

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of the Associate Attorney General

Associate Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

January 10, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader,

We are honored to invite your participation in the 17th Annual Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation to be conducted in person September 21-23, 2022 in Anchorage, AK. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 national pandemic and uncertainty about future medical trends, the Department of Justice will continue to implement measures to protect the safety and health of tribal leaders and others who attend this tribal consultation in person. We will also provide an option for tribal leaders who prefer to testify virtually and, if it becomes unsafe to conduct meetings in person, we will conduct the full tribal consultation virtually. The Department of Justice will be joined 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 two full days with the morning of the third day to be an open and interactive 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 four topics:

- Administering tribal funds and programs;
- Enhancing the safety of Indian 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.

A copy of the 2021 Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation Annual Report of Proceedings will be emailed to you in late January or early February and will also be posted on the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) website at: <u>www.justice.gov/ovw/tribal-consultation</u>. OVW will send out consultation framing papers and briefing materials along with OVW's update report on the status of 2021 consultation recommendations. Logistical information about the tribal consultation will be available soon at: <u>www.ovwconsultation.org</u>.

We look forward to seeing and hearing from you in September 2022. 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: <u>Sherriann.Moore@usdoj.gov</u> or (202) 514-8804.

Sincerely,

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Vanita Gupta Associate Attorney General