



"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

Operation Lady Justice Overview



Indian Country Accomplishments

Trump Administration has actively worked to advance the following Indian Country priorities:

- ▶ Prioritized the long-overlooked issue of missing and murdered Native Americans
- ▶ Formed Presidential Task Force on Protecting Native American Children in the IHS
- ▶ Updated long-sought eagle remains policy
- ▶ Repatriating culturally important remains and artifacts from the Mesa Verde Region
- ▶ Hosted the first-ever Federal-Tribal Broadband Summit
- ▶ Hosted the first-ever White House Conference on Supporting Native American Veterans
- ▶ Prioritized support for Native Americans during the response to COVID-19, including the largest programmatic investment in Indian country in our Nation's history



Executive Order 13898

On November 26, 2019, President Trump signed Executive Order 13898, forming the **Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives**



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Executive Order 13898

Purpose: The goal of the Task Force is to make the criminal justice system work better, so that it more effectively and appropriately responds to the concerns of American Indian and Alaska Native communities regarding missing and murdered people – particularly missing and murdered women and girls.



Task Force Co-Chair Designees

The Attorney General and the Secretary of the Interior are the Task Force's co-chairs.



Katharine (Katie) Sullivan

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Office of Justice Programs

Designee for the Attorney General



Tara Sweeney

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs

Department of the Interior

Designee for the Secretary of the Interior



Task Force Members



Terry Wade

Executive Assistant Director
Criminal, Cyber, Response and Services Branch
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice



Laura Rogers

Acting Director
Office on Violence Against Women
Department of Justice



Task Force Members



Charles (Charlie) Addington

Deputy Bureau Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Office of Justice Services
Department of the Interior



Trent Shores

U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Oklahoma
and Chair of the Native American Issues
Subcommittee of the Attorney General's Advisory
Committee, Department of Justice



Task Force Members



Jean (Jeannie) Hovland

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American
Affairs and Commissioner

Administration for Native Americans

Department of Health and Human Services



Task Force Work Projects: Accomplishments

The first important job of the Task Force is to listen to impacted Native communities. The Task Force has conducted Listening Sessions with:



- ▶ NCAI's Executive Council, Winter Session
- ▶ DOI's Tribal Interior Budget Committee
- ▶ HHS ACF's Tribal Advisory Committee
- ▶ HHS's ANA Grantees Meeting
- ▶ DOJ's Tribal Nations Leadership Council



Task Force Work Projects: Accomplishments

Launched the Task Force website

OperationLadyJustice.usdoj.gov which will include:

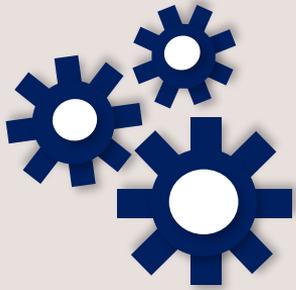


- ▶ Schedule of tribal outreach events
- ▶ Read outs from prior sessions
- ▶ Links to resources
- ▶ FAQs and facts sheets
- ▶ Tribal and state efforts
- ▶ Working group progress



Task Force Work Projects: Accomplishments

Formed Working Groups developing:

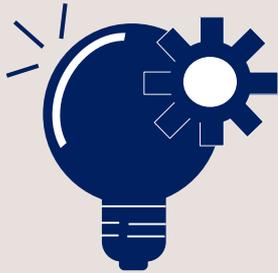


- ▶ Multidisciplinary Cold Case Teams to review cold cases of both missing persons and murder cases
- ▶ Education and Outreach Campaign for affected AIAN communities
- ▶ Training for law enforcement, victim services, communities and families
- ▶ Comprehensive guides to available resources
- ▶ Relationships with existing tribal and state task forces
- ▶ Best practices guide for missing persons and murder cases including family communication



Task Force Work Projects: Accomplishments

Ongoing specific projects include:



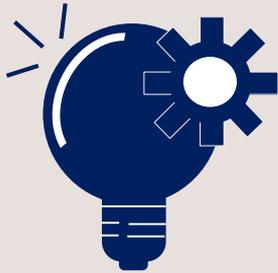
- ▶ Restarting the “Volunteers in Police Service” program to help utilize community volunteers in missing persons cases
- ▶ Establishing a “Justice Connect” section within the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP) in the FBI CJIS databases
- ▶ Compiling ideas for legislation to solve some of the identified gaps or legal issues
- ▶ Meeting with law enforcement, victim services programs, domestic violence coalitions and others to hear about field experiences in American Indian and Alaska Native communities



Task Force Work Projects: Accomplishments

Ongoing specific projects include:

- ▶ Coordinating efforts with other Federal Commissions and Task Forces including:
 - The President’s Commission on Law Enforcement
 - The Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children
 - The Federal Enforcement Working Group on Combating Human Trafficking and Online Child Exploitation in the United States
 - The Attorney General’s Initiative on Missing and Murdered Indigenous People
 - The White House Council on Native American Affairs



Reports



- ▶ By November 26, 2020, the Task Force is charged with developing and submitting a written report to the President regarding:
 - The activities and accomplishments of the Task Force
 - The status of projects the Task Force has not yet completed
 - Specific recommendations for future action of the Task Force
- ▶ By November 26, 2021, the Task Force is charged with developing and submitting a final written report to the President regarding the activities and accomplishments of the Task Force



Listening Session Questions

- ▶ **SCOPE:** What does the problem of missing persons or murder cases look like among the people in your community?
 - ▶ How much of a problem is it? Who goes missing and what are the contributing factors?
 - ▶ In murder cases, who is victimized and who are the perpetrators? Are there contributing factors?
- ▶ **CHALLENGES:** What are the major problems or challenges your community faces?
 - ▶ Are reports to law enforcement timely made? How do agencies coordinate in missing persons cases?
 - ▶ Are there gaps in needed resources? How is information disseminated?
- ▶ **SOLUTIONS:** What are the major strengths and assets of your community in handling missing persons or murder cases?
 - ▶ Do you have protocols or interagency agreements? What kind of support is there for victims/families?
 - ▶ Do you have community education or awareness programs? What role does Tribal culture play?
- ▶ **GOALS:** What is your vision for how to make your communities and people safer in the area of missing persons or murder cases?



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Contact Operation Lady Justice



- ▶ Website: OperationLadyJustice.usdoj.gov
 - ▶ Choose “subscribe” on the website to receive email updates

- ▶ Email: OperationLadyJustice@usdoj.gov



Offering Testimony

Your line will be opened in the order that your hand was raised. Please be patient while others are speaking.

If your audio is connected via phone:

- To “raise your hand:” Button located at top of screen will be seen as either a hand or a figure
 - Choose “Raise Hand” from the drop down
- Wait for Operator to let you know the line is open and ready for you to speak

Written comments:

- Please submit to OperationLadyJustice@usdoj.gov



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