



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, DC 20240

JUN 25 2019

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Dear Tribal Leader:

The purpose of this letter is to provide notice that additional funding has been made available for distribution to eligible tribally operated Law Enforcement programs funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Justice Services (OJS) for this fiscal year. To be eligible to receive a one-time or base funding increase under BIA OJS, tribes must have submitted their monthly crime statistics and drug reports each month for the entire previous year, as required under 25 C.F.R. Part 12.

As you may be aware, the Joint Explanatory Statement to the FY 2018 Department of the Interior (DOI) appropriation identified a funding increase of \$7.5 million within our Criminal Investigations and Police Services program to “help people affected by opioid addiction.” As a result, BIA OJS has reviewed the activities that we are authorized to execute and/or fund within the Criminal Investigations and Police Services program. Based on this review, we have determined that the \$7.5 million budget increase will be distributed for the following activities:

- Drug Enforcement operations – including staff and law enforcement related equipment
- Drug-related training activities for Investigators and/or Police Officers

Considering the vast law enforcement program needs present throughout Indian Country, a detailed analysis of the following data elements was conducted to help us identify the areas where the need is most urgent, and to enable us to allocate the additional funds accordingly. Our calculations to distribute the funding were based on the OJS funding methodology utilizing the following weighted factors:

- FY 2018 Violent Crime Rate
- Staffing levels/shortages by standard ratio
- Size of trust land service area (land base)
- FY 2018 Drug-related offenses (monthly drug statistics reported by tribe)

In light of the specific language contained in the FY 2018 Joint Explanatory Statement, the drug-related offense rate was assigned the greatest weight. The analysis included approximately 140 eligible tribal law enforcement programs. Based upon the funding methodology, a portion of this funding has been allocated to your law enforcement program for the purposes identified above.

Please be aware that this funding is provided on a one-time (nonrecurring) basis and cannot be used for facility needs such as maintenance, repair, or construction.

Please contact your district office if you have any questions and we look forward to working with you to enhance public safety services to the tribes and to the citizens of Indian Country.

Sincerely,

Charles Addington
Director, Office of Justice Services