



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Bureau of Justice Statistics

Washington, DC 20531

January 22, 2024

«JobTitle» «FirstName» «MiddleName» «LastName»
«TribeFullName»
«MailingAddress»
«MailingAddressCity», «MailingAddressState» «MailingAddressZIPCode»

Dear «JobTitle» «LastName»,

I am writing to announce that the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) is developing the next Census of Tribal Court Systems (CTCS) and Census of Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies (CTLEA). These collections have been developed in response to The Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA), which mandates that BJS establish and implement a tribal data collection system and report the data and findings to Congress annually in accordance with the act (P.L. 111-211, 124 Stat. 2258, § 251(b)).

The 2024 CTCS will collect administrative and operational information from tribal court systems, BIA Code of Federal Regulation Courts, and Alaska Village Courts. The 2024 CTLEA will collect administrative and operational information from tribal operated law enforcement agencies, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police departments, and the Alaska Village Public Safety Officers program. For more information on past collections and the current program efforts, see the enclosed statistical and project summaries or visit <https://bjs.ojp.gov/topics/tribal-crime-and-justice>.

We are planning the following activities in the coming months that we will seek your input and participation on:

1. A series of webinars will be hosted in January and February 2024 to hear directly from tribes and tribal justice practitioners about how the surveys can best address missing data gaps for those working in tribal justice systems.
2. BJS will contact all tribes for a full list of tribal law enforcement agencies and courts and verifying their contact information during the Summer of 2024.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Steven W. Perry, Tribal Justice Statistics Program Manager, at 202-307-0777 or Steven.W.Perry@usdoj.gov.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation on this important data collection effort.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Scott, Ph.D.
Principal Deputy Director
Bureau of Justice Statistics