

ATTACHMENT 3

TERMINOLOGY

American Indian/Alaska Native: A person with some degree of Indian blood and who is recognized as an Indian by a Tribe and/or the United States. There is no singular definition for who is an American Indian/Alaska Native. These terms are often interchanged with Native American, Indian, Indigenous, and Tribal people.

Checkerboard: Description of ownership on reservation land. Beginning in the 1880s, many reservations were divided into plots of land by the Federal Government which were then either given to a Native owner or sold to a non-Native land-owner. Over time many Native owners were forced to sell their plots or were removed. This has led to many non-Native owners of land within reservation boundaries, and further complicates jurisdictional questions.

Culturally appropriate services: Services provided by Native Americans, for Native Americans.

Enrolled/Membership: The official recognition by a Tribe of someone's membership to that Tribe. Tribes decide how they will enroll people and recognize membership.

Federally Recognized: A Tribe that has a government-to-government relationship with the Federal Government. These Tribes qualify for reservation land and administered by the federal government. There are currently 574 Federally recognized tribes. Historically, there were many more, and Tribes that are not Federally recognized today existed historically and may exist in some capacity today.

Indian Country/Land: Terminology used to speak about lands historically and currently held by Tribes. Includes all land within a reservation, Indian communities, and land outside reservations held in trust for Tribes or individual Indian people. Tribes generally have jurisdiction over this land.

MMIWG/P: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls/People. Acronym given to the crisis of unsolved crimes against, murder of, and violence towards Indigenous people. The term now includes "people," as there are higher rates of violence against Native women and girls and well as men and boys when compared to other groups.

Non-member Indian: An Indian person who lives on another Tribe's reservation. The Tribe in which they live has criminal jurisdiction over non-Member Indians.

Reservation: Land held in trust by the United States government for a particular tribe.

SDVCJ: Special Domestic Violence Jurisdiction: Authority granted to Tribes implementing VAWA to prosecute non-Indians for certain domestic violence crimes.

Tribal SAUSA: Special Assistant United States Attorney, assigned to handle criminal cases under VAWA in Tribal Court and/or federal district court.

Tribal Court: Court operated by a Tribe or several Tribes under the jurisdiction of the Tribe and implementing that Tribe's laws. These are courts of general jurisdiction, with limited criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians.

Traditional Court: A separate court from the Tribal court which utilizes custom and tradition to solve conflicts, and is often similar to Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Urban Indians: American Indians who reside in urban areas. About 70% of people who identify as Native American live in urban areas.

These terms are subject to change as understandings and meanings evolve. If there is any need for these words in a court proceeding or order, and there is not a specific definition needed, consider asking the parties or the Tribal Court Judge associated with the case how they prefer to identify.