

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRIBAL ALLIANCE (RCTA)  
FOR INDIAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

*Minimize Court and County intervention and increase Tribal participation and control by developing culturally appropriate services for Native American children and families. To create and sustain partnerships founded upon understanding, communication, and cultural awareness among the sovereign tribal nations and community and governmental agencies.*

**Friday September 8, 2017, 12:00-4:00 p.m.**

Hosted by Cabazon Band of Indian  
Fantasy Springs Resort and Casino  
84245 Indio Springs Park Way, Meeting Room 3  
Indio, CA 92203

**MEETING MINUTES**

**OPENING REMARKS**

Elder Joe Mike gave the Invocation. Elder Joe shared his family history with the Cabazon Band of Indians and he shared that he has been the tribal chairperson for over 20 years.

Judge Clark and Luke Madrigal welcomed and greeted guests. Luke Madrigal also thanked Cabazon for hosting their first Tribal Alliance meeting. Meeting participants introduced themselves and indicated their organization, department, or tribal affiliation.

Luke Madrigal shared that he is working on a revitalization project. This project will include stories from various tribal elders.

Judge Clark introduced herself and informed participants that she presides over dependency court at the Southwest Juvenile Justice Center. She also informed the participants that she will be the Presiding Juvenile Judge starting in January 2018 and hopes to continue to work together to address issues in a meaningful way. Judge Clark invited participants to tour the new Southwest Juvenile Justice Center in Murrieta.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes**

On the motion of Linda Hughes and seconded by Richard Rubio, and carried, the minutes of May 12, 2017 were approved as submitted.

## DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS

### **ITEM 2: Domestic Violence Subcommittee Workgroup Update**

Margie Faulk from Victim Special Services presented information on the development of a core curriculum for Tribal Trauma Informed Care. The desire is to enhance knowledge and promote security for Native American victims of crime. Webinars will be conducted in January followed by train the trainer session(s). If anyone is interested in becoming a part of the advisory committee, please contact Margie Faulk.

The District Attorney's Office provided an update on the Strangulation Bill (SB-40). Meeting participants were informed that strangulation is a tool used to control the victim and these means are unreported and misreported. It was shared that it is 8 times more likely that a victim dies from strangulation than any other means. With the passing of this bill, it will allow the DOJ database to include domestic violence with strangulation and include strangulation when dealing with domestic violence cases. Both houses unanimously passed this bill. As of today, the bill is awaiting the Governor's signature.

The committee also informed meeting participants that C.A.S.A. in Soboba is now providing services to victims of sexual assault in San Jacinto.

### **ITEM 3: ICWA Regulations**

Ann Gilmour from the Center for Families, Children & the Courts, Operations & Program Division of the Judicial Council of California (JCC), presented information on the new ICWA regulations. Ann Gilmour has been with JCC for 10 years. She has been assigned to the Tribal and State Programs Unit, which focuses on the development of policies, positions, and programs to enhance the quality of justice and services to Native American communities. JCC's goal is to improve access to justice for tribal communities.

Ann Gilmour explained the Tribal Court-State Court Forum, which is an advisory committee to the Judicial Council. This forum brings together tribal and state court judges and justices to address issues of mutual importance to tribal and state justice systems. One concern that is being addressed is giving tribal law enforcement, judges, and courts access to CCPOR. By sharing this information, tribal law enforcement, judges, and courts will be able to protect domestic violence victims and avoid conflicting orders.

She also addressed the ICWA program. This program provides assistance to courts and agencies to ensure compliance with ICWA. This program offers education, technical assistance and statewide resources. Some of the training topics include noticing to tribes, placement preferences, and ICWA applicability.

Ann Gilmore shared that the final Federal ICWA regulations went into effect December 12, 2016 and were released on December 15, 2016; however, the federal and state regulations are not identical.

The new regulation defines five distinct proceedings: emergency, foster care placement, termination of parental rights, pre-adoptive placement, and adoptive placement. For each proceeding, various ICWA requirements apply.

Aggie Jenkins, Department of Social Services (DPSS) Regional Manager, provided an update to meeting participants regarding tribal notice. She informed the state workgroup that meets monthly to discuss ICWA regulations. She also informed the meeting participants that DPSS will call the tribe as soon as possible when the social worker suspects the child may be an Indian child. Ms. Jenkins also shared that the California State Tribal Consultation Policy was implemented in June 2017. Due to this policy, the state has hired a Director for the Office of Tribal Affairs, Heather Hostler who is planning to do Tribal Outreach in order to open the lines of communication and consultation with Indian Tribes ensuring that California State engagement with tribes is consistent with the Tribal Consultation Policy.

Ann Gilmour provided each meeting participant with a packet that includes information on the various forums and programs. She also included information on the new ICWA regulations.

#### **ITEM 6: Open Discussion**

Luke Madrigal suggested that the meeting participants reinstitute the following subcommittees: Foster Care, Substance Abuse, and Domestic Violence. This suggestion was tabled until the next Tribal Alliance Meeting, which will be hosted by the Cahuilla Tribe in 2018.

#### **ITEM 7: Closing Comments**

Judge Clark and Luke Madrigal thanked everyone for coming.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

The foregoing represents my understanding of the September 8, 2017 meeting of the Riverside County Tribal Alliance for Indian Children and Families. Approval of these minutes will be requested at the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tamica Dowell  
Supervisor for the Riverside Juvenile Court