



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Associate Attorney General

Principal Deputy Associate Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Tribal Leader,

We are honored to invite your participation in the 15th Annual Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation to be held October 27-30, 2020, through four afternoon sessions conducted online via Zoom, a platform for video conferencing and online meetings. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 national emergency and uncertainty about future medical trends, the Department of Justice has determined that an online consultation is the best means to protect the safety and health of tribal leaders and others who usually attend this consultation in person. The Department conferred with a group of tribal leaders and advocates who agreed with this approach. The Department of Justice will be joined online by other federal stakeholders, including our colleagues from the United States Departments of Health and Human Services and the Interior. We will conduct the tribal consultation over four afternoons with the afternoon of the fourth day to be an open, interactive, online discussion between tribal leaders and federal representatives.

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 three topics:

- Enhancing the safety of American Indian and Alaska Native women from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking;
- Strengthening the federal response to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking; and,
- Administering funds and programs for tribal governments established by the original Violence Against Women Act and subsequent legislation.

A copy of the 2019 Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation Report was mailed to you in April and is posted on the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) website at: www.justice.gov/ovw/tribal-consultation. OVW will send out consultation framing papers and briefing materials along with OVW's update report on the status of 2019 consultation recommendations in September. Logistical information about the tribal consultation will be available soon at: www.ovwconsultation.org.

We look forward to seeing and hearing from you online in October. If you have questions about the Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation, please contact OVW's Deputy Director for Tribal Affairs, Sherriann Moore at: Sherriann.Moore@usdoj.gov or (202) 514-8804.

Sincerely,



Claire McCusker Murray
Principal Deputy Associate Attorney General