



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Appraisal and Valuation Services Office
Denver, CO 80225

Memorandum

To: Mr. W. Ron Allen, Chairman
Self-Governance Advisory Committee (SGAC)

From: Timothy J. Hansen, Director
Appraisal and Valuation Services Office (AVSO)

Subject: AVSO Memorandum of Understanding in Self-Governance Funding Agreements

Thank you for your letter regarding AVSO agreements with Tribal Nations and the current requirements for specific language included in the Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) between AVSO and various Tribes/Consortiums with appraisal programs. Since becoming the Director of AVSO in May of 2020, I have been asking questions about the proper role for AVSO in Tribal appraisal programs.

In search of answers to my questions, AVSO has asked the Department of the Interior Solicitor's Office to provide a legal analysis of issues related to your concerns. After we have received the legal analysis, we may reexamine both the administration and funding mechanisms of the Tribal programs. It appears to me that AVSO has more of a technical advisory role in assisting Tribal programs with training and quality control rather than an administration of Tribal appraisal programs operating under a Title IV funding agreement. Again, I am hoping for some clarity from the Solicitors before determining the best path forward.

I look forward to a resolution of the legal questions posed and future cooperation with the SGAC in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of Tribal appraisal programs.

Cc: Sharee Freeman, Director, Office of Self Governance, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Jay Spaan, Executive Director, SGETC
Shirley Milli, Acting Principal Deputy Director, AVSO
Eldred Lesensee, Associate Deputy Director, AVSO