

This project sets aside funds to provide local educational and technical assistance to tribal and state courts on issues relating to domestic violence.

What is the extent of the problem of domestic violence?

Domestic violence is a particularly troubling issue in Native American communities.

- ◆ 39% of American Indian women report some form of intimate partner violence in their lifetimes, higher than the rate reported by any other race or ethnic group.
- ◆ American Indian victims of intimate and family violence are more likely than victims of other racial groups to be seriously injured and require hospital care.
- ◆ Among American Indian victims of violence, 75% of intimate victimizations and 25% of family victimizations involve an offender of a different race.

For detailed statistics and citations, www.courts.ca.gov/documents/Tribal-NAmericanStatsAbstract.pdf.

What type of local educational assistance is offered?

- ◆ *Faculty*- Identify faculty or pay for travel or other faculty costs.
- ◆ *Facilitator* - Obtain a facilitator for a training or meeting, which brings together tribal and non-tribal representatives.
- ◆ *Educational Materials*- Gather, copy, or develop educational materials.
- ◆ *Educational Curriculum*- Use or tailor our curriculum (i.e., P.L. 280, tribal advocates, Comings and Goings etc.).
- ◆ *Train-the-Trainers*- Train local experts.
- ◆ *Educational Training or Workshop*-Develop a program—brown bag, workshop, or full-day training.

- ◆ *Judge-to-Judge or Court-to-Court*- Structured opportunities for connecting tribal and state court judges or court administrators so that they can learn from each other (e.g., court observations, participation in justice system meetings, sharing information on court operations and procedures).
- ◆ *Cross-Court Educational Exchange*- Convene an educational exchange to learn about each other's courts, share resources, identify local court concerns, and implement local and statewide solutions.
- ◆ *Coordinated Court-Community Responses*
- ◆ Assistance with tribal/state/county engagement (e.g., help with engaging participation at a domestic violence coordinating council, task force, or other system meeting).

What type of technical assistance is available to support tribal capacity-building?

- ◆ *Judicial Council Forms*-Accessing state judicial branch forms so that they may be used as a basis for creating tribal court forms.
- ◆ *California Courts Protective Order Registry*-Accessing this registry and receiving training on how to use it. Through this dedicated online database, state courts and tribal courts can view each other's protective orders. The courts that have access are better able to protect the public, particularly victims of domestic violence, and avoid issuing redundant or conflicting orders. Learn more at www.courts.ca.gov/15574.htm.
- ◆ *Registering Tribal Protective Orders*- Assistance developing a local protocol or rule to implement California Rules of Court, rule 5.386, which requires state courts, at the

request of a tribal court, to adopt a written procedure or local rule permitting the fax or electronic filing of any tribal court protective order that is entitled to be registered under Family Code section 6404. Learn more about the new rule at

www.courts.ca.gov/documents/SPR11-53.pdf.

- ◆ *On-Line Resources*
- ◆ **Court Extranet:** This website contains information relevant to all levels of judicial branch personnel and includes resources designed to meet education, facilities, financial, human resources, legal, special court projects, technology, and other informational needs. It also offers both current news and archived resources.
- ◆ **CJER Online:** This website contains educational and other resources for state court judges and tribal court judges. It offers a calendar listing judicial institutes.
- ◆ **Dependency Online Guide** This website contains dependency-related case law, legal materials, articles and other resources.
- ◆ *Attendance at Judicial Institutes*- All state judicial branch educational programs are open to tribal court judges and offer continuing legal educational credit. There may be limited funding for scholarships to pay for travel expenses.
- ◆ *Security*- Consultation on court security.
- ◆ *Human Resources*- Consultation on court human resource questions.
- ◆ *Letters of Support for Domestic Violence Grant Applications*.

What if I do not see the type of local educational or technical assistance my court needs?

- ◆ *Any assistance focusing on tribal-state-county collaboration*- At the request of judges, Tribal/State Project staff will tailor an educational event to meet local educational needs or provide technical

assistance in response to locally identified and targeted needs.

How to learn about local tribal courts and state courts

To learn if there's a tribal court in your county, please visit the California Tribal Courts Directory (www.courts.ca.gov/14400.htm) or the tribal jurisdictions map (<http://g.co/maps/cvdq8>).

To learn about the local state court in your county, please visit Find My Court <http://www.courts.ca.gov/find-my-court.htm>.

What steps can judges take to improve safety for Native victims?

- ◆ Directly communicate with each other and identify issues of mutual concern.
- ◆ Invite each other to observe court proceedings.
- ◆ Invite each other to participate in justice system meetings or work with each other's justice partners.
- ◆ Learn about each other's courts and procedures.
- ◆ Jointly conduct local or regional trainings.
- ◆ Understand the unique historical trauma responses of Native Americans.

Where can I find more information?

The Tribal/State Programs Unit of the Judicial Council's Center for Families, Children & the Courts, assists the state judicial branch with the development of policies, positions, and programs to promote the highest quality of justice and service for California's Native American communities in all case types. The unit also implements tribal-state programs that improve the administration of justice in all proceedings in which the authority to exercise jurisdiction by the state judicial branch and the tribal justice systems overlaps. To learn more about the Tribal/State Programs Unit or for assistance, call Ann Gilmour at 415-865-4207 or visit www.courts.ca.gov/programs-tribal.htm.

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www.courts.ca.gov/programs-tribal.htm

S.T.E.P.S. to Justice-Domestic Violence

State/Tribal Education, Partnerships, and Services—Information for Tribal Court and State Court Judges

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