

# Overview of Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP)



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# **Background**





#### Federal law:

 Both Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2005 and Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) of 2010 provide authorization for tribal law enforcement agencies to access national crime information databases

# **Challenges:**

- Tribal participation in national criminal justice information sharing depends upon state regulations, statutes, and policies in which tribal land is located
- Tribes may face barriers to accessing and entering information into national crime information databases via state networks

# **Risk of Inconsistent Access & DOJ Action**





- Inconsistent access impacts both tribal and non-tribal jurisdictions
- If Tribal criminal justice community can't contribute to national crime databases - tribal records are unavailable to other jurisdictions
- Responding officers, victims, and entire communities are at risk
- DOJ conducted two pilots in 2010; one is still on-going and will be incorporated into TAP
- TAP is an outgrowth of the pilots and collaboration across the Department, with BIA and tribes
- TAP expands access to all national crime information databases to all authorized tribal civil and criminal justice agencies

# **Tribal Access Program - TAP**





- DOJ launched the TAP in August 2015 at DOJ CJIS Tribal Day
- Managed by the DOJ Chief Information Officer but is a collaboration with Office of Tribal Justice, SMART, COPS, FBI CJIS, and tribes
- TAP is composed of three elements:

#### **ACCESS**

## DOJ serves as the CJIS Systems Agency (CSA) for federally recognized tribes:

DOJ assumes responsibility for granting network access, extending the model used by federal agencies to tribes.

DOJ ensures security training (i.e., personnel, IT, and physical), on-boarding/vetting (agency and individual users), training and testing, and auditing.

#### **TECHNOLOGY**

# DOJ provides integrated workstations:

Workstations feature a computer, palm/fingerprint scanner, camera, flatbed scanner, and printer to provide access to and enter data into national crime information systems.

#### **TRAINING**

# DOJ provides enhanced training and assistance:

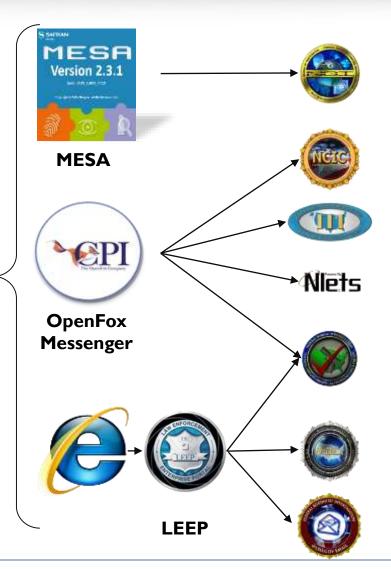
TAP provides online and inperson training; assists tribes in analyzing needs and identifying/providing appropriate solutions to maximize the value of national crime information.

# **Technology: TAP Kiosk Workstation**









**NGI** Biometric database. Provides verification of identity and access to fingerprint-based criminal histories.

**NCIC** Criminal database containing information on property and persons

**III** A national index of criminal histories, or rap sheets.

**Nlets** Interstate Public Safety Information Sharing Network - access to state databases

**NICS** A system used to determine a person's eligibility to buy firearms or explosives

**N-DEx** A national investigative information sharing system

**@LEO.gov** Used to securely share sensitive information

# **Criminal Justice Agencies**





## **Agencies include:**

- Law Enforcement / Police Departments
- Criminal Courts
- Prosecutors Office

- Pretrial Services
- Corrections
- Parole and Probation
- Document tribal arrests and tribal court dispositions
- Access to investigative records to include DOJ Components
- Access unclassified criminal and national security intelligence products
- Access officer safety-related information including gang members & known or suspected terrorists
- Prevent guns from being transferred to prohibited persons
- Enter No Contact Orders
- Secure, encrypted email to exchange sensitive information
- Search and enter information about persons and property

# **Civil Agencies**





## **Agencies include:**

- Civil Courts
- Tribal Public Housing
- Child Protective Services

- Children's Social Services (e.g. Foster Care)
- Head Start Program

- Register Sex Offenders
- Perform Background Investigations of persons having contact or control over Indian Children
- Respond to or investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, & exploitation of children
- Perform Background Investigation on public housing
- Enter Orders of Protection

# **Success Stories and Numbers**





- Located the suspect in the kidnapping of a vulnerable adult and recovered the victim safely by accessing investigative reports from other jurisdictions
- Able to identify an unknown deceased individual through fingerprints
- Stopped a known drug user with mental problems who was found incompetent to stand trial from purchasing a weapon
- Prevented a person convicted of DV from purchasing a firearm after PD identified an imminent threat to former spouse
- A tribe entered all their Orders of Protection via TAP into national systems since the state required victims to take the orders to the county Sheriff for entry
- 47 tribes in the first 3 years, just selected an additional 25 tribes, BIA adding in all direct service law enforcement and social services tribes

# Questions



- Any questions?
- Web site: <a href="https://www.justice.gov/tribal/tap">https://www.justice.gov/tribal/tap</a>
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