



Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRIBAL LEADERS COUNCIL (RMTLC) PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SAVANNA'S ACT:

SEC. 5. GUIDELINES FOR RESPONDING TO CASES OF MISSING AND MURDERED INDIANS.

Insert after (1) to supplement the existing six directives:

(2) the establishment of an interagency law enforcement body in each BIA region to best achieve inter-jurisdictional cooperation and disentangle the present complicated jurisdictional scheme through mandated interagency coordination between federal, state and tribal law enforcement agencies;

Insert after the existing (5):

(6) guidelines on reviewing "cold cases" and improving "cold case" investigative methodology, including analysis of the serial nature of MMIW crimes;

Amend the existing directive (6) to read:

guidelines on ensuring access to culturally appropriate victim services for victims and their families, including the establishment of Tribal Liaison Offices (TLO) in each BIA region to:

- (a) provide a confidential environment where tribal and community members can share information on MMIW cases in a culturally appropriate setting and in their own languages. The TLO would be a conduit to pass information to law enforcement;
- (b) rebuild trust and confidence in law enforcement among tribal communities, which has been undermined by decades of mistrust;
- (c) be a point of contact for victims' families, to provide support and advocacy in the community and with law enforcement;
- (d) ensure that mental health treatment is available for the survivors of these crimes. Treatment that is culturally oriented while also embodying the latest, most effective mental health practices.