



Department of Justice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2009
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OPA
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TDD (202) 514-1888

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES DETAILS FOR TRIBAL NATIONS LISTENING CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON – The Justice Department today announced the dates of the 2009 Tribal Nations Listening Conference to be led by Attorney General Eric Holder. Prior to the Listening Conference, the Department will also convene two working sessions with tribal leaders and experts in law enforcement to be led by Deputy Attorney General David W. Ogden and Associate Attorney General Tom Perrelli:

- **Working Session #1:** Aug. 25-26 in Seattle, Wash.
- **Working Session #2:** Sept. 21-22 in Albuquerque, N.M.
- **Listening Conference:** Oct 28-29 Minneapolis, M.N.

All sessions will be closed to press, however the principles will be available for media inquiries following each event.

The Listening Conference is part of an ongoing Justice Department initiative to increase engagement, coordination and action on tribal justice in Indian Country. It will allow top Department officials to confer with tribal leaders on how to address the chronic problems of public safety in Indian Country and other important issues affecting tribal communities. The working sessions will include Department component leaders and tribal experts in relevant areas to begin a dialogue on a range of important issues including, law enforcement policy and personnel; communications and consultation; grants and technical assistance; detention facilities; federal prosecution in Indian country; tribal court development; domestic violence; drug courts and substance abuse; federal litigation involving tribes; and civil rights.

In 1994, Attorney General Janet Reno convened the only other National Listening Conference, sponsored jointly with the Department of the Interior, which led to numerous initiatives, including major funding for tribal police, jails and courts.

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