

TRIBAL COURT—STATE COURT FORUM

An Advisory Committee of the Judicial Council of California

Forum E-Update

August 2025

TRIBAL COURT—STATE COURT FORUM

An Advisory Committee of the
Judicial Council of California

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FORUM NEWS

[Job Posting: Tribal/State Programs Attorney](#). The Judicial Council is accepting applications for an experienced attorney to provide legal support to the judicial branch, including the Tribal Court-State Court Forum, other advisory committees, judges, and justice partners on federal and state Indian law including matters related to ICWA and the Violence Against Women Education Project. **Please apply by September 24 for earliest consideration**

[Assemblymember recognizes Judge Abby Abinanti](#)

Times-Standard – August 23, 2025

Assemblymember James C. Ramos (D-San Bernardino), chairperson of the California Legislative Native American Caucus, on Monday announced its 2025 Class of Honorees, who included Yurok Judge Abby Abinanti. Honorees received legislative resolutions. A release from Ramos' office recognized Abinanti's accomplishments.

[Yurok Tribal Member Named Senior Assistant Attorney General for Native American and Tribal Affairs for the State of California](#)

Redheaded Blackbelt – August 27, 2025

California Attorney General Rob Bonta recently hired the Honorable Christine (Butler) Williams to serve as the Senior Assistant Attorney General for Native American and Tribal Affairs.

IN THE NEWS

[Tribal groups assert sovereignty as feds crack down on gender-affirming care](#)

Minnesota Reformer – July 31, 2025

At the Two Spirit Conference in northern Nevada in June, Native Americans gathered in support of the LGBTQ+ community amid federal and state rollbacks of transgender protections and gender-affirming health care.

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN & THE COURTS

455 Golden Gate Avenue

San Francisco, California 94102

Tribal/State Programs Staff:

Vida Castaneda, Senior Analyst,
vida.castaneda@jud.ca.gov or
415-865-7874

Ann Gilmour, Attorney,
ann.gilmour@jud.ca.gov or
415-865-4207

Amanda Morris, Administrative Coordinator,
amanda.morris@jud.ca.gov
916-643-7049

Christy Simons, Supervising Attorney,
christy.simons@jud.ca.gov
415-865-7694

Tribal/State Programs Link:
<http://www.courts.ca.gov/programs-tribal>

[Sen. Murkowski Introduces Legislation to Support Native Children and Families](#)

Native News Online – August 1, 2025

U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), chair of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, has released a comprehensive draft bill designed to improve the well-being and future opportunities of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children.

[Washington's congressional delegation introduces bill to give tribal law enforcement equal footing with federal counterparts](#)

The Chronicle – August 1, 2025

U.S. Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, D-Skamania, and a bipartisan group of federal lawmakers introduced a bill last week that would put tribal law enforcement on equal footing with their federal counterparts. The bill, titled the Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act, would allow certain qualified tribal officers to be recognized as federal law enforcement. That would mean tribes no longer have to enter into agreements with other law enforcement agencies to establish a federal law enforcement presence on sovereign land.

[Smudging, gardening and art: Students flourish in Indigenous STEAM Camp](#)

Minnesota Star Tribune – August 2, 2025

Minneapolis Public Schools' six-week summer American Indian STEAM program immerses kids in Native American history and activism at Anishinabe Academy.

[American Indians and Indigenous Peoples in State Constitutions](#)

State Court Report – August 5, 2025

In the shadow of federal law, some state constitutions address American Indian land, taxation, gaming permissions, voting rights, cultural protection, and governance.

[Native Foster Youth Survey Reveals Lessons for Child Welfare Professionals, Advocates](#)

The Imprint – August 7, 2025

Hoping to inform child welfare agencies about what Indigenous children in foster care need most, the Center for Native American Youth is completing a survey that gives voice to the youth themselves.

[Tribal Home-visiting Programs Receive New Federal Funds Totalling Over \\$3 Million](#)

The Imprint – August 12, 2025

The U.S. The Department of Health and Human Services has announced new tribal home-visiting grant awards.

FORUM LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Visit the Forum's home page

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/3065.htm>

These programs are supported with funds from the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice that are administered through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Court Improvement Program, and the California Department of Social Services.

Mendocino County Sheriff urged to hire tribal liaison for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People cases

The Mendocino Voice – August 12, 2025

Native American communities remain plagued by near-epidemic levels of unresolved violence, according to a report at an Aug. 2 conference in Fort Bragg. Among the troubling statistics: More than half of Indigenous women experience sexual violence in their lives, and homicide is the second leading cause of death among Native people.

The Boldt Decision wasn't just about salmon. It was about broken treaties and tribal sovereignty

The Christian Century - August 13, 2025

Last year marked the 50th anniversary of one of the most significant court cases in the long and troubled relationship between the United States government, Indian tribes, and the states. In a sweeping decision that was comparable in impact to *Brown v. Board of Education*, federal judge George H. Boldt decided for a group of 20 tribes and against the State of Washington.

Cal OES Office of Tribal Coordination helped foster relationships before emergencies strike

Cal OES News – August 16, 2025

On Friday, September 26, 2025, the 58th Native American Day, "Walking in Their Footsteps: Carrying Forward the Legacy of Strength and Sovereignty," will take place at the State Capitol. The Cal OES Office of Tribal Coordination (OTC) has actively participated in planning and coordinating Native American Day Exhibitions and Ceremonies.

Beyond McGirt: How local governments keep testing Tribal rights

The Frontier – August 18, 2025

Five years after the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark *McGirt v. Oklahoma* decision affirmed much of eastern Oklahoma as Indian Country, some towns are still issuing traffic and municipal tickets to tribal citizens. In this episode, we talk with reporters Clifton Adcock and Allison Herrera about their investigation into why this happens, how it plays out in municipal courts, and what that means for tribal sovereignty.

'A land that our ancestors walked': L.A. County tribe wins land back for the first time

LA Times – August 19, 2025

On July 10, a church signed the deeds transferring a half-acre of land hosting a community center in the heart of San Gabriel — less than a mile down the road from the Mission San Gabriel Arcángel — to an Indigenous tribe's nonprofit.

University of California president's office promises return of Native American remains by 2028

KCRA3 – August 19, 2025

Native American tribal leaders and lawmakers are urging California universities to accelerate the repatriation of human remains and cultural items that have been stored for decades, following a third state audit criticizing the slow efforts.

Patchwork policing, flawed data and media indifference leave the Four Corners region haunted by unsolved murders.

Salt Lake City Weekly – August 20, 2025

Joshua Barnett, a Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) spokesperson, said jurisdictional issues are the most common problem for MMIP cases, because investigations can involve multiple jurisdictions or someone who is outside tribal or BIA control. And Dustin Jansen, Director of the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, echoed this concern.

The Colorado River is this tribe's 'lifeblood,' now they want to give it the same legal rights as a person

KUNC – August 20, 2025

In far western Arizona, the dusty beige expanse of desert stretches as far as the eye can see. Under the baking summer sun, which regularly pushes temperatures above 110 degrees in the summer, even scrubby desert bushes can struggle to survive.

Oklahoma governor takes aim at Tulsa mayor's decision to prosecute crimes in tribal courts

Oklahoma Voice - August 21, 2025

Gov. Kevin Stitt has asked the Oklahoma Supreme Court to toss out an agreement between the City of Tulsa and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Tulsa Mayor Monroe Nichols and the tribe agreed that the city would not

prosecute municipal violations against tribal citizens, but would still enforce those laws. Prosecution would take place in a tribal court.

[Citing 1898 Curtis Act for jurisdiction over tribal citizens, Henryetta calls 2020 McGirt ruling ‘old’ news](#)

NonDoc – August 21, 2025

Sued by the Muscogee Nation in [federal court](#) for prosecuting tribal citizens in alleged violation of the [McGirt v. Oklahoma](#) decision, the City of Henryetta has responded by arguing that “McGirt is old and, as applied here, inapplicable news.”

[Nichols knocks governor on tribal criminal jurisdiction, Highway Patrol decision](#)

Tulsa World – August 21, 2025

It is Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt who is making Tulsa and Oklahoma less safe, Mayor Monroe Nichols said Thursday in response to a similar accusation against him by Stitt late Wednesday.

[Justice Gorsuch and what is owed to American Indians](#)

SCOTUSblog – August 21, 2025

Much ink has been spilled on Justice Neil Gorsuch’s ardent defense of the rights of American Indians. As legal scholar Ilya Somin [noted](#) in 2023, until then “Justice Gorsuch ha[d] never voted against Native American interests in a Supreme Court case.” Many commentators – those of a liberal bent in particular – have reacted with puzzlement to this aspect of Gorsuch’s jurisprudence.

[Courts, Treaties, and Power — A Conversation with John Echohawk](#)

WTOP News Washington DC – August 22, 2025

John Echohawk—a citizen of the Pawnee Nation and the co-founder/longtime executive director of the Native American Rights Fund, the legal backbone behind hard-won advances in tribal sovereignty, treaty rights, voting rights, and natural resources for more than five decades. He’s often described as the “*Thurgood Marshall of Indian law*.”

[Defending Tribal Court Jurisdiction](#)

Native American Rights Fund – August 25, 2025

Tribal Nation courts possess jurisdiction over family law matters involving Tribal citizens, including divorces.

[State justices uphold US Indian Child Welfare Act](#)

Kelo News Capital News Bureau – August 28, 2025

The South Dakota Supreme Court has unanimously upheld a circuit judge’s decision requiring an American Indian child be raised by her American Indian father, rather than be placed with relatives of the child’s mother. The state’s high court publicly released [the opinion](#) on Thursday regarding the federal [Indian Child Welfare Act](#).

[Brookings and SCAG Report Exposes Failures in Native Data Collection](#)

Native News Online – August 28, 2025

Since President Donald Trump took office in January, his administration has quietly removed many federal datasets and research reports from the public domain — some of which included vital information on Tribal communities. Now more than ever, access to accurate and representative data on Native communities is essential. Even before these datasets were scrubbed, data collection in Indian Country was already a significant challenge.

[Crow Creek MMIP walk raises awareness of gun violence](#)

South Dakota Searchlight – August 29, 2025

Despite a 2023 state of emergency declaration from the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, violence on the reservation continues.

PUBLICATIONS

[American Indian Geopolitical Rights](#), Torey Dolan (2025) Available at SSRN

American Indian people hold a unique legal position under the United States Constitution and within American law based on Indian status. This unique relationship at times reflects the cultural, spiritual, and legal ties to land that are unique to American Indians and represent aberrations in American law. This fundamentally impacts the lives and interests of American Indians, including in matters of representational democracy.

Symposium – 2025 – [Promises of Sovereignty](#), Stanford Law Review Vol. 77 (July 2025). Articles include:

- [Tribal Sovereignty, Justice Gorsuch, and the Letter of the Law](#), Desmond Mantle
- [What We Talk About When We Talk About \(Indian\) Sovereignty: Montana and the Application of General Statutes to Tribe](#), Annelisa Kingsbury Lee
- [Separation-of-Powers Formalism and Federal Indian Law: The Question of Executive Order Reservations](#), Isaac Cui
- [Tribal Revestiture](#), Lauren van Schilfgaarde
- [Indigenous Rights to Culture: What's Next?](#), Angela R. Riley
- [The Supreme Court's Old Habits in a New Era? Native Nations, Statehood, and an Indigenous-led Future for Natural Resources](#), Monte Mills
- [Federal Indian Law in a Time of Judicial Self-Aggrandizement](#), Dan Lewerenz
- [Against Judicial Generalists](#), Mathew L.M. Fletcher
- [Can the Roberts Court Find Federal Indian Law?](#), Seth Davis
- [Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta's Constitutional Mistakes](#), Bethany R. Berger

[Background Checks for Firearm Transfers, 2021](#), Elizabeth Davis, BJS Statistician; Jennifer Karberg, Brittnei Lambing, Ronald Frandsen, and Joseph Durso, Regional Justice Information Service (Rejis), U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Statistics, NCJ Number 310167, Date Published August 2025

This report is the 19th in a series produced by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. It details the number of applications for background checks for firearm transfers and permits received by the FBI and state and local checking agencies. It also describes the types of permits or checks used by each state, the number of denials issued by these agencies, and the reasons for denial.

[Civilized Enough to Tax: Natives as Federal Income Taxpayers](#), Lauren van Schilfgaarde, 114 Calif. L. Rev. ____ (forthcoming 2026); UCLA School of Law, Public Law Research Paper No. 25-35

What does it mean to condition federal tax liability on the degree to which a Native American has assimilated? Federal Indian law has long assumed that Native Americans are subject to federal income taxation absent an express exemption. This presumption obscures the complicated history by which Native Americans were incorporated into the federal tax base.

[The Way Forward: Report of the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children](#)

To the President and the Congress of the United States, February 2024

Commission examined the unique challenges that Native children and youth face and the range of programs designed to address those challenges. Following in the footsteps of Ms. Spotted Bear and Mr. Soboleff, it focused not only on improving the current system but also on highlighting and leveraging the strengths of Native communities. Thus, the Commission's recommendations reflect two primary goals: • To develop sustainable systems that can deliver effective wraparound services to Native children, youth, and their families • To amplify the unique factors offered by Native cultures that promote resilience among Native children and youth This introduction provides background for the Commission's report. It describes the Commission's methods, the conditions that constitute a baseline for its work, a summary of key themes and ideas evident in its research, and the lifecourse theory of development, which provides a logic for its recommendations.

[Reporting to Police by Type of Crime and Location of Residence, 2020–2023](#), Bureau of Justice Statistics, Miles Wang, Former BJS Fellow, and Alexandra Thompson, BJS Statistician, July 2025, NCJ 310166

Not all crimes are reported to police, and different factors can influence whether a crime is reported, such as the type of crime or location where the victim resides. In the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), victims' residences can be classified as urban, suburban, or rural (see Methodology). Aggregate data from the 2020–2023 NCVS indicate that the share of victimizations reported to police varies by location of residence for both violent and property crime.

[Violent Incidents by Victim and Offender Age, 2023](#), Bureau of Justice Statistics, Miles Wang, Former BJS Fellow; Alexandra Thompson, BJS Statistician, July 2025, NCJ 310142

This brief Just the Stats report examines violent crime incidents by victim and offender age. It presents findings on the age of victims and the perceived age of the offenders for violent crime incidents compared to their shares of the U.S. population for persons age 12 or older. The data used to produce the statistical estimates in this report are from the 2023 National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS).

UCLA Law Review Special Issue [Welcome to Red Rising: The Shifting Legal Landscape of Tribal Sovereignty](#), in print August 1, 2025. Articles include:

- [Indigenous Peoples in International \(Treaty\) Diplomacy](#) by Kristen A. Carpenter
- [The Sovereignty Problem in Federal Indian Law](#) by Matthew L.M. Fletcher
- [Homelands Not Graveyards](#) by M. Alexander Pearl
- [Tribal Law Innovations in Native Governance](#) by Angela R. Riley
- ["The Seed is the Law": Creating New Governance Frameworks for Indigenous Heirloom Seeds and Traditional Knowledge](#) by Rebecca Tsosie & Michael Kotutwa Johnson
- [Native Reproductive Self-Determination](#) by Lauren van Schilfgaarde
- [Landback as Federal Policy](#) by Kevin K. Washburn

[Judicial Imperialism: The Supreme Court's Assault on Tribal Sovereignty and the Rule of Law](#), Adam Creppelle, Washington University Law Review, Vol. 102:1331.

The rule of law requires predictability, and the rules governing Indian country create uncertainty. For example, determining whether a person can be arrested on a reservation depends upon a combination of whether the victim and perpetrators are Indians, the type of crime, and the status of the land where the incident occurred. The same goes for contract enforcement. Even when forum selection and choice of law provisions exist, it can take years to determine whether the dispute should be adjudicated in tribal, state, or federal court. Ambiguity extends to countless other areas, including marijuana legalization and usury caps.

Indian country's legal uncertainty is a consequence of judicial imperialism. Imperialism is one sovereign imposing its will upon another. The political branches abandoned their past imperial Indian policies in the 1970s, but the Supreme Court continues to impose outside sovereignties upon tribes. Moreover, the post-1970s Supreme Court has abandoned precedents supporting tribal self-governance and devised new theories to strip tribes of sovereign powers. The Supreme Court's assault on tribal sovereignty has undermined the rule of law in Indian country and constitutes judicial imperialism.

[The Right to Protest in Indian Country](#), Grant Christensen, Columbia Law Review, Vol. 125, No. 5

From April 2016 until February 2017, thousands of people gathered along the Cannonball River on the border of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation to protest the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. In response, state officials tried to close down roads leading to the Reservation, considered legislation that would immunize drivers who struck protesters with vehicles, and arrested hundreds of peaceful demonstrators. The #NoDAPL protests built upon a legacy of resistance by Indigenous communities against the actions of the United States. While the history of Indigenous resistance predates the nation's founding, the power to police protest activities on tribal lands has changed markedly.

[Tribes in the Text: How State Constitutions Structure Governmental Relationships with Native Tribes](#),

Paul Baumgardner, South Dakota Law Review, Vol. 70, No. 3 (2025)

Although there has been a flurry of recent court cases that acknowledge the important role of state governments in tribal affairs, relatively little scholarly attention has been given to how American states actually relate to Native individuals, communities, or institutions. One way to begin outlining the nature of modern state-tribal relationships is to explore the highest laws within each state and see what these laws have to say about Native Americans. This article does just that, delving into the current state constitutions of all fifty states in the United States to better understand how these documents structure state governmental relationships with Native tribes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration is now open for: [Beyond the Bench 2025](#)

November 17–19, 2025 (In-person Los Angeles, CA)

Beyond the Bench 25 is a multidisciplinary statewide conference focused on children, youth, and families in the California court system. The event will include multiple sessions related to the Indian Child Welfare Act. **Click [here](#) for registration.** If you have any questions about registration, please email beyondthebench@jud.ca.gov or call 415-865-7599.

[Native Children's Commission Implementation Act of 2025](#)

To improve programs relating to Native children and families, and for other purposes. The draft bill released by Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Comments are due by **September 12, 2025**, to Murkowski_Outreach@Indian.Senate.Gov.

Tribal Law and Policy Institute's Bonnie Clairmont (Ho-Chunk) Honored with 2025 [Tillie Black Bear Women Are Sacred Award](#), Women Are Sacred Conference, 2025, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Bonnie Clairmont (Ho-Chunk) serves from TLPI's Minnesota office as the Victim Advocacy Specialist. Prior to her employment with TLPI, she was the Outreach/Client Services Coordinator for Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County, a rape crisis center. While employed there, Bonnie provided leadership in the development of Sexual Assault Response Teams and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner programs and offered guidance with multidisciplinary sexual assault protocol development. She has worked more than twenty-five years advocating for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. She has dedicated much of her work to providing and improving services for victim/survivors of sexual assault, battering, and child sexual abuse, particularly those from American Indian communities. For four years she coordinated the Strengthening the Circle of Trust Conference, a conference focusing on sexual assault and exploitation perpetrated by American Indian spiritual leaders/medicine men. Bonnie co-edited a recently published book "Sharing Our Stories of Survival" an anthology of writing by Native Women who've experienced violence. Bonnie provided technical assistance to research conducted by Amnesty International USA that led to the report, "Maze of Injustice: The failure to protect Indigenous Women from sexual violence in the USA." She and her late partner Jim Clairmont have two children and five grandchildren.

National Indian Child Welfare Association [2026 Protecting Our Children Conference](#) will take place in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, from March 30-April 1, 2026. Be on the lookout for registration this fall!

[National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference - 2026 Service Award](#)

National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College

The National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College is accepting nominations for the 2026 - 17th Annual National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference (MUPC) Service Award. This award is presented to an individual who has taken extraordinary efforts in the search, investigation, recovery, identification and reunification of missing and unidentified persons cases. **Nominations due, December 5, 2025.**

[Court Safety and Security Conference - 2026 - Call for Presentations](#)

***Submission Deadline: September 12, 2025**

The National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC) of Fox Valley Technical College announces the Court Safety and Security Conference in Appleton, WI on March 24-26, 2026. The conference focuses on critical issues impacting the safety of court personnel, court facilities, and communities. Conference sessions highlight best practices, lessons learned from relevant cases, and current or emerging trends in courtroom safety.

ONLINE RESOURCES

[Materials and publications by Bonnie Clairmont, Tribal Law & Policy Institute](#)

1. "Grassroots Advocacy Video," <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qCpT8mhuGOU>
2. "Listen to The Grandmothers: Incorporating Tradition into Contemporary Responses to Violence Against Native Women," www.tribal-institute.org/download/Listen_to_Grandmothers_Video_Guide_June08.pdf
3. "Pocket Guide: Tribal Victim Advocacy in Criminal Cases," [3fb28d_b594b84a97ae44b98300b09476a5123f.pdf](https://www.tribal-institute.org/download/3fb28d_b594b84a97ae44b98300b09476a5123f.pdf)
4. "Tribal Legal Code Resource: Victim's Rights, Condensed Guide for Drafting Tribal Victim's Rights Codes," https://287f3473-8ddb-4a3e-a842-552e544a6932.usrfiles.com/ugd/3fb28d_cacd0c439f324d8fb5b1a1d7b4f1c7bd.pdf
5. "Sex Trafficking in Indian Country: Advocacy Curriculum," <https://www.home.tlpi.org/sex-trafficking>
6. "Sharing Our Stories of Survival: Native Women Surviving Violence," <https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/sharing-our-stories-of-survival-9780759111257/>

[2025 Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Toolkit](#)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Copy, download, and share the toolkit's messages, graphics, and promotional materials in ways that fit the needs of your audiences and channels. The toolkit includes:

- **Key Messages and Weekly Themes** to inspire content creation.

- **Social Media Shareables** to spread awareness across your platforms.
- **Digital Stickers, Profile Frames, and Email Signatures** to reinforce the message.
- **Virtual Backgrounds** to personalize your online meetings.
- **Hashtags** to boost visibility and engagement on social media.

Problem-Solving Skills for Tribal Court Personnel-Tribal Law & Policy Institute:

- **Recording and Training Materials:**
 - [Problem-Solving Skills for Tribal Court Personnel](#) (PDF)
 - [Problem-Solving Skills for Tribal Court Personnel](#) (Recording)
- **Case Management Systems:**
 - [Solidcircle](#)
 - [RiteTrack by Handel Information Technologies](#)
 - [KellPro](#)
 - [ArcticIT](#)
 - [Tyler Technologies \(Odyssey\)](#)
 - [Avenu \(Full Court Enterprise\)](#)
- **Checklists/Templates for Tribal Courts:**
 - [Pretrial Checklist of the Roles and Responsibilities for Presiding Judge, Court Administrator, Etc.](#) (State court example)
 - [Court Forms Templates](#) (From Chickaloon Village Traditional Tribal Court)
 - [Tribal Court Forms Templates](#) (From Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Tribal Court)
 - [Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Planning Process Checklist](#)

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WEBINARS, AND TRAININGS

September 4, 2025, 1:30pm (Virtual)

[September CSEC Action Team Meeting: Understanding and Responding to Peer-to-Peer Recruitment](#)

September 4- 5, 2025 (Hybrid)

University of Wisconsin [Indian Law Symposium](#)

September 4, 2025, 10:00am (Virtual)

[The Supporting America's Children and Families Act: Supporting Full Implementation of Tribal Provisions and Taking Action on Requests for Comment](#)

September 6, 2025 (San Francisco, CA)

Boys with Braids Conference – For information on registration, please email: info@natedadsnetwork.org or vida.castaneda@jud.ca.gov

September 9, 2025 at 10:00am-11:00am (Virtual)

[AMBER Alert in Indian Country and Missing in Alaska](#)

September 9-10, 2025 (Washington, D.C.)

[National Judicial Education Workshop on Guardianships and Elder Abuse](#)

September 10, 2025 10:00am-11:00am (Webinar)

[Weaving Knowledge, Collaboration, and Care: An Introduction to the National Tribal Child Welfare Center for Innovation and Advancement](#)

September 16, 2025, 10:00am (Webinar)

[Post-Permanency Support for Tribal Nations](#)

September 18 and 25, 2025 (Virtual)

[National Judicial Institute on Child Sex Trafficking](#)

September 26, 2025 (Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, ASU, Phoenix, AZ)

[Wiring the Rez: AI in Indian Country](#)

September 30, 2025, 11:00 am-12:30 pm (National Indian Country Training Initiative Webinar)
[Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse in Indian Country](#)

October 13-16, 2025 (Chandler, AZ)
[Native American Court Judges Association \(NAICJA\) 56th Annual National Tribal Judicial and Court Personnel Conference](#)

October 28-30, 2025 (Temecula, CA)
[32nd Annual California State ICWA Conference](#)

October 30, 2025 (Virtual)
[Responding to Sextortion Related Offenses Against Children](#)

November 3-6, 2025 (Kohler, WI)
[Mindfulness for Judges](#)

November 17–19, 2025 (In-person Los Angeles, CA)
[Beyond the Bench 2025](#)

Beyond the Bench 25 is a multidisciplinary statewide conference focused on children, youth, and families in the California court system. The event will include multiple sessions related to the Indian Child Welfare Act. **Click [here](#) for registration.** If you have any questions about registration, please email beyondthebench@jud.ca.gov or call 415-865-7599.

April 7-9, 2026 (New Orleans, NV)
[Empowering Change: Innovative Response Strategies for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence](#)

April 21-23, 2026 (Las Vegas, NV)
[National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference](#)

COVID-19 SPECIFIC GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

[FEMA COVID-19 FUNERAL ASSISTANCE](#)

FEMA will continue to provide funeral assistance until Sept. 30, 2025, to those who have lost loved ones due to this pandemic.

NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

***Please check the direct links to the grants regularly, as the status, closing dates, and availability may change in time. At this time, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has removed previously posted grants and webinars. For a complete list of funding opportunities available at this time, here are links to consult: [Grants.gov](#), [Office of Justice Programs](#), [Bureau of Justice Affairs](#), and [U.S. Department of Justice](#).**

[Rural Housing Preservation Grant](#)

Department of Agriculture

Rural Housing Service

USDA-RD-HCFP-HPG-2025

Deadline: September 4, 2025

The Rural Housing Service (RHS) announces a notice in funding availability under its Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) program. The HPG program is a grant program which provides qualified public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, which may include but not be limited to, Faith-Based and Community Organizations, and other eligible entities grant funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners in repairing and rehabilitating their homes in rural areas. In addition, the HPG program assists rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes in repairing and rehabilitating their units if they agree to make such units available to low- and very low-income persons.

[Violence Against Women Tribal Special U.S. Attorney Initiative](#)

Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

O-OVW-2025-172419

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: September 9, 2025

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: September 11, 2025

This initiative supports Tribes and United States Attorneys' Offices (USAOs) in their investigation and prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, sex trafficking, and stalking cases in Indian country. Grant funds support dedicated Tribal prosecutors who are cross-designated as Special Assistant United States Attorneys (SAUSAs) to work directly with their USAO partners. The goals of the initiative are to fill gaps in jurisdictional coverage; increase communication and coordination among Tribal, federal, and state law enforcement agencies; establish consistent relationships between federal prosecutors and Tribal community(ies); and improve the quality of investigation and prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking cases through training and best practices.

2025 Research and Evaluation (R&E) Initiative

U.S. Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

O-OVW-2025-172399

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: September 23, 2025

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: September 25, 2025

The purpose of the Research and Evaluation (R&E) Initiative is to study approaches to preventing and addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. By studying the efficacy of strategies for serving victims and holding offenders accountable, the R&E Initiative helps communities assess their current programs and adopt proven strategies. The initiative is designed to support researcher-practitioner partnerships and a broad range of research and evaluation methods, including qualitative, mixed-method, quasi-experimental, and experimental designs. Because OVW has limited funds to support research and evaluation, this initiative prioritizes topics for which a stronger evidence base would help OVW recipients use federal funds most effectively.

Training and Services to End Violence and Abuse Against Individuals with Disabilities and Deaf People Program

Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

O-OVW-2025-172418

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: September 23, 2025

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: September 25, 2025

The purpose of the Disability Grant Program is to provide training, consultation, and information on domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual assault, and abuse by caregivers against individuals with disabilities (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)) and Deaf people and to enhance direct services to such individuals.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Tribal Homekey+ 2024 Notice of Funding Availability

California Department of Housing and Community Development

Deadline: Application portal opens late January 2025 and open until all funds are awarded

Tribal Homekey+ is the Permanent Supportive Housing component of the BHIBA. This funding represents the Department's ongoing investment in Tribal housing opportunities and continues a statewide effort to sustain and rapidly expand permanent supportive housing for households and individuals who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and are living with a behavioral health challenge. Rather than utilizing a set-aside within the standard Homekey+ Program, this NOFA operates independently and is tailored to meet the specific affordable housing needs of California Tribes. Website: <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/homekey/tribal-program> Homekey Tribal Program Email: HK Tribal@hcd.ca.gov.

Training and Technical Assistance Initiative

U.S. Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

O-OVW-2025-172426

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: September 9, 2025

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: September 11, 2025

The purpose of the OVW Training and Technical Assistance Initiative (TA Initiative) is to provide direct training and technical assistance (TTA) to current and potential OVW recipients and subrecipients to enhance their efforts to successfully implement projects supported by OVW grant funds. OVW's TA Initiative is designed to strengthen and build the capacity of civil and criminal justice system professionals and victim service providers across the nation to respond effectively to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking (i.e., the four VAWA crimes) and foster partnerships and collaboration among organizations to address these crimes.

Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program

U.S. Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

O-OVW-2025-172403

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: September 23, 2025

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: September 25, 2025

The Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program (TSASP) provides funding to Indian Tribes, Tribal organizations, and nonprofit Tribal organizations 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.

NIDA Research Center of Excellence Grant Program

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

PAR-23-076

Open Date (Earliest Submission Date): August 25, 2023

Deadline: November 18, 2025

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to provide support for research Centers that (1) conduct substance use and addiction research in any area of NIDA's mission, including the intersection of substance use/addiction and HIV, (2) foster outstanding innovative science, (3) are multidisciplinary, thematically integrated, and synergistic, and (4) serve as national resource(s) to provide educational and outreach activities to relevant research communities, educational organizations, the general public, and policy makers.

NAGPRA Repatriation Grants

Department of the Interior

National Park Service

P25AS00474

Deadline: May 8, 2026

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to make grants to museums, Indian Tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations for the purposes of assisting in consultation, documentation, and repatriation of Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony (25 U.S.C. 3008). NAGPRA Repatriation grants assist museums, Indian Tribes, and NHOs to defray costs associated with the packaging, transportation, contamination removal, reburial, and/or storage of NAGPRA human remains or cultural items. Project activities may include, but are not limited to: travel, transportation, testing or decontamination, building containers for transport, ceremonial materials, or Staff time.