



November 2011

## In the Spotlight



In August 2011, the U.S. Departments of Justice (DOJ) and Interior (DOI) released the congressionally-mandated [Long Term Plan to Build and Enhance Tribal Justice Systems](#) (Tribal Justice Plan), which responds to sections 211, 241, and 244 of the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA). DOJ and DOI were asked by Congress to develop long-term plans to address incarceration in Indian Country and alternatives to incarceration. We have further enhanced the plan to include offender reentry. DOJ and DOI obtained substantial input from tribal justice officials, including law enforcement, courts, and corrections. DOJ and DOI conducted a series of consultations with tribal leaders across the country; conducted focus groups with tribal justice officials; hosted webinars; created a multi-agency Work Group on Corrections to provide recommendations on action steps; and drafted the Tribal Justice Plan for public comment. The comments received were incorporated into the final plan submitted to Congress.

## News You Can Use

### Register for a Reentry Webinar

BJA and the International Association of Chiefs of Police's Indian Country Law Enforcement Section invite you to participate in "The Role of Law Enforcement in Reentry" webinar on December 6. To register, go to <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/750929722>.

### Attend the Tribal Justice, Safety, and Wellness Conference

On December 13-16, the Tribal Justice, Safety, and Wellness (TJSW) Conference and Consultation session will be held in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico. The conference will include a series of sessions to educate tribal participants about the alternatives to incarceration, detention, and offender reentry and other public safety-related sessions. For more information, visit: [www.tribaljusticesafetywellness.org](http://www.tribaljusticesafetywellness.org).

### Walking on Common Ground Web Site

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute has launched the "Walking on Common Ground" web site at [www.WalkingOnCommonGround.org](http://www.WalkingOnCommonGround.org). This web site provides resources for promoting and facilitating tribal-state-federal collaborations, including an interactive, searchable map with links to cooperative agreements, tribal state forums, and relevant legislation.

### CBOB Nomination Period Opens December 15

December 15 marks the opening of the [Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery](#) nomination period. Enacted in 2008, the Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Act honors federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers for exceptional acts of bravery while in the line of duty.

### New Resource Guide for Veterans Available Soon

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Tribal Government Relations (OTGR), in collaboration with other federal agencies, has produced a *Resource Guide for Justice-Involved Veterans* in tribal communities. The guide is designed for tribal justice systems interested in integrating parts of Veterans Treatment Courts as alternatives to incarceration. In 2012, the OTGR will release this guide on its web site: [www.va.gov/tribalgovernment](http://www.va.gov/tribalgovernment). DOJ, through BJA and the Office of Tribal Justice, and OTGR have been and will continue to work together to assist justice involved-American Indian/Alaska Native veterans.

## Grants & Funding

In FY 2012, BJA has been appropriated \$38 million for tribal grants.

BJA expects to begin releasing FY 2012 grant solicitations in late November. For all OJP funding opportunities, go to [www.ojp.gov/funding/solicitations.htm](http://www.ojp.gov/funding/solicitations.htm).

All peer reviewer comments for unsuccessful FY 2011 applicants have been sent electronically to the contacts listed in the application.

You can view all FY 2011 grant awards by state or by solicitation at: [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/11grantawards.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/11grantawards.htm).

## This Month in Law Enforcement

The 23rd Annual National Training Conference for Criminal Justice and Community Leaders—Multi-Jurisdictional Conference was held November 8-10 in Green Bay, WI. The conference and preconference trainings drew more than 300 participants from tribal communities and law enforcement jurisdictions around the country. The conference theme, "Building Partnerships for a Better Tomorrow," was reflected throughout the plenary and breakout sessions. Participants learned about many innovative programs and successful partnership building strategies and took advantage of networking opportunities to advance and build partnerships to improve public safety and wellness in their respective communities.

## Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program

Enacted in 1976, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program provides death, disability, and education benefits to those eligible for the program. For details regarding these federal benefits for law enforcement officers, firefighters, and first responders killed or catastrophically disabled in the line of duty, call the PSOB Office toll-free at 888-744-6513 or 202-307-0635, or visit the PSOB [web site](#).

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) of 2010 directs the Attorney General to provide technical assistance on strategies to promote intergovernmental collaboration between state, tribal, and local partners to develop successful cooperative relationships that effectively combat crime in Indian Country and nearby communities. As part of this effort, BJA is working with other federal partners and several training and technical assistance providers. More information on the types of services available can be found at [www.bja.gov/grant/tloa.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/tloa.html).

## FEATURED PROGRAM

TLOA covers an extraordinary range of important policies. Among the changes made by TLOA were amendments to 42 U.S.C. § 13709, the statute that authorizes the Correctional Facilities on Tribal Lands (CFTL) program, now referred to as the Correctional Systems and Correctional Alternatives on Tribal Lands (CSCATL) program, administered by BJA. As a result of the amendments, there is more flexibility for tribes in terms of allowable uses of funds, and, importantly, removes the requirement for a 10-percent minimum match in order to be eligible for the program. For more information, visit: [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/tribal\\_correction.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/tribal_correction.html).

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