

# 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Alaska Tribal Court Conference

## **Where Do I go For Tribal Justice Training, Technical Assistance, and Grant Resources?**

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August 17 – 19, 2021

Presented by: Kimberly Martus, JD, Supervisor, Alaska Tribal Justice  
Resource Center at the Rural Alaska Community Action Program  
(RurAL CAP)

# WHAT IS THE ALASKA TRIBAL JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER?

The Alaska Tribal Justice Resource Center (ATJRC) was established in October 2019, and is responsible for providing tribally-driven training and technical assistance (TTA) services, in an effective and culturally relevant manner to Alaska Tribes and Native non-profit organizations seeking to plan, develop, implement and enhance their respective tribal justice systems.

ATJRC is funded by a grant from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance and is operated by the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP), a longstanding and experienced statewide non-profit organization serving rural Alaska.



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# ATJRC Statewide Partners

**Kevin Illingworth**, Professor of Tribal Management, UAF

**Byron Bluehorse**, Associate Professor and Program Manager of Tribal Management, UAF

**Lisa Jaeger**, Tribal Government Specialist, LLC

**Brittany Madros**, Tribal Government Specialist, Tanana Chiefs Conference

**Nikole Nelson**, Executive Director, Alaska Legal Services Corporation

**Meghan “Sigvanna” Topkok**, Staff Attorney, Kawerak, Inc.

**David Avraham Voluck**, Judge, Sitka Tribe of Alaska

**Alex Cleghorn**, Attorney, Alaska Native Justice Center

**Denise Nerby**, Assistant Director, AVCP Tribal Justice Center

# What TTA Areas or Subject Matter Does ATJRC Deliver Services On?

ATJRC is actively providing TTA services to 21 Alaska Tribes and tribal non-profit organizations, with CTAS PA#3 grants, as well as non-grantees, to support success and achievement of their respective projects.

ATJRC is currently focused on providing the following TTA services to grantees and non-grantees:

- Establishing an Intertribal Police Department
- Development of Tribal Public Safety Codes
- Creating Cooperative Tribal State Agreements - to divert cases involving low level crimes to tribal court or to provide criminal sentencing recommendations to the Alaska Court System on cases involving tribal citizens

# What TTA Areas or Subject Matter Does ATJRC Deliver Services On?

- Implementation of Tribal Healing to Wellness and Peacemaking Courts
- Design and development of new reentry programs and coalitions, in addition to the enhancement of existing reentry programs and coalitions in rural Alaska
- Design and development of new courts, codes, and enhancement of existing courts to support tribal administration of justice
- Designing, developing and delivering trainings to Victim Advocates on how to create domestic violence protection orders in tribal courts and Full Faith and Credit Options for cross-jurisdictional enforcement
- Grant Management

# What TTA Areas or Subject Matter Does ATJRC Deliver Services On?

- ATJRC provides Scholarships for Training Workshops, Conferences, Alaska Tribal Governance, and Tribal Justice College Courses offered by the University of Alaska or in collaboration with national and Alaska regional TTA Providers
- ATJRC Website – To be Launched in late March followed by an online monthly newsletter in June 2021

# How Does ATJRC Deliver TTA Services?

Due to the Pandemic, ATJRC is limited to providing TTA services virtually and from a distance, to comply with national, state, and local government public health guidelines.

- Virtual Assessment and Implementation of TTA Needs
- Virtual Trainings and Webinars for multiple cohorts
- Virtual Monthly meetings with individual grantees
- Virtual Monthly Peer-to-Peer Talking Circles
- Onsite Visits (usually provided but not during the pandemic)

# What Steps Does ATJRC Take to Identify, Design and Deliver TTA Services?

## **Step 1: Assess Grantees TTA Needs:**

ATJRC assesses grantees TTA Needs in conjunction with tribal staff, partners, leaders, and community

## **Step 2: TTA Implementation Plan:**

ATJRC prepares and updates an annual Plan to implement and deliver TTA services, in conjunction with grantees that will assist and support achievement of their respective project goals, objectives, tasks, timelines and deliverables.



# Presenter Biography



**Kimberly Martus, JD**  
**ATJRC Project Supervisor**  
[kmartus@ruralcap.org](mailto:kmartus@ruralcap.org)

Kimberly has lived and worked in rural and urban Alaska since 1977. She earned a juris doctorate (J.D) degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1993 and a B.A degree in Native American Studies from The Evergreen State College in 1985. She is a mother to two grown sons and a grandmother of four. Kimberly has a longstanding commitment and passion for tribal justice and has actively provided tribal court assessments, training, planning, code-writing and other technical services to Alaska Tribes since 1995. She is a certified Tribal Healing to Wellness Court trainer and has other specialized experience representing indigenous children, troubled youth and Tribes in both state and tribal courts. Kimberly has served as a tribal court judge and as an associate justice. She has worked as a prisoner reentry program manager, tribal court administrator and as an Assistant Professor at the University of Alaska teaching federal Indian law and justice studies.

# ATJRC Staff



**Caroline Lee “Aranagiaq”**  
**Tribal Justice Coordinator**  
[clee@ruralcap.org](mailto:clee@ruralcap.org)

Atqa Aranagiaq, and Caroline Lee. I am a graduate from the University of Alaska, Anchorage. I earned a Bachelors in Legal Studies in 2017, and an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Paralegal Studies in 2015. I have completed three internships one in policy and two consecutive placements in my Regional Corporations Legal Department. I was honored to do my civic engagement placement at Alaska Native Health Board researching policy initiatives and participating in planning meetings. The majority of my career has been in the non-profit social services area. I have also worked for my regional and village corporations.

I have six children, and six grandchildren. My favorite hobbies include spending time with my children and grandchildren, sewing, camping, fishing, and summer. I am of Yup'ik and Caucasian descent. I grew up in Anchorage, Chuathbaluk, and Aniak, Alaska. My mother is from the Kuskokwim Region and My father is from Syracuse, NY.

When my professors asked what my goals were, I would say Tribal Law. I am both humbled and honored to work for RurAL CAP as the Tribal Justice Coordinator.



Visit Our Website!  
[atjrc.org](http://atjrc.org)



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