



Guidance for SORNA Tribal Jurisdictions: Applying for Additional Time to Implement SORNA

Section 42 U.S.C. § 16927(a)(2)(C) of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) requires delegation of a tribal jurisdiction's registration and notification functions to the State(s) in which the tribal jurisdiction is located if a tribal jurisdiction has not substantially implemented SORNA by the July 27, 2011 deadline and is not likely to become capable of doing so "within a reasonable amount of time," as determined by the Attorney General. In the event that a tribe will not be able to implement SORNA by the deadline but will be able to do so within a reasonable amount of time after the deadline, the tribe must submit a request containing the following documentation to the SMART Office:

1. A detailed summary of all efforts made by the tribe to implement SORNA and an explanation of obstacles faced.
2. A detailed update on any proposed, pending, or enacted SORNA-related legislation.
3. A list of tribal members working on SORNA implementation, including any individuals or tribal task force(s). Please include details about members' roles in implementation activities and, if applicable, a task force membership list, the approximate number of times and dates the task force has met, notable actions or outcomes of the task force's efforts, and any upcoming scheduled meetings or tasks to be accomplished.
4. A list of SORNA-related trainings that tribal representatives have attended (e.g., attendance at a Tribe and Territory Sex Offender Registry System [TTSORS] training, SMART Office SORNA Workshop and Symposium, etc.).
5. A description of the tribe's sex offender registry/public sex offender registry website, including whether the tribe intends to use TTSORS or another system for achieving SORNA's minimum sex offender registry/public website requirements. For example, if the tribe plans to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State or locality, please describe with whom the tribe has entered into an MOU and the specific components of sex offender registration and notification that will be handled by the other party.
6. Details as to (1) how the tribe will take and submit finger and palm prints to the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System [IAFIS] and the FBI, (2) how the tribe will take and submit DNA to Combined DNA Index System [CODIS] and (3) how the tribe will submit initial sex offender registration information and updates to the National Crime Information Center/National Sex Offender Registry [NCIC/NSOR]. If the tribe is facing any obstacles with these submissions, please provide details about the obstacles and the efforts taken to overcome them.
7. A timeline with specific dates that reflect the tribe's plan to continue to work towards substantial implementation of SORNA. This plan should include all tasks to be

completed, the agency or entity responsible for each task, and projected dates for completion of each task.

8. An updated points of contact form (in the event of a change in tribal leadership and/or SORNA point of contact).

The SMART Office will review all materials submitted, and, if necessary, reach out to tribal leadership to discuss further the tribe's commitment to substantially implement SORNA, and to determine whether and how much additional time is needed for implementation under the circumstances.

If the tribe opted to be a SORNA registration jurisdiction but does not currently have any land, businesses or schools, please contact the SMART Office as the requirements for continuing implementation may vary.

Requests should be sent via regular mail to: Linda M. Baldwin, Director, SMART Office, 810 7th St. NW, Washington, DC 80531; or, via email to: GetSMART@usdoj.gov (include your tribe's name in the subject line); or, via facsimile to: 202-354-4200.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Allison Turkel, Allison.Turkel@usdoj.gov, 202-305-2117, or Juli Ana Grant, JuliAna.Grant@usdoj.gov, 202-514-7768.