribes (July 31 - tentative).
- Identification of tribal priorities.
- Overview of funding priorities and joint planning for FY 2008.
- National Tribal Methamphetamine Summit (August 1).
- Crime Data and Information Sharing Conference (August 2-3).

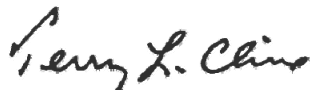
A limited number of scholarships are available to attend this TT&TA session from DOJ and SAMHSA. Please visit the Tribal Justice and Safety TT&TA Session Web site at www.tribaljusticeandsafety.gov for DOJ scholarship information, agenda updates (including opportunities for tribal consultation), and hotel information. SAMHSA scholarships are available at their web address: www.samhsa.gov/tribal/training.aspx. The information and application forms are located under 'Available for Download'.

We look forward to our continued work with you to build and enhance tribal justice and public health systems in tribal communities.

Sincerely,



Regina B. Schofield
Assistant Attorney General
Office of Justice Programs
Department of Justice



Terry L. Cline, Ph.D.
Administrator
Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Services Administration
Department of Health and Human
Services



William P. Ragsdale
Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior