

**National Coordination Committee on the American Indian/Alaska Native
(AI/AN) Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner – Sexual Assault Response Team
(SANE-SART) Initiative**

**Federal Advisory Committee Meeting
(Via Web Conference)**

March 25, 2014

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Background

The U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)—in collaboration with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Indian Health Service (IHS), and other federal partners, tribal governments, and organizations, including training and technical assistance (TTA) providers—established the AI/AN SANE-SART Initiative (Initiative) in 2010. The overall goal of the Initiative is to enhance AI/AN communities’ capacity to provide high-quality, multidisciplinary services and support for adult and child victims of sexual violence. In addition to funding three demonstration sites and a tribal TTA provider, OVC and its federal partners developed a Federal Advisory Committee (FAC), named the National Coordination Committee on the AI/AN SANE-SART Initiative (Committee), to ensure that this Initiative is responsive to victims and survivors, families, and individuals in tribal communities. The goal of the Committee is to develop recommendations for OVC and its federal partners on how to increase the commitment of all key stakeholders to end sexual violence in AI/AN communities through collaboration.

The Committee convened its fourth meeting March 25, 2014, with the goal of refining the set of draft recommendations that were originally developed during the December 4–5, 2012 Committee meeting. Sarah Deer, Committee Chair, opened the meeting. This meeting took place at 2:00 pm (ET) via Web conference. A total of 24 individuals were in attendance, including 13 Committee members and 7 federal observers. One Committee member was absent.

Federal Advisory Committee Members Present*

Judge Peggy Bird
Hallie Bongar-White
Sarah Collins
Kim Day
Sarah Deer, Committee Chair
Bea Hanson
Linda Logan
Dr. Susan Karol
Donna Keeler
Lanisha Bell (designee of Darren Cruzan)
Juana Majel-Dixon
Shirley Moses
Kathryn Turman

Geri Wisner-Foley

*FAC member Darren Cruzan was not present for this meeting.

Federal Observers

Bob Cantrall, Deputy Director, Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime

Beverly Cotton, National SANE-SART Coordinator, Indian Health Services Headquarters

Ivette Estrada, Victim Program Specialist, Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime

Joye E. Frost, OVC Director, Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime

Shannon May, AI/AN SANE-SART Coordinator, Federal Bureau of Investigation Office for Victim Assistance

Kris Rose, Deputy Director, Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime

Additional Observers

Diane Alexander, Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center

Alex Barry, Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center

Lisa Lampman, Meeting Facilitator

Jennifer Shewmake, Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center

Traditional Opening

Committee member Juana Majel-Dixon, Tribal Legislative Council Woman, Pauma Band of Mission Indians, offered a traditional opening.

Welcome and Introductions

Sarah Deer thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and introduced OVC Director, Joye Frost.

Joye Frost provided opening comments, “Good afternoon. My thanks to Ms. Juana Majel Dixon for the Traditional Opening. Ms. Dixon is from the Pauma Tribe and will also provide the Traditional Closing for our meeting. We greatly appreciate you starting and ending our meeting. Thank you also to Sarah Deer for serving as Chair of this Committee. Your leadership has been invaluable to the Committee’s work.

Welcome Committee Members. It is wonderful to be with you today. Thank you for all the time you have dedicated over the past 15 months to develop strong, concrete recommendations for Attorney General Holder that address specific ways federal agencies can improve the response to American Indian and Alaska Native victims of sexual violence.

Welcome also to my federal colleagues and partners in these efforts—the FBI, IHS, the Office on Violence Against Women, EOUSA, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

It is a privilege to welcome each of you to the fourth meeting of the Attorney General’s Federal Advisory Committee. Your expertise, dedication, and passion have been apparent throughout the life of this Committee, but certainly shine through in your draft Recommendations Report, and I am deeply appreciative.

While your initial task of providing recommendations to Attorney General Holder is coming to conclusion I would like to ask you to begin thinking about the potential ongoing role of this Committee, as you are a critical voice in helping to ensure improved services for American Indian and Alaska Native adult and child victims of sexual violence.

Before I conclude, I would like to offer a special thank you to the four Committee members who provided preparatory work on the Recommendations Report in Washington, DC in early February – Judge Peggy Bird, AUSA Sarah Collins, Kim Day, and Geri Wisner.

Thank you each for your service on the Committee.”

Overview of Meeting Agenda

Lisa Lampman reviewed the meeting agenda.

- Overview of the Committee’s Work to Date
- Overview of the Committee’s Recommendations Report
- Review of members’ names, credentials, tribal affiliations
- Discussion: Recent Updates to the Report
- Next Steps to Finalize the Report
- Submitting the Report to the Attorney General
- Next Committee Meeting: Purpose and Timeframe
- Final Thoughts
- Traditional Closing

Review of the Committee’s Work to Date

Shannon May reviewed the Committee’s work to date.

- 2010: AI/AN SANE-SART Initiative established by OVC.
- 2011: National Coordination Committee Chartered.
- 2012: Through the Initiative, OVC convened three Federal Working Groups: Alaska Native Issues, Child Sexual Abuse; and First Responders. Working Groups provided numerous suggestions that lead to the development of Issues Papers to inform the Committee’s work.
- December 4-5, 2012: Committee members developed 44 “potential recommendations” and organized into three subcommittees.

- February 2013: Subcommittees combined similar recommendations and refined language.
- April 17, 2013: The full Committee discussed the subcommittees' resulting 18 draft recommendations and further revised the language.
- Summer/Fall 2013: Chair Sarah Deer, with input from five volunteers, drafted a contextual White Paper and implementation steps, and further revised the recommendations.
- Summer/Fall 2013: The Office for Victims of Crime re-chartered the National Coordination Committee on the AI/AN SANE-SART Initiative.
- November 19, 2013: The full Committee met to discuss the Report introduction and implementation steps, and further refined the draft recommendations.
- December 2013-January 2014: Initiative staff re-organized the recommendations, conducted research on issues of concern to members, included references to relevant laws, and identified quotes to include.
- February 4-5, 2014: Four Committee members met with Initiative staff in Washington, DC to make additional decisions about content and identify remaining tasks to finalize the report.
- February-March 2014: Members provided feedback on the Report, allowing us to talk today about the Report and the most recent changes.

Overview of Committee's Report

Shannon May reviewed the main components/sections of the Report.

- Introductory letter from the Committee to Attorney General Holder
- Four Issue Areas that each begin with an introductory explanation of relevant challenge(s):
 - Federal Agency Collaboration and Collaboration at the Local Level
 - Establishment of District-specific, written guidelines for sexual violence response
 - Federal agency participation in local MDTs and SARTs
 - Department of Justice Personnel Policy Changes
 - Hiring, training, and assessing federal employees
 - Department of Justice Grant Solicitations and Funding
 - Changes to federal grant solicitations
 - VOCA and special funding
 - Public Safety and Public Health Issues
 - Prioritization of sexual violence response
 - NCIC access
 - Sexual violence as a health care issue
- A Note About Research
- Suggested Steps Toward Implementation

Verification of Committee Members' Information

Shannon May requested that each committee member verify the accuracy of Committee members' names, credentials, and tribal affiliations as listed in the draft of the Report.

Group Discussion of Recent Updates to the Report

Sarah Deer and Shannon May reviewed the following segments of the recommendations which had been recently updated in the Report by Committee members.

- District-Specific Written Guidelines
- Letter: PL-280 Recognition
- DOJ Personnel Policy Changes
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funding
- NCIC Access
- Victim Access to Cultural Practices

Next Steps

Shannon May summarized the next steps to finalize the Report:

- By Friday, a fully-updated, clean version of the Report will be emailed
- 4/9/14: FINAL DEADLINE for changes
- Committee will be informed via email by April 11 if any changes were requested and will be invited to weigh in
- Any remaining issues will be resolved and explained via email
- On April 18, the Committee's Final Draft will be emailed
- OVC editors will edit and format the Final Draft
- OJP Assistant Attorney General Karol Mason and OVC Director Joye Frost will brief Tony West, Associate Attorney General (scheduled for May 8)
- In late May, a full Committee teleconference will be held so Committee members can formally approve the Report to for submission to the AG.
- Next Committee meeting will be held in May 2014
 - 1.5-hour web meeting
 - Update on the briefing with Tony West
 - Committee consensus on submitting the Report to Attorney General Holder.
 - Discussion of next steps
 - Proposed dates: May 12-23 (OVC TTAC will send a Doodle poll – please respond with all of your availability.)

Public Comments

There were no public comments at the meeting.

Traditional Closing

Committee member, Juana Majel-Dixon, Tribal Legislative Council Woman, Pauma Band of Mission Indians, offered a traditional closing.

Adjournment

Sarah Deer, Shannon May, and Joye Frost thanked the Committee members for their participation in the meeting and their service on the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.



Sarah Deer (Mvskoke)

Chair

National Coordination Committee on the American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN)
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These minutes will be formally considered by the Committee at its next meeting and any corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.

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