



"Lady Justice" used with permission from DG Smalling, Choctaw Nation

Presidential Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives Operation Lady Justice

Listening Session Notes DOJ Tribal Nations Leadership Council (TNLC) February 25, 2020, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Conference Call

Attendees	
Task Force Co-Chairs:	Katie Sullivan, Tara Sweeney
Task Force Members:	John Jiminez for Terry Wade, Frances Cook for Laura Rogers, Trent Shores, Michele Sauve for Jeannie Hovland,
Executive Director:	Marcia Good

Listening Session	
<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Comments</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no law enforcement in many small communities in Alaska, it has been a struggle forever • VPSOs are part of the solution, but the state is out of money and there are very few of them • Rural Alaska really struggles • Transportation is difficult, as well as the logistics of finding someone to work in areas • Alaska is uniquely different, more like a third world county
TF Tara Sweeney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOI traveled to Alaska and held listening sessions there
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can be done with partnerships? • How do we deal with families and trauma around these issues? • Glad that HHS is on the call, as we need to engage all agencies, figure out how we deal with trauma • We need prevention, kids knowing what healthy relationships look like • How do we reach victims and crime scenes? • We have a lack of internet, broadband
TF Tara Sweeney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOI is aware of the lack of cell coverage and has broadband as one of its priorities • We need to engage with other federal partners like DOT and HHS • We need trauma-informed training, wrap-around services for those that are found or come home, as well as for family members

Listening Session	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I’ve been out to Alaska, and have a snapshot of how hard it is there; in villages, there is not one woman who has not been harmed in some way, assaulted, raped, murdered or missing... makes hearts grieve • Who are the true players? FBI has a major role, but we need more hands on, more response from FBI needed, and an adequate level of funding, plus protocols • TF needs to be familiar with the ILOC report, the reports about TLOA and juveniles in IC, need to look at all of those reports which talk about cross-agency coordination • Our tribe uses a traditional tribal response without codified law, we approach from a first responder perspective. TF needs to establish a triage, as Tribes already respond any way we can, but we can also look to the big picture—how do we include it? • How can the federal partners include us, and include tribes in the piece of how it works; what is in each tribe’s structure that can be helpful in each community to put a system in place • TNLC is available to the TF as you need us
TF Tara Sweeney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community involvement is essential • The beauty of the listening sessions is that they are designed to bring advocates, LE, all community members together to discuss the issues • TF will make sure that protocols are culturally relevant and appropriate • Charlie and BIA-OJS has committed to training for first responders, ensuring that non-law enforcement first responders are adequately trained • “Its going to take all of us at the table... Tribes, feds, victims, families to come together to make it work.”

Listening Session	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please add another consultation to the schedule, add one in the Eastern United States
TF Katie Sullivan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection is also a priority, and it's important that we be accurate. • Acknowledges that this is just the beginning of the conversation • That there is not a tribe in the nation who is not affected by this
TF Katie Sullivan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes DOJ efforts on sexual assault kits and backlog • Notes SANE work at OVW out to IC

