



National Congress of American Indians

DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Defending Sovereignty Since 1944



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Panelists



Tami Truett Jerue

Co-Chair

NCAI Violence
Against Women
Task Force



Kerri Colfer

National Indigenous
Women's Resource
Center



Dawn Stover

Executive Director
Alliance of Tribal
Coalitions to End
Domestic Violence



Michelle Bostic

Policy Lead
National Congress
of American Indians



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Consultation

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20126, the purpose of the Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation is to solicit recommendations from Tribal leaders on the following four topics:

- Administering Tribal funds and programs;
- Enhancing the safety of Native women from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, homicide, stalking, and sex trafficking;
- Strengthening the federal response to such crimes; and,
- Improving access to local, regional, state, and federal crime information databases and criminal justice information systems.

Framing Paper (qrco.de/fp904a)

The National Institute of Justice — a new approach to the National Baseline Study

Administering Tribal Funds

Annual Budget & Appropriations Detail by Agency															
dollars in millions															
Agency & Program	Category	2023 President's Budget Request		2023 Enacted				2024 President's Budget Request		2024 Enacted			2025 President's Budget Request		
		Disc.	Mand.	Disc.	Mand.	Disaster Supp.	Advance Approps. for FY 2024	Disc.	Mand.	Disc.	Mand.	Advance Approps. for FY 2025	Disc.	Mand.	Advance Approps. for FY 2026
TOTAL - Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)		1,005.5	-	1,025.5	-	-	-	1,053.9	-	1,345.5	-	-	1,055.0	-	-
Department of Justice (DOJ)															
Bureau of Prisons - Bureau of Prisons	J	202.0	-	180.0	-	-	-	180.0	-	210.0	-	-	210.0	-	-
Civil Division - Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA)	J	0.2	8.5	0.2	8.5	-	-	0.2	8.5	0.2	8.5	-	0.4	2.1	-
Community Oriented Policing Services															
Tribal Access Program (TAP)	J	6.0	-	4.0	-	-	-	6.0	-	4.0	-	-	6.0	-	-
Tribal Resources Grant Program	J	40.0	-	34.0	-	-	-	40.0	-	34.0	-	-	37.0	-	-
SUBTOTAL - Community Oriented Policing Services		46.0	-	38.0	-	-	-	46.0	-	38.0	-	-	43.0	-	-
Criminal Division - Native American-Related Investigations and Prosecutions	J	1.8	-	2.0	-	-	-	4.7	-	4.5	-	-	4.3	-	-
Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD)	NRE	5.3	-	5.3	-	-	-	5.5	-	4.2	-	-	6.8	-	-
Federal Bureau of Investigation	J	84.6	-	78.7	-	-	-	82.9	-	80.2	-	-	82.4	-	-
National Institute of Justice - NIJ Research, Evaluation and Technical Assistance (RETA)	J	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office of Justice Programs															
Tribal Access Program	J	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tribal Assistance	J	50.0	-	60.0	-	-	-	60.0	-	50.0	-	-	60.0	-	-
Tribal Victims Assistance set aside (up to 5%)	J	-	87.5	-	95.0	-	-	-	60.0	-	67.7	-	-	75.0	-
Tribal Youth Program	J	30.0	-	17.0	-	-	-	30.0	-	16.0	-	-	18.0	-	-
SUBTOTAL - Office of Justice Programs		80.0	87.5	77.0	95.0	-	-	95.0	60.0	66.0	67.7	-	78.0	75.0	-
Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ)	J	1.8	-	2.3	-	-	-	3.1	-	2.2	-	-	1.7	-	-
Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) - OVW Native American Programs	J	99.2	-	81.0	-	-	-	104.8	-	81.0	-	-	108.8	-	-
U.S. Attorneys - Indian Country	J	72.5	-	72.5	-	-	-	73.3	-	73.3	-	-	95.2	-	-
TOTAL - Department of Justice (DOJ)		593.4	96.0	538.0	103.5	-	-	595.5	68.5	559.6	76.2	-	630.6	77.1	-



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Administering Tribal Funds

Department of Justice (DOJ)		
Cuts, Reductions, and Consolidations		
Reduce Duplicative and Unnecessary State and Local Grant Programs	-1,019	<p>While preserving and bolstering effective public safety programs, the Budget proposes to eliminate nearly 40 DOJ grant programs that are duplicative, not aligned with the President's priorities, fail to reduce violent crime, or are weaponized against the American people. Specifically, the Budget eliminates programs that manipulate the legal system on ideological grounds, such as Community Based Approaches to Advancing Justice, as well as programs that focus on so-called hate crimes in clear violation of the First Amendment. Further, the Budget shuts off the spigot that awards taxpayer-backed grants to radical organizations like the National Center for Restorative Justice, which encourages no cash bail and other extreme proposals that put U.S. communities in harm's way.</p> <p>This also includes elimination of grants that provided \$6 million to an organization that focuses on "equity and liberation resources for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, and White Allies," \$2 million to a Puerto Rican nonprofit that focuses on addressing "structural racism and toxic masculinities," \$1.5 million to the radical Vera Institute for Justice, and \$1 million to the National Opinion Research Center to "investigate the social ecological context of anti-LGBTQ+ hate crime reporting." Further, the Budget realigns Violence Against Women Act funding with its original core mission to combat violence against women and directly serve victims—eliminating extraneous programs that divert resources from these core functions. For example, grant funding from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) had been offered for biological men. In addition, OVW's Rural Program grants were sent to train community-based Fa'afafine advocates—an organization of biological men that describes themselves as a "third-gender."</p>



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

CURRENT COMPONENT ORGANIZATIONS

Offices of the Attorney General, Deputy
Attorney General, and Associate
Attorney General

Justice Management Division

Office of Legal Counsel

Office of Legal Policy

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of Public Affairs

Office of the Inspector General

Antitrust Division

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms
and Explosives

Civil Division

Civil Rights Division

Community Oriented Policing Services*

Community Relations Service*

Criminal Division

Drug Enforcement Administration

Environment and Natural Resources
Division

Executive Office for Immigration Review

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Federal Bureau of Prisons

Foreign Claims Settlement Commission

INTERPOL Washington*

National Security Division

Office for Access to Justice*

Office of Justice Programs

Office of the Pardon Attorney

Office of the Solicitor General

Office of Tribal Justice

Office on Violence Against Women*

Organized Crime Drug Enforcement
Task Forces*

Tax Division*

U.S. Attorneys

U.S. Marshals Service

U.S. Parole Commission

U.S. Trustees

* Not funded in the FY 2026 request; information provided herein is for historical reference and comparison only.



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Administering Tribal Funds

Additionally, the DOJ's FY26 Budget Proposes to:

- Merge the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and the Violence Against Women into the Justice Programs
- Eliminate all staff positions within COPS and OVW Grants, including Tribal Special Assistant US Attorneys and all staff working to support special Tribal criminal jurisdiction (see p. 24)



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Justice

- Previously funded Tribal Access Program, Tribal Assistance, and Tribal Victim Assistance set-aside
- DOJ's FY26 budget proposal appears to be to change to a 7% set aside, which doubles the allocated amount.

Line #	Component / Account / Program	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Enacted	Scrivener's Error Adjustment	FY 2025 Enacted (Adjusted)	FY 2026 President's Budget	Change FY 2025 to FY 2026
68	Project HOPE	[5,000]	[5,000]		[5,000]	0	[-5,000]
69	HOPE Best Practices	[[500]]	[[500]]		[[500]]	0	[-500]
70	Pay for Success	[7,500]	[7,500]		[7,500]	0	[-7,500]
71	Pay for Success (Permanent Supportive Housing Model)	[[5,000]]	[[5,000]]		[[5,000]]	0	[-5,000]
72	Economic, High-Tech, White Collar, Cybercrime Prevention	12,000	12,000	-12,000	0	4,800	4,800
73	Intellectual Property Enforcement Program	[2,500]	[2,500]	[-2,500]	[0]	0	[-2,500]
74	Internet of Things	[2,000]	[2,000]	[-2,000]	[0]	0	[-2,000]
75	Tribal Assistance	50,000	50,000		50,000	[7%]	-50,000
76	STOP School Violence Act Program (formerly Comprehensive School Safety Initiative)	82,000	82,000		82,000	75,000	-7,000
77	Daniel Anderl Act				0	5,000	5,000
78	Total, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance	2,475,061	2,000,033	0	2,000,033	1,514,800	-485,233



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Additional Budget Proposal within Justice:

- Cut Tribal Youth program within Juvenile Justice and Safety Programs by 37%
- Fund New Flexible Tribal Grants up to 7% in Justice
- Maintain Tribal Victims of Violence grants at 5%

Additional Budget Proposal within COPS:

- Maintain Tribal Resources Grants Program
- Maintain Tribal Access Program



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Violence Against Women Cuts:

- STOP Grants cut 24%
- NIJ Research and Evaluation of Violence Against Women cut 60%, but research on Violence Against Indian Women maintained at \$1 million
- Campus Violence Prevention, including TCUs, is maintained
- Indian Country Sexual Assault Clearinghouse is maintained
- Tribal Special AUSAs increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000
- Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction cut from \$11,000 to \$10,000
- VAWA Tribal Government Grants cut to \$37,400
- VAWA Tribal Coalition Grants cut to \$6,743



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Violence Against Women Programs Zeroed Out

- Restorative Practices
- Culturally-Specific Services
- Underserved Populations Programs
- Financial Assistance to Victims of Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Domestic Violence
- Abby Honold/Trauma Informed Training
- Access to Sexual Assault Nurse Exams
- Local Law Enforcement Grants for Cybercrimes



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Justice Programs Zeroed Out

- Training for responses to mental illness and disabilities
- Student loan repayment assistance to prosecutors and public defenders
- Prison rape prevention and prosecution grants
- Capital Litigation Improvement Grant Program and wrongful conviction reviews
- Family-based alternative sentencing programs
- Academic grants for child advocacy training and forensic ballistic programs



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Justice Programs Zeroed Out

- State and Tribal court protection order pilot programs
- \$8,000,000 for improvements to state, local, and Tribal probation and parole supervision efforts
- \$17,000,000 to state, local, and Tribal law enforcement hate crime mitigation
- \$114,000,000 for improved community relations, which included \$32,000,000 in matching grants for body-worn cameras



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Administering Tribal Programs: Proposed Reorganization

- Reduce workforce by over 4,000 employees
- Consolidate litigation support functions
- Eliminate Community Relations Services (CRS) and Office for Access to Justice (ATJ)
- Close field offices leased by DOJ litigation divisions, starting with two Environment and Natural Resources Division offices in California and 25 CRS offices
- Transfer Tax Division and INTERPOL to larger divisions
- Consolidate Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and Violence Against Women (OVW) into the Justice Programs “to improve State and local law enforcement partnerships by eliminating redundancies in Departmental outreach.”



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Violence Against Women - mandated by 34 U.S.C. § 10442

- It is to be “separate and distinct” within the DOJ - 34 U.S.C. § 10442(b)
- It is to have sole authority for all federal activities under VAWA - 34 U.S.C. § 10442(c)

OVW Tribal Affairs Programs:

- [Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program](#) - \$11.08 million in 2024
- [Tribal Jurisdiction Program](#) - \$3.56 million in 2024, and \$1.5 million in Alaska
- [Tribal Government Program](#) - \$45.16 million in 2024
- [Tribal Coalitions Program](#) - \$7.64 million in 2023
- Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Reimbursement Program

Challenge: Grants to Tribal Governments need not go through OVW, but may be made directly by the Attorney General. 24 USC § 10452.



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Anticipated Challenges to Program Administration:

- Reduced funding
- Reduced staffing
- Rescissions
- Unlawful requirements in Notices of Funding Opportunities



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Administering Tribal Programs - Reorganization

NOFOs implicating sovereignty and autonomy

[OVW Fiscal Year 2025 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program](#)

- Active as of September 23, 2025
- **The Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program (TSASP) has one purpose area:**
Funds under this program must be used for the operation of sexual assault programs or projects in Indian Tribal lands and Alaska Native villages to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of programs and projects to assist those victimized by sexual assault.



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

OVW Fiscal Year 2025 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program (Cont'd)

- Gives priority consideration to applicants addressing crime “linked to illegal immigration and cartel operations,” which does not meet the trust responsibility to all Tribes, regardless of whether they link TSASP work to immigration policies
- Continues to impose extra-statutory requirements that have been enjoined
- Requirements prohibit participants from activities that:
 - Inculcate or promote gender ideology as defined in Executive Order 14168, Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government. This includes concepts of a gender spectrum, two-spirit identification, and other approaches to gender balance and/or equity in cultural modalities.



DOJ OVC Tribal Consultation Preparation

Requirements also prohibit participants from activities that:

- Promote or facilitate discriminatory programs or ideology, including illegal DEI and “diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility” programs that do not advance the policy of equal dignity and respect, as described in Executive Order 14173, Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity.
- While most federal agencies have acknowledged that its programs are not extended to Tribal Nations on the basis of “DEI” or “DEIA,” this provision may implicate Tribes that have set their own goals or policies of being considerate of inclusion, equity, and accessibility.



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Enjoined Requirements prohibit participants from activities that:

- Frame domestic violence or sexual assault as systemic social justice issues rather than criminal offenses (e.g., prioritizing criminal justice reform or social justice theories over victim safety and offender accountability).
- The entire point of VAWA laws is that violence against women reflects a systemic social justice issue; namely, that men abuse women financially, sexually, reproductively, physically, and emotionally as part of political and social exercises.
- The entire point of the Tribal provisions in VAWA laws is to correct the historic disregard for Native and Alaska Native women and lack of protection under the law.



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

[OVW Fiscal Year 2025 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program](#) - Requirements prohibit participants from activities that:

- Discourage collaboration with law enforcement or oppose or limit the role of police, prosecutors, or immigration enforcement in addressing violence against women.
- This undermines Tribal and cultural approaches, such as peacekeeping or other forms of restitution, if appropriate for circumstances. It discourages Tribal innovation and cultural solutions.



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

The foregoing requirements have been enjoined by a federal court in *Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence v. Bondi*.

A [preliminary injunction](#) was entered on **August 8, 2025**.

Talk to your legal departments for advice on preparing and submitting applications with these requirements.



DOJ OVW Tribal Consultation Preparation

Questions for Tribal Programs:

- Did you have awarded grants rescinded? Which ones?
- Did you have to discontinue services due to rescission or the loss of grant opportunities?
- What are your concerns about consolidating OVW into the OJP?
- How can DOJ improve delivery of programs or funding to your organization?
- Do the enjoined grant requirements impact your services or strategies?



National Congress of American Indians

Thank You For Your Participation!

Defending Sovereignty Since 1944