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

The Operation Lady Justice Partner Task Forces and Commissions

Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

The Presidential Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice was established by Executive Order 13896 to “study issues related to law enforcement and the administration of justice and make recommendations to the Attorney General, who shall submit a report and recommendations to the President on actions that can be taken to prevent, reduce, and control crime, and increase respect for the law, and assist victims.”¹ In its study, the Commission is consulting federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement personnel, representatives of nonprofits, experts who study policing and law enforcement, and others with relevant experience and/or knowledge.

The Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

The Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children was established by S. 246 (114th Congress). The commission studies topics including “the impact of concurrent jurisdiction on child welfare systems; barriers Indian tribes and Native Hawaiians face in using public and private grant resources; obstacles to nongovernmental financial support for programs benefitting Native children; issues relating to the validity and statistical significance of data on Native children; barriers to the development of sustainable, multidisciplinary programs designed to assist high-risk Native children and their families; cultural or socioeconomic challenges in communities of Native children; examples of successful program models and use of best practices in programs that serve children and families; barriers to inter-agency coordination; and the use of memoranda of agreement or interagency agreements to facilitate or improve agency coordination. The commission must use the results of the study and analyses of existing federal data to: (1) develop plans for federal policy relating to Native children informed by the development of accurate child well-being measures; (2) recommend modifications and improvements to programs for Native children that integrate the cultural strengths of Native communities; (3) recommend improvements to the collection of data regarding Native children and the programs that serve them; and (4) identify models of successful programs.”²

The Federal Enforcement Working Group on Combating Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation in the US

The Federal Enforcement Working Group on Combating Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation in the US was charged under Executive Order 13903 with coordinating to “(i) improve interagency coordination with respect to targeting traffickers, determining threat assessments, and sharing law enforcement intelligence to build on the Administration's commitment to the continued success of ongoing anti-trafficking enforcement initiatives, such as the Anti-Trafficking Coordination Team and the U.S.-Mexico Bilateral Human Trafficking Enforcement Initiatives; and (ii) coordinate activities, as appropriate, with the Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives as established by Executive Order 13898 of November 26, 2019 (Establishing the Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives).”³

¹ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-commission-law-enforcement-administration-justice/>

² <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/114/s246/summary>

³ <https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/executive-order-13903-combating-human-trafficking-and-online-child-exploitation-the-3>



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Attorney General Barr's Initiative on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons

On November 22, 2019, Attorney General William P. Barr launched the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) Initiative to address the critical issue of missing and murdered Native Americans and Alaskan Natives. This three part strategy, focused on the Department of Justice's (DOJ) responsibilities in Indian Country, direct the Department to do the following:

1. Establish 11 MMIP coordinators who "will work closely with federal, tribal, state and local agencies to develop common protocols and procedure for responding to reports of missing or murdered indigenous people."⁴ They will be located in US Attorney's Offices across 11 states.
2. "Upon request by a tribal, state, or local law enforcement agency the FBI will provide expert assistance based upon the circumstances of a missing indigenous persons case. FBI resources and personnel which may be activated to assist with cases include: Child Abduction Rapid Deployment (CARD) teams, Cellular Analysis Support Teams, Evidence Response Teams, Cyber Agents for timely analysis of digital evidence/social media, Victim Services Division Response Teams, and others."⁵
3. The DOJ "will perform in-depth analysis of federally supported databases and analyze data collection practices to identify opportunities to improve missing persons data and share the results of this analysis with our partners in this effort."⁶

The White House Council on Native American Affairs

The White House Council on Native American Affairs was re-established by President Trump in order to facilitate interagency cooperation between the federal government and tribal leaders and promote the Administration's policy goals in Indian Country, such as "economic development and rural prosperity, energy development, infrastructure, public health, cultural resources, public safety, veterans' affairs and education & workforce development."⁷ The Council's Executive Director is Tyler Fish, the former Tribal Liaison in the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

⁴ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/attorney-general-william-p-barr-launches-national-strategy-address-missing-and-murdered>

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ <https://www.pressreleasepoint.com/white-house-re-establishes-council-native-american-affairs-support-continued-inter-agency>



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