

Alaska Inter-Tribal Working Group (ITWG) on Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction (STCJ)

Chief David Salmon Tribal Hall - Fairbanks, Alaska

May 9-10, 2024

Thursday, May 9

7:45 - 8:30 a.m.

Registration

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Opening

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome from the Technical Assistance (TA) Team and Project Partners

Alex Cleghorn, Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC)

- *Brittany Madros, Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)*
- *Michelle Demmert, University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)*
- *Tami Jerue, Alaska Native Women's Resource Center (AKNWRC)*
- *Vivian Korthuis, Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) (tentative)*
- *Joie Millett, RurAL CAP*

Welcome from Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ) and Office of Justice Programs (OJP)

Allison Randall, OVW, TBD

Sherriann Moore, Deputy Director, OVW

Eileen Garry, OJP

James "Van" DeBergh, OTJ

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

Overview of Alaska Public Safety Empowerment Act

Presenter(s):

Kevin Illingworth, UAF

Alex Cleghorn, ANJC

Presenters will provide a high-level overview of the Alaska Public Safety Empowerment Act, which was included in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2022.

10:15 -10:30 a.m.

Break / Networking Opportunity

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Tribal Jurisdiction in Alaska and Impacts of VAWA 813(a) & (b)

Presenter(s):

Alex Cleghorn, ANJC

Michelle Demmert, UAF

Rick A. Haskins-Garcia, AKNWRC

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This session will examine the current legal framework for Tribal jurisdiction in Alaska. Presenters will review recent developments including the VAWA 2022 reauthorization; DOJ's Oct. 27, 2023 memo "[Concurrent Tribal Authority Under Public Law 83-280 in Alaska](#);" and DOI'S Feb. 1, 2024 Solicitor's opinion "[Clarification of Tribal Jurisdiction Over Alaska Native Allotments](#)."

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch** *(on your own)*

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. **Alaska Pilot Program**

Presenter(s):

Jennifer Kaplan, General Counsel, OVW

This session will provide an overview of DOJ's pilot program structure and how a Tribe can participate in the three tracks.

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Understanding STCJ

Presenter(s):

Michelle Demmert and Debra O'Gara, UAF

Presenters will examine the scope of conduct covered by STCJ and the due process requirements for tribes who choose to exercise the jurisdiction over non-Natives.

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Break / Networking Opportunity

3:15 – 4:15 p.m.

Overview of considerations for STCJ – Alaska and Panel Discussion

Presenter(s):

Chickaloon Native Village

Chief Gary Harrison (tentative)

Chief of Police Donna Anthony

Village of Dot Lake

President Tracy Charles- Smith

Alan Faulkner (tentative)

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In 2023, OVW awarded grants to two Alaska Native Villages to begin working toward STCJ implementation. During this session representatives from these two Villages will discuss their plans for approaching STCJ implementation.

4:15 – 4:30 p.m. **Wrap Up / Closing**

Friday, May 10

8:00 - 8:15 a.m. **Traditional Blessing**

**Overview of the Day's Agenda and Housekeeping
Recap of Day 1**

8:15 – 9:15 a.m. **Funding Opportunities for Tribal Justice and STCJ in Alaska**

Presenter(s):

Tami Jerue / Rick A. Haskins-Garcia, AKNWRC

Tricia Tingle, OJS BIA

Joie Millett / Kimberly Martus, RurAL CAP

Tammy Ashley, Samantha Dziatkiewicz, Regina Madison, OVW

Information about funding available to Tribes in Alaska that can be used to develop their justice systems and work toward STCJ implementation will be provided.

9:15 – 10:15 a.m. **Conversation about the Role of the Alaska ITWG and the strength of collaboration**

Presenter(s):

Valerie Davidson, CEO Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) (tentative)

Alberta Unuk, CEO Alaska Native Health Board (ANHB)

This session will cover the role of the Alaska ITWG and the strength of collaboration.

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. **Break / Networking Opportunity**

10:30 – 12:00 p.m. **Building Justice Systems in Alaska: Cops, Courts, Codes, Corrections and Centering Victims and Survivors**

Presenter(s):

- *Cops: Brittany Madros, TCC*

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- *Courts: Chief Judge Dolchok, Kenaitze Indian Tribe (KIT); Judge Trinidad Contreras, Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA)*
 - *Codes: TBD*
 - *Corrections: TBD*
 - *Centering Victims and Survivors: Tami Jerue, AKNWRC*

This session will cover several core aspects of a Tribal justice system and will highlight resources available in each area.

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch** (*on your own*)

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. **Roundtable Discussions** (*tables/breakout rooms*)

- **Cops**
- **Courts**
- **Codes**
- **Corrections**
- **Centering Victims and Survivor Services**

Facilitator: Virginia Davis

Participants will work together to identify resource needs in key areas and discuss areas of future focus for the ITWG and identify Tribal chairs for each topic.

2:30 – 2:45 p.m. **Break**

2:45 – 3:15 p.m. **Report out from Breakout Sessions**

Facilitator: Virginia Davis

3:15 – 3:45 p.m. **Wrap-Up, Resources, and Next Steps**

Presenter: Alex Cleghorn

This session may include informal updates and responses from federal staff in attendance. Attendees will provide feedback on next steps, TA, and resources that Tribes may need to plan for and exercise criminal jurisdiction over non-Indian offenders.

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3:45 – 4:00 p.m.

Traditional Closing

Local Dance Group

Meeting Resources

DOJ VAWA 2022 Alaska pilot program website

<https://www.justice.gov/tribal/vawa-2022-alaska-pilot-program>

ANJC Tribal Alert and DOJ Memo Inherent Tribal Authority in Alaska

[Partial Withdrawal of Solicitor's Opinion M-36975, "Governmental Jurisdiction of Alaska Native Villages Over Land and Nonmembers," and Clarification of Tribal Jurisdiction Over Alaska Native Allotments](#)

VAWA 2022 as Chaptered

ANJC Guide to Tribal Justice Acronyms

AKNWRC VAWA Factsheet