

University of Alaska Anchorage  
Child Welfare Academy

ICWA Handbook

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**25 U.S.C. §§ 1901-63**

**§ 1901. Congressional findings**

Recognizing the special relationship between the United States and the Indian tribes and their members and the Federal responsibility to Indian people, the Congress finds--

- (1) that clause 3, section 8, article I of the United States Constitution provides that "The Congress shall have Power \*\*\* To regulate Commerce \*\*\* with Indian tribes" and, through this and other constitutional authority, Congress has plenary power over Indian affairs;
- (2) that Congress, through statutes, treaties, and the general course of dealing with Indian tribes, has assumed the responsibility for the protection and preservation of Indian tribes and their resources;
- (3) that there is no resource that is more vital to the continued existence and integrity of Indian tribes than their children and that the United States has a direct interest, as trustee, in protecting Indian children who are members of or are eligible for membership in an Indian tribe;
- (4) that an alarmingly high percentage of Indian families are broken up by the removal, often unwarranted, of their children from them by nontribal public and private agencies and that an alarmingly high percentage of such children are placed in non-Indian foster and adoptive homes and institutions; and
- (5) that the States, exercising their recognized jurisdiction over Indian child custody proceedings through administrative and judicial bodies, have often failed to recognize the essential tribal relations of Indian people and the cultural and social standards prevailing in Indian communities and families. (Pub. L. 95-608, § 2, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3069.) Short Title Section 1 of Pub. L. 95-608 provided: "That this Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978'."

**§ 1902. Congressional declaration of policy**

The Congress hereby declares that it is the policy of this Nation to protect the best interests of Indian children and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families by the establishment of minimum Federal standards for the removal of Indian children from their families and the placement of such children in foster or adoptive homes which will reflect the unique values of Indian culture, and by providing for assistance to Indian tribes in the operation of child and family service programs. (Pub. L. 95-608, § 3, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3069.)

**§ 1903. Definitions**

For the purposes of this chapter, except as may be specifically provided otherwise, the term--

- (1) "child custody proceeding" shall mean and include--
  - (i) "foster care placement" which shall mean any action removing an Indian child from its parent or Indian custodian for temporary placement in a foster home or institution or the home of a guardian or conservator where the parent or Indian custodian cannot have the child returned upon demand, but where parental rights have not been terminated;
  - (ii) "termination of parental rights" which shall mean any action resulting in the termination of the parent-child relationship;
  - (iii) "preadoptive placement" which shall mean the temporary placement of an Indian child in a foster home or institution after the termination of parental rights, but prior to or in lieu of adoptive placement; and
  - (iv) "adoptive placement" which shall mean the permanent placement of an Indian child for adoption, including any action resulting in a final decree of adoption.  
Such term or terms shall not include a placement based upon an act which, if committed by an adult, would be deemed a crime or upon an award, in a divorce proceeding, of custody to one of the parents.
- (2) "extended family member" shall be as defined by the law or custom of the Indian child's tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, shall be a person who has reached the age of eighteen and who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent;
- (3) "Indian" means any person who is a member of an Indian tribe, or who is an Alaska Native and a member of a Regional Corporation as defined in 1606 of title 43;
- (4) "Indian child" means any unmarried person who is under age eighteen and is either (a) a member of an Indian tribe or (b) is eligible for membership in an Indian tribe and is the biological child of a member of an Indian tribe;
- (5) "Indian child's tribe" means (a) the Indian tribe in which an Indian child is a member or eligible for membership or (b), in the case of an Indian child who is a member of or eligible for membership in

more than one tribe, the Indian tribe with which the Indian child has the more significant contacts;

- (6) "Indian custodian" means any Indian person who has legal custody of an Indian child under tribal law or custom or under State law or to whom temporary physical care, custody, and control has been transferred by the parent of such child;
- (7) "Indian organization" means any group, association, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity owned or controlled by Indians, or a majority of whose members are Indians;
- (8) "Indian tribe" means any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians recognized as eligible for the services provided to Indians by the Secretary because of their status as Indians, including any Alaska Native village as defined in section 1602(c) of title 43;
- (9) "parent" means any biological parent or parents of an Indian child or any Indian person who has lawfully adopted an Indian child, including adoptions under tribal law or custom. It does not include the unwed father where paternity has not been acknowledged or established;
- (10) "reservation" means Indian country as defined in section 1151 of title 18 and any lands, not covered under such section, title to which is either held by the United States in trust for the benefit of any Indian tribe or individual or held by any Indian tribe or individual subject to a restriction by the United States against alienation;
- (11) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior; and
- (12) "tribal court" means a court with jurisdiction over child custody proceedings and which is either a Court of Indian Offenses, a court established and operated under the code or custom of an Indian tribe, or any other administrative body of a tribe which is vested with authority over child custody proceedings. (Pub. L. 95-608, § 4, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3069.) Section Referred to in Other Sections This section is referred to in sections 1727, 3202, 3653, 4302 of this title; title 12 section 4702; title 26 section 168.

### **Subchapter 1** **Child Custody Proceedings**

#### **§ 1911. Indian tribe jurisdiction over Indian child custody proceedings**

##### **(a) Exclusive jurisdiction**

An Indian tribe shall have jurisdiction exclusive as to any State over any child custody proceeding involving an Indian child who resides or is domiciled within the reservation of such tribe, except where such jurisdiction is otherwise vested in the State by existing Federal law. Where an Indian child is a ward of a tribal court, the

Indian tribe shall retain exclusive jurisdiction, notwithstanding the residence or domicile of the child.

##### **(b) Transfer of proceedings; declination by tribal court**

In any State court proceeding for the foster care placement of, or termination of parental rights to, an Indian child not domiciled or residing within the reservation of the Indian child's tribe, the court, in the absence of good cause to the contrary, shall transfer such proceeding to the jurisdiction of the tribe, absent objection by either parent, upon the petition of either parent or the Indian custodian or the Indian child's tribe: Provided, That such transfer shall be subject to declination by the tribal court of such tribe.

##### **(c) State court proceedings; intervention**

In any State court proceeding for the foster care placement of, or termination of parental rights to, an Indian child, the Indian custodian of the child and the Indian child's tribe shall have a right to intervene at any point in the proceeding.

##### **(d) Full faith and credit to public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of Indian tribes**

The United States, every State, every territory or possession of the United States, and every Indian tribe shall give full faith and credit to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of any Indian tribe applicable to Indian child custody proceedings to the same extent that such entities give full faith and credit to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of any other entity. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 101, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3071.) Section Referred to in Other Sections This section is referred to in sections 1914, 1918, 1923 of this title.

#### **§ 1912. Pending court proceedings**

##### **(a) Notice; time for commencement of proceedings; additional time for preparation**

In any involuntary proceeding in a State court, where the court knows or has reason to know that an Indian child is involved, the party seeking the foster care placement of, or termination of parental rights to, an Indian child shall notify the parent or Indian custodian and the Indian child's tribe, by registered mail with return receipt requested, of the pending proceedings and of their right of intervention. If the identity or location of the parent or Indian custodian and the tribe cannot be determined, such notice shall be given to the Secretary in like manner, who shall have fifteen days after receipt to provide the requisite notice to the parent or Indian custodian and the tribe. No foster care placement or termination of parental rights proceeding shall be held until at least ten days after receipt of notice by the parent or Indian custodian and the tribe or the Secretary: Provided, That the parent or Indian custodian or the tribe shall, upon request, be granted up to twenty additional days to prepare for such proceeding.

**(b) Appointment of counsel**

In any case in which the court determines indigency, the parent or Indian custodian shall have the right to court-appointed counsel in any removal, placement, or termination proceeding. The court may, in its discretion, appoint counsel for the child upon a finding that such appointment is in the best interest of the child. Where State law makes no provision for appointment of counsel in such proceedings, the court shall promptly notify the Secretary upon appointment of counsel, and the Secretary, upon certification of the presiding judge, shall pay reasonable fees and expenses out of funds which may be appropriated pursuant to section 13 of this title.

**(c) Examination of reports or other documents**

Each party to a foster care placement or termination of parental rights proceeding under State law involving an Indian child shall have the right to examine all reports or other documents filed with the court upon which any decision with respect to such action may be based.

**(d) Remedial services and rehabilitative programs; preventive measures**

Any party seeking to effect a foster care placement of, or termination of parental rights to, an Indian child under State law shall satisfy the court that active efforts have been made to provide remedial services and rehabilitative programs designed to prevent the breakup of the Indian family and that these efforts have proved unsuccessful.

**(e) Foster care placement orders; evidence; determination of damage to child**

No foster care placement may be ordered in such proceeding in the absence of a determination, supported by clear and convincing evidence, including testimony of qualified expert witnesses, that the continued custody of the child by the parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child.

**(f) Parental rights termination orders; evidence; determination of damage to child**

No termination of parental rights may be ordered in such proceeding in the absence of a determination, supported by evidence beyond a reasonable doubt, including testimony of qualified expert witnesses, that the continued custody of the child by the parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 102, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3071.) Section Referred to in Other Sections This section is referred to in sections 1914, 1916 of this title.

**§ 1913. Parental rights; voluntary termination**

**(a) Consent; record; certification matters; invalid consents**

Where any parent or Indian custodian voluntarily consents to a foster care placement or to termination of parental rights, such consent shall not be valid unless executed in writing and recorded before a judge of a court

of competent jurisdiction and accompanied by the presiding judge's certificate that the terms and consequences of the consent were fully explained in detail and were fully understood by the parent or Indian custodian. The court shall also certify that either the parent or Indian custodian fully understood the explanation in English or that it was interpreted into a language that the parent or Indian custodian understood. Any consent given prior to, or within ten days after, birth of the Indian child shall not be valid.

**(b) Foster care placement; withdrawal of consent**

Any parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent to a foster care placement under State law at any time and, upon such withdrawal, the child shall be returned to the parent or Indian custodian.

**(c) Voluntary termination of parental rights or adoptive placement; withdrawal of consent; return of custody**

In any voluntary proceeding for termination of parental rights to, or adoptive placement of, an Indian child, the consent of the parent may be withdrawn for any reason at any time prior to the entry of a final decree of termination or adoption, as the case may be, and the child shall be returned to the parent.

**(d) Collateral attack; vacation of decree and return of custody; limitations**

After the entry of a final decree of adoption of an Indian child in any State court, the parent may withdraw consent thereto upon the grounds that consent was obtained through fraud or duress and may petition the court to vacate such decree. Upon a finding that such consent was obtained through fraud or duress, the court shall vacate such decree and return the child to the parent. No adoption which has been effective for at least two years may be invalidated under the provisions of this subsection unless otherwise permitted under State law. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 103, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3072.) Section Referred to in Other Sections This section is referred to in section 1914 of this title.

**§ 1914. Petition to court of competent jurisdiction to invalidate action upon showing of certain violations**

Any Indian child who is the subject of any action for foster care placement or termination of parental rights under State law, any parent or Indian custodian from whose custody such child was removed, and the Indian child's tribe may petition any court of competent jurisdiction to invalidate such action upon a showing that such action violated any provision of sections 1911, 1912, and 1913 of this title. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 104, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3072.)

## **§ 1915. Placement of Indian children**

### **(a) Adoptive placements; preferences**

In any adoptive placement of an Indian child under State law, a preference shall be given, in the absence of good cause to the contrary, to a placement with (1) a member of the child's extended family; (2) other members of the Indian child's tribe; or (3) other Indian families.

### **(b) Foster care or preadoptive placements; criteria; preferences**

Any child accepted for foster care or preadoptive placement shall be placed in the least restrictive setting which most approximates a family and in which his special needs, if any, may be met. The child shall also be placed within reasonable proximity to his or her home, taking into account any special needs of the child. In any foster care or preadoptive placement, a preference shall be given, in the absence of good cause to the contrary, to a placement with--

- (i) a member of the Indian child's extended family;
- (ii) a foster home licensed, approved, or specified by the Indian child's tribe;
- (iii) an Indian foster home licensed or approved by an authorized non-Indian licensing authority; or
- (iv) an institution for children approved by an Indian tribe or operated by an Indian organization which has a program suitable to meet the Indian child's needs.

### **(c) Tribal resolution for different order of preference; personal preference considered; anonymity in application of preferences**

In the case of a placement under subsection (a) or (b) of this section, if the Indian child's tribe shall establish a different order of preference by resolution, the agency or court effecting the placement shall follow such order so long as the placement is the least restrictive setting appropriate to the particular needs of the child, as provided in subsection (b) of this section. Where appropriate, the preference of the Indian child or parent shall be considered: Provided, That where a consenting parent evidences a desire for anonymity, the court or agency shall give weight to such desire in applying the preferences.

### **(d) Social and cultural standards applicable**

The standards to be applied in meeting the preference requirements of this section shall be the prevailing social and cultural standards of the Indian community in which the parent or extended family resides or with which the parent or extended family members maintain social and cultural ties.

### **(e) Record of placement; availability**

A record of each such placement, under State law, of an Indian child shall be maintained by the State in which the placement was made, evidencing the efforts to comply with the order of preference specified in this section. Such record shall be made available at any time upon the

request of the Secretary or the Indian child's tribe. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 105, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3073.)

## **§ 1916. Return of custody**

### **(a) Petition; best interests of child**

Notwithstanding State law to the contrary, whenever a final decree of adoption of an Indian child has been vacated or set aside or the adoptive parents voluntarily consent to the termination of their parental rights to the child, a biological parent or prior Indian custodian may petition for return of custody and the court shall grant such petition unless there is a showing, in a proceeding subject to the provisions of section 1912 of this title, that such return of custody is not in the best interests of the child.

### **(b) Removal from foster care home; placement procedure**

Whenever an Indian child is removed from a foster care home or institution for the purpose of further foster care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement, such placement shall be in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, except in the case where an Indian child is being returned to the parent or Indian custodian from whose custody the child was originally removed. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 106, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3073.)

## **§ 1917. Tribal affiliation information and other information for protection of rights from tribal relationship; application of subject of adoptive placement; disclosure by court**

Upon application by an Indian individual who has reached the age of eighteen and who was the subject of an adoptive placement, the court which entered the final decree shall inform such individual of the tribal affiliation, if any, of the individual's biological parents and provide such other information as may be necessary to protect any rights flowing from the individual's tribal relationship. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 107, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3073.)

## **§ 1918. Reassumption of jurisdiction over child custody proceedings**

### **(a) Petition; suitable plan; approval by Secretary**

Any Indian tribe which became subject to State jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of the Act of August 15, 1953 (67 Stat. 588), as amended by title IV of the Act of April 11, 1968 (82 Stat. 73, 78), or pursuant to any other Federal law, may reassume jurisdiction over child custody proceedings. Before any Indian tribe may reassume jurisdiction over Indian child custody proceedings, such tribe shall present to the Secretary for approval a petition to reassume such jurisdiction which includes a suitable plan to exercise such jurisdiction.

**(b)Criteria applicable to consideration by Secretary; partial retrocession**

- (1) In considering the petition and feasibility of the plan of a tribe under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary may consider, among other things:
  - i. whether or not the tribe maintains a membership roll or alternative provision for clearly identifying the persons who will be affected by the reassumption of jurisdiction by the tribe;
  - ii. the size of the reservation or former reservation area which will be affected by retrocession and reassumption of jurisdiction by the tribe;
  - iii. the population base of the tribe, or distribution of the population in homogeneous communities or geographic areas; and (iv) the feasibility of the plan in cases of multitribal occupation of a single reservation or geographic area.
- (2) In those cases where the Secretary determines that the jurisdictional provisions of section 1911(a) of this title are not feasible, he is authorized to accept partial retrocession which will enable tribes to exercise referral jurisdiction as provided in section 1911(b) of this title, or, where appropriate, will allow them to exercise exclusive jurisdiction as provided in section 1911(a) of this title over limited community or geographic areas without regard for the reservation status of the area affected.

**(c)Approval of petition; publication in Federal Register; notice; reassumption period; correction of causes for disapproval**

If the Secretary approves any petition under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall publish notice of such approval in the Federal Register and shall notify the affected State or States of such approval. The Indian tribe concerned shall reassume jurisdiction sixty days after publication in the Federal Register of notice of approval. If the Secretary disapproves any petition under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall provide such technical assistance as may be necessary to enable the tribe to correct any deficiency which the Secretary identified as a cause for disapproval.

**(d)Pending actions or proceedings unaffected**

Assumption of jurisdiction under this section shall not affect any action or proceeding over which a court has already assumed jurisdiction, except as may be provided pursuant to any agreement under section 1919 of this title. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 108, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3074.)

**§ 1919. Agreements between States and Indian tribes**

**(a)Subject coverage**

States and Indian tribes are authorized to enter into agreements with each other respecting care and custody of Indian children and jurisdiction over child custody proceedings, including agreements which may provide for orderly transfer of jurisdiction on a case-by-case basis and agreements which provide for concurrent jurisdiction between States and Indian tribes.

**(b)Revocation; notice; actions or proceedings unaffected**

Such agreements may be revoked by either party upon one hundred and eighty days' written notice to the other party. Such revocation shall not affect any action or proceeding over which a court has already assumed jurisdiction, unless the agreement provides otherwise. (Pub. L. 95-608, title I, § 109, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3074.)

**Section Referred to in Other Sections**

This section is referred to in sections 1918, 1923 of this title.

**§ 1920. Improper removal of child from custody; declination of jurisdiction; forthwith return of child: danger exception**

Where any petitioner in an Indian child custody proceeding before a State court has improperly removed the child from custody of the parent or Indian custodian or has improperly retained custody after a visit or other temporary relinquishment of custody, the court shall decline jurisdiction over such petition and shall forthwith return the child to his parent or Indian custodian unless returning the child to his parent or custodian would subject the child to a substantial and immediate danger or threat of such danger.

**§ 1921. Higher State or Federal standard applicable to protect rights of parent or Indian custodian of Indian child**

In any case where State or Federal law applicable to a child custody proceeding under State or Federal law provides a higher standard of protection to the rights of the parent or Indian custodian of an Indian child than the rights provided under this subchapter, the State or Federal court shall apply the State or Federal standard.

**§ 1922. Emergency removal or placement of child; termination; appropriate action**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to prevent the emergency removal of an Indian child who is a resident of or is domiciled on a reservation, but temporarily located off the reservation, from his parent or Indian custodian or the emergency placement of such child in a foster home or institution, under applicable State law, in order to prevent imminent physical damage

or harm to the child. The State authority, official, or agency involved shall insure that the emergency removal or placement terminates immediately when such removal or placement is no longer necessary to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the child and shall expeditiously initiate a child custody proceeding subject to the provisions of this subchapter, transfer the child to the jurisdiction of the appropriate Indian tribe, or restore the child to the parent or Indian custodian, as may be appropriate.

### **§ 1923. Effective date**

None of the provisions of this subchapter, except sections 1911(a), 1918, and 1919 of this title, shall affect a proceeding under State law for foster care placement, termination of parental rights, preadoptive placement, or adoptive placement which was initiated or completed prior to one hundred and eighty days after November 8, 1978, but shall apply to any subsequent proceeding in the same matter or subsequent proceedings affecting the custody or placement of the same child.

## **Subchapter II** **Indian Child and Family Programs**

### **§ 1931. Grants for on or near reservation programs and child welfare codes**

#### **(a) Statement of purpose; scope of programs**

The Secretary is authorized to make grants to Indian tribes and organizations in the establishment and operation of Indian child and family service programs on or near reservations and in the preparation and implementation of child welfare codes. The objective of every Indian child and family service program shall be to prevent the breakup of Indian families and, in particular, to insure that the permanent removal of an Indian child from the custody of his parent or Indian custodian shall be a last resort. Such child and family service programs may include, but are not limited to--

- (1) a system for licensing or otherwise regulating Indian foster and adoptive homes;
- (2) the operation and maintenance of facilities for the counseling and treatment of Indian families and for the temporary custody of Indian children;
- (3) family assistance, including homemaker and home counselors, day care, afterschool care, and employment, recreational activities, and respite care;
- (4) home improvement programs;
- (5) the employment of professional and other trained personnel to assist the tribal court in the disposition of domestic relations and child welfare matters;
- (6) education and training of Indians, including tribal court judges and staff, in skills relating to child and family assistance and service programs;
- (7) a subsidy program under which Indian adoptive children may be provided support comparable to

that for which they would be eligible as foster children, taking into account the appropriate State standards of support for maintenance and medical needs; and

- (8) guidance, legal representation, and advice to Indian families involved in tribal, State, or Federal child custody proceedings.

#### **(b) Non-Federal matching funds for related Social Security or other Federal financial assistance programs; assistance for such programs unaffected; State licensing or approval for qualification for assistance under federally assisted program**

Funds appropriated for use by the Secretary in accordance with this section may be utilized as non-Federal matching share in connection with funds provided under titles IV-B and XX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 620 et seq., 1397 et seq.] or under any other Federal financial assistance programs which contribute to the purpose for which such funds are authorized to be appropriated for use under this chapter. The provision or possibility of assistance under this chapter shall not be a basis for the denial or reduction of any assistance otherwise authorized under titles IV-B and XX of the Social Security Act or any other federally assisted program. For purposes of qualifying for assistance under a federally assisted program, licensing or approval of foster or adoptive homes or institutions by an Indian tribe shall be deemed equivalent to licensing or approval by a State.

### **§ 1932. Grants for off-reservation programs for additional services**

The Secretary is also authorized to make grants to Indian organizations to establish and operate off-reservation Indian child and family service programs which may include, but are not limited to--

- (1) a system for regulating, maintaining, and supporting Indian foster and adoptive homes, including a subsidy program under which Indian adoptive children may be provided support comparable to that for which they would be eligible as Indian foster children, taking into account the appropriate State standards of support for maintenance and medical needs;
- (2) the operation and maintenance of facilities and services for counseling and treatment of Indian families and Indian foster and adoptive children;
- (3) family assistance, including homemaker and home counselors, day care, afterschool care, and employment, recreational activities, and respite care; and
- (4) guidance, legal representation, and advice to Indian families involved in child custody proceedings. (Pub. L. 95-608, title II, § 202, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3076.)

Section Referred to in Other Sections

This section is referred to in section 1934 of this title.

## § 1933. Funds for on and off reservation programs

shall not be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), as amended.

### (a)Appropriated funds for similar programs of Department of Health and Human Services; appropriation in advance for payments

In the establishment, operation, and funding of Indian child and family service programs, both on and off reservation, the Secretary may enter into agreements with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the latter Secretary is hereby authorized for such purposes to use funds appropriated for similar programs of the Department of Health and Human Services: Provided, That authority to make payments pursuant to such agreements shall be effective only to the extent and in such amounts as may be provided in advance by appropriation Acts.

### (b)Appropriation authorization under section 13 of this title

Funds for the purposes of this chapter may be appropriated pursuant to the provisions of section 13 of this title. (Pub. L. 95-608, title II, § 203, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3076; Pub. L. 96-88, title V, § 509(b), Oct. 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 695.)

## § 1934. "Indian" defined for certain purposes

For the purposes of sections 1932 and 1933 of this title, the term "Indian" shall include persons defined in section 1603(c) of this title.

### Subchapter III

### Recordkeeping, Information Availability, and Timetables

## § 1951. Information availability to and disclosure by Secretary

### (a)Copy of final decree or order; other information; anonymity affidavit; exemption from Freedom of Information Act

Any State court entering a final decree or order in any Indian child adoptive placement after November 8, 1978, shall provide the Secretary with a copy of such decree or order together with such other information as may be necessary to show--

- (1) the name and tribal affiliation of the child;
- (2) the names and addresses of the biological parents;
- (3) the names and addresses of the adoptive parents; and
- (4) the identity of any agency having files or information relating to such adoptive placement. Where the court records contain an affidavit of the biological parent or parents that their identity remain confidential, the court shall include such affidavit with the other information. The Secretary shall insure that the confidentiality of such information is maintained and such information

### (b)Disclosure of information for enrollment of Indian child in tribe or for determination of member rights or benefits; certification of entitlement to enrollment

Upon the request of the adopted Indian child over the age of eighteen, the adoptive or foster parents of an Indian child, or an Indian tribe, the Secretary shall disclose such information as may be necessary for the enrollment of an Indian child in the tribe in which the child may be eligible for enrollment or for determining any rights or benefits associated with that membership. Where the documents relating to such child contain an affidavit from the biological parent or parents requesting anonymity, the Secretary shall certify to the Indian child's tribe, where the information warrants, that the child's parentage and other circumstances of birth entitle the child to enrollment under the criteria established by such tribe.

## § 1952. Rules and regulations

Within one hundred and eighty days after November 8, 1978, the Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

### Subchapter IV Miscellaneous Provisions

## § 1962. Locally convenient day schools

### (a)Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that the absence of locally convenient day schools may contribute to the breakup of Indian families.

### (b)Report to Congress; contents, etc.

The Secretary is authorized and directed to prepare, in consultation with appropriate agencies in the Department of Health and Human Services, a report on the feasibility of providing Indian children with schools located near their homes, and to submit such report to the Select Committee on Indian Affairs of the United States Senate and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives within two years from November 8, 1978. In developing this report the Secretary shall give particular consideration to the provision of educational facilities for children in the elementary grades. (Pub. L. 95-608, title IV, § 401, Nov. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 3078; Pub. L. 96-88, title V, § 509(b), Oct. 17, 1979, 93 Stat. 695.)

## § 1962. Copies to the States

Within sixty days after November 8, 1978, the Secretary shall send to the Governor, chief justice of the highest court of appeal, and the attorney general of each State a copy of this chapter, together with committee reports and an explanation of the provisions of this chapter.

**§ 1963. Severability**

If any provision of this chapter or the applicability thereof is held invalid, the remaining provisions of this chapter shall not be affected thereby.



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25 CFR Part 23

Indian Child Welfare Act Proceedings; Final Rule

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR****Bureau of Indian Affairs****25 CFR Part 23**

[K00103 12/13 A3A10; 134D0102DR-DS5A300000-DR.5A311.IA000113]

RIN 1076-AF25

**Indian Child Welfare Act Proceedings**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** This final rule adds a new subpart to the Department of the Interior's (Department) regulations implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), to improve ICWA implementation. The final rule addresses requirements for State courts in ensuring implementation of ICWA in Indian child-welfare proceedings and requirements for States to maintain records under ICWA.

**DATES:** This rule is effective on December 12, 2016.

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**Note:** This preamble uses the prefix “FR §” to denote regulatory sections in this final rule, and “PR §” to denote regulatory sections in the proposed rule published March 20, 2015 at 80 FR 14,480.

## I. Executive Summary

### A. Introduction

This final rule promotes the uniform application of Federal law designed to protect Indian children, their parents, and Indian Tribes. In conjunction with this final rule, the Solicitor is issuing an M Opinion addressing the implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act by legislative rule. See M–37037. Congress enacted the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), 25 U.S.C. 1901 *et seq.*, in 1978 to address an “Indian child welfare crisis [ ] of massive proportions”: an estimated 25 to 35 percent of all Indian children had been separated from their families and placed in adoptive homes, foster care, or institutions. H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 9 (1978), *reprinted in* 1978 U.S.C.C.A.N. 7530, 7531. Although the crisis flowed from multiple causes, Congress found that nontribal public and private agencies had played a significant role, and that State agencies and courts had often failed to recognize the essential tribal relations of Indian people and the cultural and social standards prevailing in Indian communities and families. 25 U.S.C. 1901(4)–(5). To address this failure, ICWA establishes minimum Federal standards for the removal of Indian children from their families and the placement of these children in foster or adoptive homes, and confirms Tribal jurisdiction over child-custody proceedings involving Indian children. 25 U.S.C. 1902.

Since its passage in 1978, ICWA has provided important rights and protections for Indian families, and has helped stem the widespread removal of Indian children from their families and Tribes. State legislatures, courts, and agencies have sought to interpret and implement this Federal law, and many States should be applauded for their affirmative efforts and support of the policies animating ICWA.

However, the Department has found that implementation and interpretation of the Act has been inconsistent across States and sometimes can vary greatly even within a State. This has led to significant variation in applying ICWA’s statutory terms and protections. This variation means that an Indian child and her parents in one State can receive different rights and protections under Federal law than an Indian child and her parents in another State. This disparate application of ICWA based on

where the Indian child resides creates significant gaps in ICWA protections and is contrary to the uniform minimum Federal standards intended by Congress.

The need for consistent minimum Federal standards to protect Indian children, families, and Tribes still exists today. The special relationship between the United States and the Indian Tribes and their members upon which Congress based the statute continues in full force, as does the United States’ direct interest, as trustee, in protecting Indian children who are members of or are eligible for membership in an Indian Tribe. 25 U.S.C. 1901, 1901(2). Native American children, however, are still disproportionately more likely to be removed from their homes and communities than other children. See, e.g., Attorney General’s Advisory Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence, *Ending Violence So Children Can Thrive* 87 (Nov. 2014); National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, *Disproportionality Rates for Children of Color in Foster Care, Fiscal Year 2013* (June 2015). In addition, some State court interpretations of ICWA have essentially voided Federal protections for groups of Indian children to whom ICWA clearly applies. And commenters provided numerous anecdotal accounts where Indian children were unnecessarily removed from their families and placed in non-Indian settings; where the rights of Indian children, their parents, or their Tribes were not protected; or where significant delays occurred in Indian child-custody proceedings due to disputes or uncertainty about the interpretation of the Federal law.

### B. Overview of Final Rule

The final rule updates definitions and notice provisions in the existing rule and adds a new subpart I to 25 CFR part 23 to address ICWA implementation by State courts. It promotes nationwide uniformity and provides clarity to the minimum Federal standards established by the statute. In many instances, the standards in this final rule reflect State interpretations and best practices, as reflected in State court decisions, State laws implementing ICWA, or State guidance documents. The rule provisions also reflect comments from organizations and individuals that serve children and families (including, in particular, Indian children) and have substantial expertise in child-welfare practices.

The final rule promotes compliance with ICWA from the earliest stages of a child-welfare proceeding. Early compliance promotes the maintenance

of Indian families, and the reunification of Indian children with their families whenever possible, and reduces the need for disruption in placements. Timely notification of an Indian child’s Tribe also ensures that Tribal government agencies have meaningful opportunities to provide assistance and resources to the child and family. And early implementation of ICWA’s requirements conserves judicial resources by reducing the need for delays, duplication, and appeals.

In particular, the final rule addresses the following issues:

- **Applicability.** The final rule clarifies when ICWA applies, while making clear that there is no exception to applicability based on certain factors used by a minority of courts in defining and applying the so-called “existing Indian family,” or EIF, exception.

- **Initial Inquiry.** The final rule clarifies the steps involved in conducting a thorough inquiry at the beginning of child-custody proceedings as to whether the child is an “Indian child” subject to the Act.

- **Emergency proceedings.** Recognizing that emergency removal and placements are sometimes required to protect an Indian child’s safety and welfare, the final rule clarifies the distinction between the requirements for emergency proceedings and other child-custody proceedings involving Indian children and includes provisions that help to ensure that emergency removal and placements are as short as possible, and that, when necessary, proceedings subject to the full suite of ICWA protections are promptly initiated.

- **Notice.** The final rule describes uniform requirements for prompt notice to parents and Tribes in involuntary proceedings to facilitate compliance with statutory requirements.

- **Transfer.** The final rule clarifies the requirement that a State court determine whether the State or Tribe has jurisdiction and, where jurisdiction is concurrent, establishes standards to guide the determination whether good cause exists to deny transfer (including factors that cannot properly be considered) and addresses transfer of proceedings to Tribal court.

- **Qualified expert witnesses.** The final rule provides interpretation of the term “qualified expert witness.”

- **Placement preferences.** The final rule clarifies when and what placement preferences apply in foster care, pre-adoptive, and adoptive placements, provides presumptive standards for what may constitute good cause to depart from the placement preferences, and prohibits courts from considering

certain factors as the basis for departure from placement preferences.

- *Voluntary proceedings.* The final rule clarifies certain aspects of ICWA's applicability to voluntary proceedings, including addressing the need to determine whether a child is an "Indian child" in voluntary proceedings and specifying the requirements for obtaining consent.

- *Information, recordkeeping, and other rights.* The final rule addresses the rights of adult adoptees to information and sets out what records States and the Secretary must maintain.

The Department carefully considered the comments on the proposed rule and made changes responsive to those comments. The reasons for the changes are described in the section-by-section analysis below. In particular, while the proposed rule would have been directed to both State courts and agencies, the Department has focused the final rule on the standards to be applied in State-court proceedings. Most ICWA provisions address what standards State courts must apply before they take actions such as exercising jurisdiction over an Indian child, ordering the removal of an Indian child from her parent, or ordering the placement of the Indian child in an adoptive home. The final rule follows ICWA in this regard. Further, State courts are familiar with applying Federal law to the cases before them. Several ICWA provisions do apply, either directly or indirectly, to State and private agencies, *see, e.g.*, 25 U.S.C. 1915(c); *id.* 1922; *see also id.* 1912(a). Nothing in this rule alters these obligations. And agencies need to be alert to the standards identified in the final rule, since these will determine what a court will require with respect to issues like notice to parents and Tribes (FR § 23.111), emergency proceedings (FR § 23.113), active efforts (FR § 23.120), and placement preferences (FR § 23.129–132).

The Department is cognizant that child-custody matters address some of the most fundamental elements of human life—children, familial ties, identity, and community. They often involve circumstances unique to the parties before the court and may require difficult and sometimes heart-wrenching decisions. The Department is also fully aware of the paramount importance of Indian children to their immediate and extended families, their communities, and their Tribes. In the final rule, the Department carefully balanced the need for more uniformity in the application of Federal law with the legitimate need for State courts to exercise discretion over how to apply the law to each case, while keeping in

mind that Congress enacted ICWA in part to address a concern that State courts were exercising their discretion inappropriately, to the detriment of Indian children, parents, and Tribes. In some cases, the Department determined that particular standards or practices are better suited to guidelines; the Department anticipates issuing updated guidelines prior to the effective date of this rule (180 days from issuance). These considerations are discussed further in the section-by-section analysis below.

## II. Background

### A. Background Regarding Passage of ICWA

Congress enacted ICWA in 1978 to address the policies and practices that resulted in the "wholesale separation of Indian children from their families." *See* H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 9. After several years of investigation, Congress had found that an alarmingly high percentage of Indian families [were] broken up by the removal, often unwarranted, of their children from them by nontribal public and private agencies. 25 U.S.C. 1901(4). The congressional investigation, which resulted in hundreds of pages of legislative testimony compiled over the course of four years of hearings, deliberation, and debate, revealed "the wholesale separation of Indian children from their families."<sup>1</sup> H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 9. The empirical and anecdotal evidence showed that Indian children were separated from their families at significantly higher rates than non-Indian children. In some States, between 25 and 35 percent of Indian children were living in foster care, adoptive care, or institutions. *Id.* Indian children removed from their homes

<sup>1</sup> *See Problems that American Indian Families Face in Raising Their Children and How These Problems Are Affected by Federal Action or Inaction: Hearing Before the Subcomm. on Indian Affairs of the S. Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs, 93rd Cong. (1974) (hereinafter, "1974 Senate Hearing"); Task Force Four: Federal, State, and Tribal Jurisdiction, American Indian Policy Review Commission Task Force Four, Report on Federal, State, and Tribal Jurisdiction (1976) (hereinafter "AIPRC Report"); 123 Cong. Rec. 21042–44 (June 27, 1977); To Establish Standards for the Placement of Indian Children in Foster or Adoptive Homes, to Prevent the Breakup of Indian Families, and for Other Purposes: Hearing on S. 1214 Before the S. Select Comm. on Indian Affairs, 95th Cong. (1977) (hereinafter "1977 Senate Hearing"); S. Rep. No. 95–597 (1977); 123 Cong. Rec. 37223–26 (Nov. 4, 1977); To Establish Standards for the Placement of Indian Children in Foster or Adoptive Homes, To Prevent the Breakup of Indian Families, and for Other Purposes: Hearing on S. 1214 Before the Subcomm. on Indian Affairs and Public Lands of the H. Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs, 95th Cong. 29 (1978) (hereinafter, "1978 House Hearing"); H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386 (1978); 124 Cong. Rec. H38101–12 (1978).*

were most often placed in non-Indian foster care and adoptive homes. AIPRC Report at 78–87. These separations contributed to a number of problems, including the erosion of a generation of Indians from Tribal communities, loss of Indian traditions and culture, and long-term emotional effects on Indian children caused by loss of their Indian identity. *See* 1974 Senate Hearing at 1–2, 45–51 (statements of Sen. James Abourezk, Chairman, Subcomm. on Indian Affairs and Dr. Joseph Westermeyer, Dep't of Psychiatry, University of Minn.).

Congress found that removal of children and unnecessary termination of parental rights were utilized to separate Indian children from their Indian communities. The four leading factors contributing to the high rates of Indian child removal were a lack of culturally competent State child-welfare standards for assessing the fitness of Indian families; systematic due-process violations against both Indian children and their parents during child-custody procedures; economic incentives favoring removal of Indian children from their families and communities; and social conditions in Indian country. H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 10–12.

Congress also found that many of these problems arose from State actions, *i.e.*, that the States, exercising their recognized jurisdiction over Indian child-custody proceedings through administrative and judicial bodies, have often failed to recognize the essential tribal relations of Indian people and the cultural and social standards prevailing in Indian communities and families. 25 U.S.C. 1901(5). The standards used by State and private child-welfare agencies to assess Indian parental fitness promoted unrealistic non-Indian socioeconomic norms and failed to account for legitimate cultural differences in Indian families. Time and again, "social workers, ignorant of Indian cultural values and social norms, ma[d]e decisions that [we]re wholly inappropriate in the context of Indian family life and so they frequently discover[ed] neglect or abandonment where none exist[ed]." H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 10. For example, Indian parents might leave their children in the care of extended-family members, sometimes for long periods of time. Social workers untutored in the ways of Indian family life assumed leaving children in the care of anyone outside the nuclear family amounted to neglect and grounds for terminating parental rights. Yet, the House Report noted, this is an accepted practice for certain Tribes. *Id.*

Non-Indian socioeconomic values that State agencies and judges applied in the child-welfare context similarly were found to not account for the difference in family structure and child-rearing practice in Indian communities. *Id.* Layered together with cultural bias, the result, the House Report concluded, was unequal and incongruent application of child-welfare standards for Indian families. *Id.* For example, parental alcohol abuse was one of the most frequently advanced reasons for removing Indian children from their parents; however, in areas where Indians and non-Indians had similar rates of problem drinking, alcohol abuse was rarely used as grounds to remove children from non-Indian parents. *Id.*

Congress heard testimony that removing Indian children from their families had become a regular, encouraged practice. Congress came to understand that “agencies established to place children have an incentive to find children to place.” *Id.* at 11. Indian leaders alleged that federally subsidized foster care homes encouraged non-Indians to take in Indian children to supplement their incomes with foster care payments, and that some non-Indian families sought to foster Indian children to gain access to the child’s Federal trust account. *See id.*; *See also* 1974 Senate Hearing at 118. While economic incentives encouraged the removal of Indian children, the economic conditions in Indian country prevented Tribes from providing their own foster-care facilities and certified adoptive parents. Poverty and substandard housing were prolific on reservations, and obtaining State foster-care licenses required a standard of living that was often out of reach in Indian communities. Otherwise loving and supportive Indian families were accordingly prevented from becoming foster parents, which promoted the placement of Indian children in non-Indian homes away from their Tribes. *See* H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 11.

In addition, State procedures for removing Indian children from their natural homes commonly violated due process. Social workers sometimes obtained “voluntary” parental-rights waivers to gain access to Indian children using coercive and deceitful measures. 1974 Senate Hearing at 95. Sometimes Indian parents with little education, reading comprehension, and understanding of English signed “voluntary” waivers without knowing what rights they were forfeiting. H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 11. Moreover, State courts failed to protect the rights of Indian children and Indian parents. For example, in involuntary removal

proceedings, the Indian parents and children rarely were represented by counsel and sometimes received little if any notice of the proceeding, and termination of parental rights was seldom supported by expert testimony. 1974 Senate Hearing at 67–68; H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 11. Rather than helping Indian parents correct parenting issues, or acknowledging that the alleged problems were the result of cultural and socioeconomic differences, social workers claimed removal was in the child’s best interest. 1974 Senate Hearing at 62.

Congress understood that these issues significantly impacted children who lived off of reservations, not just on-reservation children. Congress was concerned with the effect of the removal of Indian children “whose families live in urban areas or with rural nonrecognized tribes,” noting that there were approximately 35,000 such children in foster care, adoptive homes, or institutions. 124 Cong. Rec. H38102; 123 Cong. Rec. H21043. In the Final Report of the American Indian Policy Review Commission, which was included as part of the Senate Report on ICWA, the Commission recommended legislation addressing the fact that, because “[m]any Indian families move back and forth from a reservation dwelling to border communities or even to distant communities, depending on employment and educational opportunities,” problems could arise when Tribal and State courts offered competing child-custody determinations, and that legislation therefore had to address situations where “an Indian child is not domiciled on a reservation and [is] subject to the jurisdiction of non-Indian authorities.” S. Rep. No. 95–597, at 51–52 (1977).

Congress further recognized that the “wholesale removal of [Tribal] children by nontribal government and private agencies constitutes a serious threat to [Tribes’] existence as on-going, self-governing communities,” and that the “future and integrity of Indian tribes and Indian families are in danger because of this crisis.” 124 Cong. Rec. H38103. As one Tribal representative testified before Congress, “[t]he ultimate preservation and continuation of [Tribal] cultures depends on our children and their proper growth and development.” *See* 1977 Senate Hearing at 169. Commenters on the proposed legislation also noted that, because “[p]robably in no area is it more important that tribal sovereignty be respected than in an area as socially and culturally determinative as family relationships,” the “chances of Indian survival are significantly reduced if our

children, the only real means for the transmission of the tribal heritage, are to be raised in non-Indian homes and denied exposure to the ways of their people.” *Id.* at 157. Thus, in addition to protecting individual Indian children and families, Congress was also concerned about preserving the integrity of Tribes as self-governing, sovereign entities and ensuring that Tribes could survive both culturally and politically. *See* 124 Cong. Rec. H38,102.

#### B. Overview of ICWA’s Provisions

In light of the information presented about State child-custody practices for Indian children, Congress passed ICWA to “protect the rights of the Indian child as an Indian and the rights of the Indian community and tribe in retaining its children in its society.” H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 23. Congress further declared that it is the policy of this Nation to protect the best interests of Indian children and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families. 25 U.S.C. 1902. And although Congress described “the failure of State officials, agencies, and procedures to take into account the special problems and circumstances of Indian families and the legitimate interest of the Indian tribe in preserving and protecting the Indian family as the wellspring of its own future,” H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 19, the legislature carefully considered the traditional role of the States in the arena of child welfare outside Indian reservations, and crafted a statute that would balance the interests of the United States, the individual States, Indian Tribes, and Indians, noting:

While the committee does not feel that it is necessary or desirable to oust the States of their traditional jurisdiction over Indian children falling within their geographic limits, it does feel the need to establish minimum Federal standards and procedural safeguards in State Indian child-custody proceedings designed to protect the rights of the child as an Indian, the Indian family and the Indian tribe. H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 19.

ICWA therefore applies to “child-custody proceedings,” defined as foster-care placements, terminations of parental rights, and pre-adoptive and adoptive placements, involving an “Indian child,” defined as any unmarried person who is under age eighteen and either is: (a) A member of an Indian tribe; or (b) is eligible for membership in an Indian tribe and is the biological child of a member of an Indian tribe. 25 U.S.C. 1903. In such proceedings, Congress accorded Tribes

“numerous prerogatives . . . through the ICWA’s substantive provisions . . . as a means of protecting not only the interests of individual Indian children and their families, but also of the tribes themselves.” *Miss. Band of Choctaw Indians v. Holyfield*, 490 U.S. 30, 49 (1989). In addition, ICWA provides important procedural and substantive standards to be followed in State-administered proceedings concerning possible removal of an Indian child from her family. *See, e.g.*, 25 U.S.C. 1912(d) (requiring provision of “active efforts” to prevent the breakup of the Indian family); *id.* 1912(e)–(f) (requiring specified burdens of proof and expert testimony regarding potential damage to child resulting from continued custody by parent, before foster-care placement or termination of parental rights may be ordered).

The “most important substantive requirement imposed on state courts” by ICWA is the placement preference for any adoptive placement of an Indian child. *Holyfield*, 490 U.S. at 36–37. In any adoptive placement of an Indian child under State law, ICWA requires that a preference shall be given, in the absence of good cause to the contrary, to a placement with (1) a member of the child’s extended family (regardless of whether they are Tribal citizens); (2) other members of the Indian child’s Tribe; or (3) other Indian families. 25 U.S.C. 1915(a). ICWA requires similar placement preferences for pre-adoptive placement and foster-care placement. 25 U.S.C. 1915(a)–(b). These preferences reflect “Federal policy that, where possible, an Indian child should remain in the Indian community.” *Holyfield*, 490 U.S. at 36–37 (internal citations omitted).

### C. Need for These Regulations

Although the Department initially hoped that binding regulations would not be “necessary to carry out the Act,” *see* 44 FR 67,584 (Nov. 23, 1979), a third of a century of experience has confirmed the need for more uniformity in the interpretation and application of this important Federal law.

*Need for Uniform Federal Standard.* For decades, various State courts and agencies have interpreted the Act in different, and sometimes conflicting, ways. This has resulted in different standards being applied to ICWA adjudications across the United States, contrary to Congress’s intent. *See Holyfield*, 490 U.S. at 43–46; *see also* 25 U.S.C. 1902; H.R. Rep. No. 95–1386, at 19; *see generally* Casey Family Programs, *Indian Child Welfare Act: Measuring Compliance* (2015), [www.casey.org/media/measuring-](http://www.casey.org/media/measuring-compliance-icwa.pdf)

[compliance-icwa.pdf](http://www.casey.org/media/measuring-compliance-icwa.pdf). Perhaps the most noted example is the “existing Indian family,” or EIF, exception, under which some State courts first determine the “Indian-ness” of the child and family before applying the Act. As a result, children who meet the statutory definition of “Indian child” and their parents are denied the protections that Congress established by Federal law. This exception to the application of ICWA was created by some State courts, and has no basis in ICWA’s text or purpose. Currently, the Department has identified State-court cases applying this exception in a few states while other State courts have rejected the exception. *See, e.g., Thompson v. Fairfax Cty. Dep’t of Family Servs.*, 747 SE.2d 838, 847–48 (Va. Ct. App. 2013) (collecting cases); *In re Alexandria P.*, 176 Cal. Rptr. 3d 468, 484–85 (Cal. Ct. App. 2014) (noting split across California jurisdictions). The question whether an Indian child, her parents, and her Tribe will receive the Federal protections to which they are entitled must be uniform across the Nation, as Congress mandated.

This type of conflicting State-level statutory interpretation can lead to arbitrary outcomes, and can threaten the rights that the statute was intended to protect. For example, in *Holyfield*, the Court concluded that the term “domicile” in ICWA must have a uniform Federal meaning, because otherwise parties or agencies could avoid ICWA’s application “merely by transporting [the child] across state lines.” 490 U.S. at 46. State courts also differ as to what constitutes “good cause” for departing from ICWA’s child placement preferences, weighing a variety of different factors when making the determination. *See, e.g., In re A.J.S.*, 204 P.3d 543, 551 (Kan. 2009); *In re Adoption of F.H.*, 851 P.2d 1361, 1363–64 (Alaska 1993); *In re Adoption of M.*, 832 P.2d 518, 522 (Wash. 1992). States are also inconsistent as to how to demonstrate sufficient “active efforts” to keep a family intact. *See State ex rel. C.D. v. State*, 200 P.3d 194, 205 (Utah Ct. App. 2008) (noting State-by-State disagreement over what qualifies as “active efforts”). In other instances, State courts have simply ignored ICWA requirements outright. *Oglala Sioux Tribe & Rosebud Sioux Tribe v. Van Hunnik*, 100 F. Supp. 3d 749, 754 (D.S.D. 2015) (finding that the State had “developed and implemented policies and procedures for the removal of Indian children from their parents’ custody in violation of the mandates of the Indian Child Welfare Act”). The result of these inconsistencies is that

many of the problems Congress intended to address by enacting ICWA persist today.

The Department’s current nonbinding guidelines are insufficient to fully implement Congress’s goal of nationwide protections for Indian children, parents, and Tribes. *See* 44 FR at 67,584–95. While State courts will sometimes defer to the guidelines in ICWA cases (*see In re Jack C.*, 122 Cal. Rptr. 3d 6, 13–14 (Cal. Ct. App. 2011); *In the Interest of Tavian B.*, 874 N.W.2d 456, 460 (Neb. 2016)), State courts frequently characterize the guidelines as lacking the force of law and conclude that they may depart from the guidelines as they see fit. *See, e.g., Gila River Indian Cmty. v. Dep’t of Child Safety*, 363 P.3d 148, 153 (Ariz. Ct. App. 2015).

These State-specific determinations about the meaning of key terms in the Federal law will continue absent a legislative rule, with potentially devastating consequences for the children, families, and Tribes that ICWA was designed to protect. Consider a child who is a Tribal citizen and who lives with his mother, who is also a Tribal citizen. The mother and child live far from their Tribe’s reservation because of her work, and they are not able to regularly participate in their Tribe’s social, cultural, or political events. If the State social-services agency seeks to remove the child from the mother and initiates a child-custody proceeding, the application of ICWA to that proceeding—which clearly involves an “Indian child”—will depend on whether that State court has accepted the existing Indian family exception. Likewise, even if the court agrees that ICWA applies, the actions taken to provide remedial and rehabilitative programs to the family will be uncertain because there is no uniform interpretation of what constitutes “active efforts” under ICWA. This type of variation was not intended by Congress and actively undermines the purposes of the Act.

*Need for Protections for Tribal Citizens Living Outside Indian Country.* The need for more uniform application of ICWA in State courts is reinforced by the fact that approximately 78% of Native Americans live outside of Indian country,<sup>2</sup> where judges may be less familiar with ICWA requirements generally, or where a Tribe may be less

<sup>2</sup> *See* United States Census Bureau, Fact for Features: American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month: November 2012 (Oct. 25, 2012), [https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts\\_for\\_features\\_special\\_editions/cb12-ff22.html](https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb12-ff22.html) (summary files for 2015 are not yet available).

likely to find out about custody adjudications involving their citizens. Some commenters have pointed to the large number of Tribal citizens living off-reservation as proof that off-reservation Indians have made a conscious choice to distance themselves from their Tribe and its culture, and that ICWA's protections are unnecessary. They have accordingly questioned the need for a legislative rule, based on the assumption that off-reservation Indians do not want the Federal protections that accompany their status as Indians.

These comments misapprehend the reasons for high off-reservation Indian populations and the nature of Tribal citizenship generally, and do not diminish the need for the final rule. First, the fact that many Indians live off-reservation is, in part, a result of past, now-repudiated Federal policies encouraging Indian assimilation with non-Indians and, in some cases, terminating Tribes outright. For example, Congress passed the Indian General Allotment Act, 24 Stat. 388, codified at 25 U.S.C. 331 (1887) (repealed), which authorized the United States to allot and sell Tribal lands to non-Indians and take them out of trust status. The purpose of the Act was to "encourage individual land ownership and, hopefully, eventual assimilation into the larger society," *Bugenig v. Hoopa Valley Tribe*, 266 F.3d 1201, 1205 (9th Cir. 2001), and to "promot[e] interaction between the races and . . . encourage[e] Indians to adopt white ways," *Mattz v. Arnett*, 412 U.S. 481, 496 (1973). Many Indian lands subsequently passed out of Tribal control, which often led to Tribal citizens dispersing from their reservations.

Likewise, during the so-called "termination era" of the 1950s, Congress passed a series of acts severing its trust relationship with more than 100 Tribes. Terminated Tribes lost not only their land base but also myriad Federal services previously arising from the trust relationship, including education, health care, housing, and emergency welfare. See *Sioux Tribe of Indians v. United States*, 7 Cl. Ct. 468, 478 n.8 (Cl. Ct. 1985) (describing the termination policy). Lacking these basic services, which often did not otherwise exist in rural Tribal communities, many Indians were forced to move to urban areas. And in 1956, the Relocation Act was passed with funds to support the voluntary relocation of any young adult Indian willing to move from on or near a reservation to a selected urban center. Act of Aug. 3, 1956, Public Law 84-959, 70 Stat. 986. Thus, today's off-reservation population is not a new

phenomenon; ICWA itself was enacted with Congress's awareness that many Indians live off-reservation. See 1978 House Hearings at 103; H.R. Rep. No. 95-1386, at 15. The fact that an Indian does not live on a reservation is not evidence of disassociation with his or her Tribe. In fact, citizens of many Tribes do not have the option to live on reservation land, as over 40 percent of Tribes have no reservation land.

Second, the comments ignore the fact that, regardless of geographic location of a Tribal citizen, Tribal citizenship (aka Tribal membership) is voluntary and typically requires an affirmative act by the enrollee or her parent. Tribal laws generally include provisions requiring the parent or legal guardian of a minor to apply for Tribal citizenship on behalf of the child. See, e.g., Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Tribal Code § 4.02.04(A)—Applications for Enrollment. Tribes also often require an affirmative act by the individual seeking to become a Tribal citizen, such as the filing of an application. See, e.g., White Mountain Apache Enrollment Code, Sec. 1-401—Application Form: Filing. As ICWA is limited to children who are either enrolled in a Tribe or are eligible for enrollment and have a parent who is an enrolled member, that status inherently demonstrates an ongoing Tribal affiliation even among off-reservation Indians.

Rather than simply moving off-reservation, those enrolled Tribal citizens who do want to renounce their affiliation with a Tribe may voluntarily relinquish their citizenship. Tribal governing documents often include provisions allowing adult citizens to relinquish Tribal citizenship, sometimes also requiring a notarized or witnessed written statement. See, e.g., Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Tribal Code § 4.04.01(C)—Loss of Tribal Citizenship; White Mountain Apache Enrollment Code Sec. 1-702—Relinquishment. These procedures, and not an individual's geographic location, are the proper determinant of whether an individual retains an ongoing political affiliation with a Tribe (both generally and for the purposes of the ICWA placement preferences).

Commenters who raised this point also argued that a legislative rule would continue to apply Tribal placement preferences to individuals who have low Indian blood quantum. Several noted that the Indian child in *Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl*, 133 S. Ct. 2552 (2013), purportedly was 3/256 Cherokee by blood, and questioned why ICWA should apply to such individuals, particularly when they live off-reservation. This argument mistakes and

over-simplifies the nature of Indian status. Tribes have a wide variety of citizenship-eligibility requirements. For example, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe requires the applicant to produce "documentary evidence such as a notarized paternity affidavit showing the name of a parent through whom eligibility for citizenship is claimed." Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Tribal Code § 4.02.04(C)—Applications for Enrollment. Other Tribes include blood-quantum requirements. For example, the White Mountain Apache Tribe requires the applicant to be at least one fourth (1/4) degree White Mountain Apache blood. See White Mountain Apache Constitution, Article II, sec. 1—Membership. Federal courts have repeatedly recognized that determining citizenship (membership) requirements is a sovereign Tribal function. See, e.g., *Santa Clara Pueblo v. Martinez*, 436 U.S. 49, 72 n.32 (1978) ("A tribe's right to define its own membership for tribal purposes has long been recognized as central to its existence as an independent political community."); *Montgomery v. Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe*, 905 F. Supp. 740, 746 (D.S.D. 1995) ("Giving deference to the Tribe's right as a sovereign to determine its own membership, the Court holds that it lacks subject matter jurisdiction to determine whether any plaintiffs were wrongfully denied enrollment in the Tribe."); *In re Adoption of C.D.K.*, 629 F. Supp. 2d 1258, 1262 (D. Utah 2009) (holding that "the Indian tribes' 'inherent power to determine tribal membership' entitles determinations of membership by Indian tribes to great deference"). The act of fulfilling Tribal citizenship requirements is all that is necessary to demonstrate Tribal affiliation, and thus qualify as an "Indian" or "Indian child" under ICWA.

These types of objections, which are based on fundamental misunderstandings of Indian law, history, and social and cultural life, actually demonstrate the need for a legislative rule. Too often, State courts are swayed by these types of arguments and use the leeway afforded by the lack of regulations to craft ad hoc "exceptions" to ICWA. A legislative rule is necessary to support ICWA's underlying purpose and to address those areas where a lack of binding guidance has resulted in inconsistent implementation and noncompliance with the statute.

*Continued Need for ICWA Protections.* ICWA's requirements remain vitally important today. Although ICWA has helped to prevent the wholesale separation of Tribal

children from their families in many regions of the United States, Indian families continue to be broken up by the removal of their children by non-Tribal public and private agencies.

Nationwide, based on 2013 data, Native American children are represented in State foster care at a rate 2.5 times their presence in the general population. See National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, *Disproportionality Rates for Children of Color in Foster Care* tbl. 1 (June 2015). This disparity has increased since 2000. *Id.* (showing disproportionality rate of 1.5 in 2000). In some States, including numerous States with significant Indian populations, Native American children are represented in State foster-care systems at rates as high as 14.8 times their presence in the general population of that State. *Id.* While this disproportionate overrepresentation of Native American children in the foster-care system likely has multiple causes, it nonetheless supports the need for this rule.

Through numerous statutory provisions, ICWA helps ensure that State courts incorporate Indian social and cultural standards into decision-making that affects Indian children. For example, section 1915 requires foster-care and adoptive placement preference be given to members of the child's extended family. This requirement comports with findings that Tribal citizens tend to value extended family more than the Euro-American model, often having several generations of family and aunts and uncles participating in primary child-rearing activities. See, e.g., John G. Red Horse, *Family Preservation: Concepts in American Indian Communities* (Casey Family Programs and National Indian Child Welfare Assoc. Dec. 2000). Likewise, from the adoptee's perspective, extended-family-member involvement and strong connection to Tribe shape reunification. Ashley L. Landers et al., *Finding Their Way Home: The Reunification of First Nations Adoptees*, 10 *First Peoples Child & Family Review* no. 2 (2015).

#### *D. The Department's Implementation of ICWA*

As required by ICWA, the Department issued regulations in 1979 to establish procedures through which a Tribe may reassume jurisdiction over Indian child-custody proceedings, 44 FR 45092 (Jul. 24, 1979) (codified at 25 CFR part 23), as well as procedures for notice of involuntary Indian child-custody proceedings, payment for appointed counsel in State courts, and procedures for the Department to provide grants to

Tribes and Indian organizations for Indian child and family programs. 44 FR 45096 (Jul. 24, 1979) (codified at 25 CFR part 23). In January 1994, the Department revised its ICWA regulations to convert the competitive-grant process for Tribes to a noncompetitive funding mechanism, while continuing the competitive award system for Indian organizations. See 59 FR 2248 (Jan. 13, 1994).

In 1979, the Department published recommended guidelines for Indian child-custody proceedings in State courts. 44 FR 24000 (Apr. 23, 1979) (proposed guidelines); 44 FR 32,294 (Jun. 5, 1979) (seeking public comment); 44 FR 67584 (final guidelines). Several commenters remarked then that the Department had the authority to issue regulations and should do so. The Department declined to issue regulations and instead revised its recommended guidelines and published them in final form in November 1979. 44 FR 67584.

More recently, the Department determined that it may be appropriate and necessary to promulgate additional and updated rules interpreting ICWA and providing uniform standards for State courts to follow in applying the Federal law. In 2014, the Department invited public comments to determine whether to update its guidelines to address inconsistencies in State-level ICWA implementation that had arisen since 1979 and, if so, what changes should be made. The Department held several listening sessions, including sessions with representatives of federally recognized Indian Tribes, State-court representatives (e.g., the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) and the National Center for State Courts' Conference of Chief Justices Tribal Relations Committee), the National Indian Child Welfare Association, and the National Congress of American Indians. The Department received comments from those at the listening sessions and also received written comments, including comments from individuals and additional organizations. The Department considered these comments and subsequently published updated Guidelines (2015 Guidelines) in February 2015. See 80 FR 10146 (Feb. 25, 2015).

Many commenters on the 2015 Guidelines requested not only that the Department update its ICWA guidelines but that the Department also issue binding regulations addressing the requirements and standards that ICWA provides for State-court child-custody proceedings. Commenters noted the role that regulations could provide in

promoting uniform application of ICWA across the country, along with many of the other reasons discussed above why ICWA regulations are needed. Recognizing that need, the Department began a notice-and-comment process to promulgate formal ICWA regulations. The Department issued a proposed rule on March 20, 2015 that would "incorporate many of the changes made to the recently revised guidelines into regulations, establishing the Department's interpretation of ICWA as a binding interpretation to ensure consistency in implementation of ICWA across all States." 80 FR 14480, 14481 (Mar. 20, 2015).

As part of its process collecting input on the proposed regulations, Interior held five public hearings and five Tribal-consultation sessions across the country, as well as one public hearing and one Tribal consultation by teleconference. Public hearings and Tribal consultations were held on April 22, 2015, in Portland Oregon; April 23, 2015, in Rapid City, South Dakota; May 5, 2015, in Albuquerque, New Mexico; May 7, 2015, in Prior Lake, Minnesota; May 11 and 12, 2015, by teleconference; and May 14, 2015, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. All sessions were transcribed. In addition to oral comments, the Department received over 2,100 written comments.

After the public-comment period closed on May 19, 2015, the Department reviewed comments received and, where appropriate, made changes to the proposed rule in response. This final rule reflects the input of all comments received during the public-comment period and Tribal consultation. The comments on the proposed rule and the contents of the final rule are discussed in detail below in Section IV.

In crafting this final rule, the Department is drawing from its expertise in Indian affairs generally, and from its extensive experience in administering Indian child-welfare programs specifically. BIA's Office of Indian Services, through its Division of Human Services, collects information from Tribes on their ICWA activities for the Indian Child Welfare Quarterly and Annual Report, ensures that ICWA processes and resources are in place to facilitate implementation of ICWA, administers the notice process under section 1912 of the Act, publishes a nationwide contact list of Tribally designated ICWA agents for service of notice, administers ICWA grants, and maintains a central file of adoption records under ICWA. In addition, BIA provides technical assistance to State social workers and courts on ICWA and Indian child welfare in general,

including but not limited to assisting in locating expert witnesses and identifying language interpreters. Currently, BIA employs a team of child protection social workers who provide this assistance on an as-needed basis as part of their daily duties. BIA also employs an ICWA Policy Social Worker, who is both an attorney and a social worker, and who serves as the central BIA expert and liaison on ICWA matters.

The Department is a significant Federal funding source for Indian child-welfare programs run by Tribes. Social-services funding is used to support Tribal and Department-operated Child Protection and Child Welfare Services (CPS/CW) on or near reservations and designated service areas. Tribal and Department caseworkers are the first responders for child and family services on reservations in Indian country. CPS/CW work is labor-intensive, as it requires social-service workers to frequently engage families through face-to-face contacts, assess the safety of children, monitor case progress, and ensure that essential services and support are provided to the child and her family. This experience is critical toward understanding the areas where ICWA is or is not working at the State level, as well as the necessary standards to address ongoing problems.

Congress also tasked the Department with affirmatively monitoring State compliance with ICWA by accessing State records of placement of Indian children, including documentation of State efforts to fulfill ICWA placement preferences. See 25 U.S.C. 1915(e). State courts are further responsible for providing the Department with a final decree or adoptive order for any Indian child within 30 days after entering such a judgment, together with any information necessary to show the Indian child's name, birthdate, and Tribal affiliation, the names and addresses of the biological and adoptive parents, and the identity of any agency having relevant information relating to the adoptive parent. See 25 CFR 23.71. The Department's experience administering these programs has informed development of this rule.

The Department has also consulted extensively with the Children's Bureau of the Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Justice in the formulation of this final rule. The Children's Bureau partners with Federal, State, and Tribal agencies to improve the overall health and well-being of children and families, and has significant expertise in child abuse and neglect. The Children's Bureau also

administers capacity-building centers for States, Tribes, and courts. The Department of Justice has significant expertise in court practice, Indian law, and court decisions addressing ICWA. This close coordination with the Children's Bureau and the Department of Justice has helped produce a final rule that reflects the expertise of all three agencies.

Finally, in issuing this final rule, the Department has considered the trust obligation of the United States to Indian Tribes, which Congress expressly referenced in ICWA. 25 U.S.C. 1901(3). The Department has also kept in mind the canon of construction, applied by Federal courts, that Federal statutes should be liberally construed in favor of Indians, with ambiguous provisions interpreted for their benefit. See, e.g., *Montana v. Blackfeet Tribe of Indians*, 471 U.S. 759, 766 (1985); *Doe v. Mann*, 415 F.3d 1038, 1047 (9th Cir. 2005).

### III. Authority for Regulations

The Department's primary authority for this rule is 25 U.S.C. 1952. Section 1952 states that, within one hundred and eighty days after November 8, 1979, the Secretary shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. This expansive language evinces clear congressional intent that the Secretary (or in this case, her delegate, the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, who oversees the Bureau of Indian Affairs) will issue rules to implement ICWA.

As discussed above, the Department issued several rules implementing ICWA in 1979. These included regulations to establish procedures by which an Indian Tribe may reassume jurisdiction over Indian child-custody proceedings as authorized by § 1918 of ICWA, see 44 FR 45092 (codified at 25 CFR part 13); regulations addressing topics such as notice in involuntary child-custody proceedings, payment for appointed counsel, grants to Indian Tribes and Indian organizations for Indian child and family programs, and recordkeeping and information availability, see 44 FR 45096 (codified at 25 CFR part 23); and interpretive guidelines for State courts to apply in Indian child-custody proceedings. See 44 FR 67584. Some of these rules and regulations have been amended since their original issuance. See, e.g., 59 FR 2248 (Jan. 13, 1994).

Having carefully considered public comments on the issue and having reflected on statements the Department made in 1979, all of which are discussed further below, the Department determines that the rulemaking grant in

§ 1952 encompasses jurisdiction to issue rules at this time that set binding standards for Indian child-custody proceedings in State courts. ICWA provides a broad and general grant of rulemaking authority that authorizes the Department to issue rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement ICWA. Similar grants of rulemaking authority have been held to presumptively authorize agencies to issue rules and regulations addressing matters covered by the statute unless there is clear congressional intent to withhold authority in a particular area. See, e.g., *AT&T Corp. v. Iowa Utils. Bd.*, 525 U.S. 366, 378 (1999); *Am. Hospital Ass'n v. Nat'l Labor Relations Bd.*, 499 U.S. 606, 609–10 (1991) (general grant of rulemaking authority “was unquestionably sufficient to authorize the rule at issue in this case unless limited by some other provision in the Act”); *Mourning v. Family Publ'ns Serv., Inc.*, 411 U.S. 356, 369 (1973) (“[w]here the empowering provision of a statute states simply that the agency may ‘make . . . such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act,’ we have held that the validity of a regulation promulgated thereunder will be sustained so long as it is ‘reasonably related to the purposes of the enabling legislation’”); see also *City of Arlington v. FCC*, 133 S. Ct. 1863, 1874 (2013) (finding not “a single case in which a general conferral of rulemaking or adjudicative authority has been held insufficient to support *Chevron* deference for an exercise of that authority within the agency's substantive field”); *Qwest Communic'ns Int'l Inc. v. FCC*, 229 F.3d 1172, 1179 (D.C. Cir. 2000) (“[t]he grant of authority relied upon by a federal agency in promulgating regulations need not be specific; it is only necessary ‘that the reviewing court reasonably be able to conclude that the grant of authority contemplates the regulations issued’”) (quoting *Chrysler Corp. v. Brown*, 441 U.S. 281, 308 (1979)). As discussed elsewhere in this preamble, the Department finds that this regulation is “necessary to carry out the provisions” of ICWA, 25 U.S.C. 1952, and thus falls squarely within the statutory grant of rulemaking authority.

ICWA's legislative history is consistent with the understanding that the statute's grant of rulemaking authority is broad and inclusive. The original versions of the House and Senate bills that led to the enactment of ICWA, as well as the version of the bill that passed the Senate, included the general grant of rulemaking authority

but also included specific, additional procedural requirements. See S. 1214, 95th Cong., 1st Sess., Section 205; see also S. Rep. No. 95–597 (Nov. 3, 1977). In particular, the bills required that within six months, the Secretary must consult with Tribes and Indian organizations “in the consideration and formulation of rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act”; within seven months, present the proposed rules to congressional committees; within eight months, publish proposed rules for notice and comment; and within ten months, promulgate final rules and regulations to implement the provisions of the Act. See S. 1214, sec. 205(b)(1). The bills authorized the Secretary to revise the rules and regulations, but required that they be presented to the congressional committees first. *Id.* 205(c). These requirements were considered during hearings held on February 9 and March 9, 1978, before the House of Representatives Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. See 1978 House Hearings at 47.

During debate of the bill on the House floor, the bill sponsor, Representative Udall, offered an amendment to change the rulemaking grant to its current text. Representative Udall explained that this amendment was designed to remove the burdens of submitting regulations to congressional committees, but did not indicate that the scope of the grant of rulemaking authority was to change in any way. See 124 Cong. Rec. H38,107 (1978). ICWA thus does not impose procedural requirements on rulemaking that exceed those required by the Administrative Procedure Act. Moreover, the Department views it as unlikely that Congress would have introduced and considered bills throughout the 95th Congress that would have imposed burdensome procedural requirements on the agency if Congress did not intend that § 1952 would provide the Department with a broad grant of rulemaking authority.

#### A. Statements Made in the 1979 Guidelines

The Department has reconsidered and no longer agrees with statements it made in 1979 suggesting that it lacks the authority to issue binding regulations. At that time, although it undertook a notice-and-comment process, the Department made clear that the final issued guidelines addressing State-court Indian-child-custody proceedings were not intended to have binding effect. See 44 FR 67584. The Department cited a number of reasons for issuing nonbinding guidelines, a course of action that was opposed by numerous

commenters.<sup>3</sup> *Id.* As described above, the Department concludes today that this binding regulation is within the jurisdiction of the agency, was encompassed by the statutory grant of rulemaking authority, and is necessary to implement the Act.

While the Department stated in 1979 that binding regulations were “not necessary to carry out the Act,” 37 years of real-world ICWA application have thoroughly disproven that conclusion and underscored the need for this regulation. See discussion *supra* at Section II.C. The intervening years have shown both that State-court application

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Letter from Bob Aitken, Director, Social Services, The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe to David Etheridge (May 23, 1979) (on file with the Department of the Interior) (“I feel strongly the Bureau of Indian Affairs should not be putting any of the act in ‘guideline’ form. The ‘recommended guidelines for state courts’ should be in rule or regulation form for state courts to follow. It appears the state courts will have a choice on whether or not to follow the Act. In my opinion, the Act *does* delegate to the Interior Department the authority to mandate such procedures.”); Letter from Henry Sockheson, Chairman, Steering Committee of the National Association of Indian Legal Services, to David Etheridge (May 17, 1979) (on file with the Department of the Interior) (“Fearful of a constitutional challenge by states, a possibility soundly discredited and rejected by the lawmakers, the Secretary has adopted a position which flies in the face of clear Congressional intent to the contrary, *i.e.*, that he, even as a steward of Congressional purpose, cannot mandate procedures for state or tribal courts, the very meat & potatoes of the whole of Title I of the Act. In the place of these badly needed regulations, therefore, was substituted a Notice of ‘Recommended Guidelines for State Courts-Indian Child-custody proceedings’, which will have the practical effect of regulations without the protections afforded to the public under the Administrative Procedures Act. . . . It is apparent that the delicate relationships sought to be preserved by the Act justified and required regulatory action with regard to state court procedures by the Bureau and cannot be subjected to the whim of what surely Congress believed were recalcitrant state courts now functioning under questionable ‘guidelines.’”); Letter from Alexander Lewis, Sr., Governor, Gila River Indian Community, to David Etheridge (May 21, 1979) (on file with the Department of the Interior) (“[A]bsent regulations [and] without force and effect, the guidelines are useless and the aims of the Act will be made more difficult to achieve. . . . By virtue of the Supremacy Clause of the United States Constitution, and this Act of Congress—the Indian Child Welfare Act, the Secretary of the Interior does have authority to promulgate regulations regarding the transfer of jurisdiction of Indian child proceedings from State to Tribal Court. I urge that you reconsider this action and promulgate regulations instead of guidelines, so that the provisions of the Act will not be emasculated.”); Letter from Frank Stede, Vice-Chief, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, to David Etheridge (May 22, 1979) (on file with the Department of the Interior) (“[T]he notices should have been issued [as] regulations contrary to what the Interior Department presents as an [argument] for not issuing the guide lines as notices, the Congress clearly gave the Secretary authority to mandate procedures for State or Tribal court by passing legislation which deals with State and Tribal [i]ssue[s] in such an extensive fashion, clearly Congress would not have [glone] to such details if it had intended that compliance to [be] voluntary.”).

of the statute has been inconsistent and contradictory across, and sometimes within, jurisdictions. This, in turn, has impeded the statutory intent of providing minimum Federal standards that would protect Indian children, families, and Tribes, and has allowed problems identified in the 1970s to remain in the present day. The lack of clarity and uniformity regarding the meaning of key ICWA provisions also creates confusion, delays, and appeals in individual cases involving Indian children.

For these reasons, the Department’s decision to issue binding regulations finds strong support in the Supreme Court’s carefully reasoned decision in *Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians v. Holyfield*, 490 U.S. 30 (1989). There, the Supreme Court addressed whether a State court had jurisdiction over a child-custody proceeding involving two Indian children. As the sole disputed issue in the case was whether the children were “domiciled” on a reservation for ICWA purposes, the Court confronted the initial question whether Congress intended the definition of “domicile” to be a matter of State law. The Court noted that “the meaning of a federal statute is necessarily a federal question in the sense that its construction remains subject to this Court’s supervision.” *Id.* at 43. The Court further noted the rule of statutory construction that “Congress when it enacts a statute is not making the application of the federal act dependent on state law.” *Id.* The Court explained that one reason for this rule “is that federal statutes are generally intended to have uniform nationwide application” and another reason for the rule is “the danger that the federal program would be impaired if state law were to control.” *Id.* at 43–44.

The Court then discussed its prior holding in *NLRB v. Hearst Publications Inc.*, 322 U.S. 111 (1944), where it rejected an argument that the term “employee” in the Wagner Act should be defined by State law. It quoted that decision’s finding that “[t]he Wagner Act is . . . intended to solve a national problem on a national scale.” 490 U.S. at 44. The Court concluded that what it said of the Wagner Act “applies equally well to the ICWA.” *Id.* In explaining the reasons for this conclusion, the Court noted, *inter alia*, that “Congress was concerned with the rights of Indian families and Indian communities vis-à-vis state authorities” and “that Congress perceived the States and their courts as partly responsible for the problem it intended to correct.” *Id.* at 45. “Under these circumstances, it is most improbable that Congress would have

Section	Respondent	Information collection	Annual number of respondents	Frequency of responses	Annual number of responses	Completion time per response	Total annual burden hours
23.141 .....	State court or State agency.	Notify where records maintained .....	50	167	8,350	0.5	4,175
			.....	.....	98,069	.....	301,811

The annual cost burden to respondents associated with providing notice by certified mail is \$6.74 and the cost of a return receipt green card is \$2.80. For each Indian child-custody proceeding, at least two notices must be sent—one to the parent and one to the Tribe, totaling \$19.08. At an annual estimated 13,000 child welfare proceedings that may involve an “Indian child,” where approximately 650 of these include an interstate transfer (13,650), this totals: \$260,442. In addition, there are approximately 2,578 voluntary proceedings for which parties may choose to provide notice, at a cost of \$49,118. Together, the total cost burden is \$309,630.

Comment was taken on this information collection in the proposed rule, as part of the public notice and comment period proposed rule, in compliance with OMB regulations. One commenter, the California Health and Human Services Agency, Department of Social Services (CHHS) submitted comments specifically in response to the request for comments on the information collection burden.

- *Comment on Proposed § 23.111:* The proposed rule states that notice must be by registered mail, whereas the current 23.11(a) allows for notice by certified mail. To require registered mail will increase costs that undermine noticing under ICWA. *Response:* The statute specifies “registered mail with return receipt requested.” 25 U.S.C. 1912(a). In response to these comments, the Department examined whether certified mail with return receipt requested is allowable under the statute, and determined that it is because certified mail with return receipt requested better meets the goals of prompt, documented notice. The final rule allows for certified mail.

- *Comment on Proposed § 23.104, providing information on how to contact a Tribe:* The rule should clarify BIA’s obligation in gathering the information for the list of Tribe’s designated agents and contact information because the current list is outdated, inefficient, and inconsistently maintained. The list is hampered by publication in the **Federal Register** and BIA should be required to publish updates on the Web. The list

also no longer maintains the historical affiliations, which was helpful. *Response:* BIA is now publishing the list using historical affiliations, as requested, and making the list available on its Web site, where it can be updated more frequently. The rule does not address this because these are procedures internal to the BIA.

- *Comment on Proposed § 23.111(i), requiring notice by both States where child is transferred interstate:* Requiring both the originating State court and receiving State court to provide notice is duplicative and burdensome because notice should only be required in the State where the actual court proceeding is pending. Another commenter stated that the provision appears to apply to transfers between Tribes and States, where notice is unnecessary. *Response:* The final rule deletes this provision.

- *Comment on Proposed § 23.134, requiring BIA to disclose information to adult adoptees:* This section appears to be creating duplicative work of the BIA and States, because both sections require each to provide adult adoptees information for Tribal enrollment. *Response:* The Act imposes this responsibility on both BIA and the State. Section 1951(b) of the Act imposes the responsibility on BIA, which is in § 23.71(b) of the final rule. Section 1917 of the Act imposes the responsibility on States, which is addressed at § 23.134 of the final rule.

- *Comment on Proposed § 23.137, requiring the State to establish a single location for placement records:* This requirement would be an unfunded mandate with undue burden and would require relocating 1,145 files to a different location and require changes to existing recordkeeping systems. Another State agency commented that there is a significant fiscal and annual burden due to the staffing, costs for copying, packaging and transferring physical files to a different location. *Response:* The final rule deletes the provision requiring States to establish a single, central repository. The associated information collection request has also been deleted.

- *Comment on Proposed § 23.137, requiring providing records to the Department or Tribe upon request:* The 15-minute burden estimate allocated to

this task is too low. The time to copy, package and mail the documents will be no less than one hour, but more realistically two hours. *Response:* The final rule updates the burden estimates to reflect 1.5 hours.

If you have comments on this information collection, please submit them to Elizabeth K. Appel, Office of Regulatory Affairs & Collaborative Action—Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW., MS–3071, Washington, DC 20240, or by email to [elizabeth.appel@bia.gov](mailto:elizabeth.appel@bia.gov).

#### J. National Environmental Policy Act

This rule does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment because it is of an administrative, technical, and procedural nature. *See*, 43 CFR 46.210(i). No extraordinary circumstances exist that would require greater review under the National Environmental Policy Act.

#### K. Effects on the Energy Supply (E.O. 13211)

This rule is not a significant energy action under the definition in Executive Order 13211. A Statement of Energy Effects is not required.

#### List of Subjects in 25 CFR Part 23

Administrative practice and procedure, Child welfare, Indians, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

For the reasons stated in the preamble, the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, amends part 23 in Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

#### PART 23—INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT

- 1. The authority citation for part 23 continues to read as follows: 5 U.S.C. 301; 25 U.S.C. 2, 9, 1901–1952.
- 2. In § 23.2:
  - a. Add a definition for “active efforts” in alphabetical order;
  - b. Revise the definition of “child-custody proceeding”;
  - c. Add definitions for “continued custody”, “custody”, and “domicile” in alphabetical order;

- d. Add a definition for “emergency proceeding” in alphabetical order;
- e. Revise the definition of “extended family member”;
- f. Add a definition for “hearing” in alphabetical order;
- g. Revise the definitions of “Indian child”, “Indian child’s Tribe”, and “Indian custodian”;
- h. Add a definition for “Indian foster home” in alphabetical order;
- i. Add a definition of “involuntary proceeding” in alphabetical order;
- j. Revise the definition of “parent”;
- k. Revise the definitions of “reservation” and “Secretary”;
- l. Add a definition for “status offenses” in alphabetical order;
- m. Revise the definition of “Tribal court”; and
- n. Add definitions for “upon demand”, and “voluntary proceeding” in alphabetical order.

The additions and revisions read as follows:

**§ 23.2 Definitions.**

\* \* \* \* \*

*Active efforts* means affirmative, active, thorough, and timely efforts intended primarily to maintain or reunite an Indian child with his or her family. Where an agency is involved in the child-custody proceeding, active efforts must involve assisting the parent or parents or Indian custodian through the steps of a case plan and with accessing or developing the resources necessary to satisfy the case plan. To the maximum extent possible, active efforts should be provided in a manner consistent with the prevailing social and cultural conditions and way of life of the Indian child’s Tribe and should be conducted in partnership with the Indian child and the Indian child’s parents, extended family members, Indian custodians, and Tribe. Active efforts are to be tailored to the facts and circumstances of the case and may include, for example:

- (1) Conducting a comprehensive assessment of the circumstances of the Indian child’s family, with a focus on safe reunification as the most desirable goal;
- (2) Identifying appropriate services and helping the parents to overcome barriers, including actively assisting the parents in obtaining such services;
- (3) Identifying, notifying, and inviting representatives of the Indian child’s Tribe to participate in providing support and services to the Indian child’s family and in family team meetings, permanency planning, and resolution of placement issues;
- (4) Conducting or causing to be conducted a diligent search for the

Indian child’s extended family members, and contacting and consulting with extended family members to provide family structure and support for the Indian child and the Indian child’s parents;

(5) Offering and employing all available and culturally appropriate family preservation strategies and facilitating the use of remedial and rehabilitative services provided by the child’s Tribe;

(6) Taking steps to keep siblings together whenever possible;

(7) Supporting regular visits with parents or Indian custodians in the most natural setting possible as well as trial home visits of the Indian child during any period of removal, consistent with the need to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the child;

(8) Identifying community resources including housing, financial, transportation, mental health, substance abuse, and peer support services and actively assisting the Indian child’s parents or, when appropriate, the child’s family, in utilizing and accessing those resources;

(9) Monitoring progress and participation in services;

(10) Considering alternative ways to address the needs of the Indian child’s parents and, where appropriate, the family, if the optimum services do not exist or are not available;

(11) Providing post-reunification services and monitoring.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Child-custody proceeding.* (1) “Child-custody proceeding” means and includes any action, other than an emergency proceeding, that may culminate in one of the following outcomes:

(i) *Foster-care placement*, which is any action removing an Indian child from his or her parent or Indian custodian for temporary placement in a foster home or institution or the home of a guardian or conservator where the parent or Indian custodian cannot have the child returned upon demand, but where parental rights have not been terminated;

(ii) *Termination of parental rights*, which is any action resulting in the termination of the parent-child relationship;

(iii) *Preadoptive placement*, which is the temporary placement of an Indian child in a foster home or institution after the termination of parental rights, but prior to or in lieu of adoptive placement; or

(iv) *Adoptive placement*, which is the permanent placement of an Indian child for adoption, including any action resulting in a final decree of adoption.

(2) An action that may culminate in one of these four outcomes is considered a separate child-custody proceeding from an action that may culminate in a different one of these four outcomes. There may be several child-custody proceedings involving any given Indian child. Within each child-custody proceeding, there may be several hearings. If a child is placed in foster care or another out-of-home placement as a result of a status offense, that status offense proceeding is a child-custody proceeding.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Continued custody* means physical custody or legal custody or both, under any applicable Tribal law or Tribal custom or State law, that a parent or Indian custodian already has or had at any point in the past. The biological mother of a child has had custody of a child.

*Custody* means physical custody or legal custody or both, under any applicable Tribal law or Tribal custom or State law. A party may demonstrate the existence of custody by looking to Tribal law or Tribal custom or State law.

*Domicile* means:

(1) For a parent or Indian custodian, the place at which a person has been physically present and that the person regards as home; a person’s true, fixed, principal, and permanent home, to which that person intends to return and remain indefinitely even though the person may be currently residing elsewhere.

(2) For an Indian child, the domicile of the Indian child’s parents or Indian custodian or guardian. In the case of an Indian child whose parents are not married to each other, the domicile of the Indian child’s custodial parent.

*Emergency proceeding* means and includes any court action that involves an emergency removal or emergency placement of an Indian child.

*Extended family member* is defined by the law or custom of the Indian child’s Tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, is a person who has reached age 18 and who is the Indian child’s grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Hearing* means a judicial session held for the purpose of deciding issues of fact, of law, or both.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Indian child* means any unmarried person who is under age 18 and either:

- (1) Is a member or citizen of an Indian Tribe; or
- (2) Is eligible for membership or citizenship in an Indian Tribe and is the

biological child of a member/citizen of an Indian Tribe.

*Indian child's Tribe* means:

(1) The Indian Tribe in which an Indian child is a member or eligible for membership; or

(2) In the case of an Indian child who is a member of or eligible for membership in more than one Tribe, the Indian Tribe described in § 23.109.

*Indian custodian* means any Indian who has legal custody of an Indian child under applicable Tribal law or custom or under applicable State law, or to whom temporary physical care, custody, and control has been transferred by the parent of such child. An Indian may demonstrate that he or she is an Indian custodian by looking to Tribal law or Tribal custom or State law.

*Indian foster home* means a foster home where one or more of the licensed or approved foster parents is an "Indian" as defined in 25 U.S.C. 1903(3).

*Involuntary proceeding* means a child-custody proceeding in which the parent does not consent of his or her free will to the foster-care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement or termination of parental rights or in which the parent consents to the foster-care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement under threat of removal of the child by a State court or agency.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Parent or parents* means any biological parent or parents of an Indian child, or any Indian who has lawfully adopted an Indian child, including adoptions under Tribal law or custom. It does not include an unwed biological father where paternity has not been acknowledged or established.

*Reservation* means Indian country as defined in 18 U.S.C 1151 and any lands, not covered under that section, title to which is held by the United States in trust for the benefit of any Indian Tribe or individual or held by any Indian Tribe or individual subject to a restriction by the United States against alienation.

*Secretary* means the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary's authorized representative acting under delegated authority.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Status offenses* mean offenses that would not be considered criminal if committed by an adult; they are acts prohibited only because of a person's status as a minor (e.g., truancy, incorrigibility).

\* \* \* \* \*

*Tribal court* means a court with jurisdiction over child-custody proceedings and which is either a Court

of Indian Offenses, a court established and operated under the code or custom of an Indian Tribe, or any other administrative body of a Tribe vested with authority over child-custody proceedings.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Upon demand* means that the parent or Indian custodian can regain custody simply upon verbal request, without any formalities or contingencies.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Voluntary proceeding* means a child-custody proceeding that is not an involuntary proceeding, such as a proceeding for foster-care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement that either parent, both parents, or the Indian custodian has, of his or her or their free will, without a threat of removal by a State agency, consented to for the Indian child, or a proceeding for voluntary termination of parental rights.

■ 3. Revise § 23.11 to read as follows:

**§ 23.11 Notice.**

(a) In any involuntary proceeding in a State court where the court knows or has reason to know that an Indian child is involved, and where the identity and location of the child's parent or Indian custodian or Tribe is known, the party seeking the foster-care placement of, or termination of parental rights to, an Indian child must directly notify the parents, the Indian custodians, and the child's Tribe by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested, of the pending child-custody proceedings and their right of intervention. Notice must include the requisite information identified in § 23.111, consistent with the confidentiality requirement in § 23.111(d)(6)(ix). Copies of these notices must be sent to the appropriate Regional Director listed in paragraphs (b)(1) through (12) of this section by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested or by personal delivery and must include the information required by § 23.111.

(b)(1) For child-custody proceedings in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, or any territory or possession of the United States, notices must be sent to the following address: Eastern Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700, Nashville, Tennessee 37214.

(2) For child-custody proceedings in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan,

Minnesota, Ohio, or Wisconsin, notices must be sent to the following address: Minneapolis Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 331 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401-2241.

(3) For child-custody proceedings in Nebraska, North Dakota, or South Dakota, notices must be sent to the following address: Aberdeen Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 115 Fourth Avenue SE., Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401.

(4) For child-custody proceedings in Kansas, Texas (except for notices to the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo of El Paso County, Texas), or the western Oklahoma counties of Alfalfa, Beaver, Beckman, Blaine, Caddo, Canadian, Cimarron, Cleveland, Comanche, Cotton, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Grant, Greer, Harmon, Harper, Jackson, Kay, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Lincoln, Logan, Major, Noble, Oklahoma, Pawnee, Payne, Pottawatomie, Roger Mills, Texas, Tillman, Washita, Woods or Woodward, notices must be sent to the following address: Anadarko Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, P.O. Box 368, Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005. Notices to the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo must be sent to the Albuquerque Regional Director at the address listed in paragraph (b)(6) of this section.

(5) For child-custody proceedings in Wyoming or Montana (except for notices to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, Montana), notices must be sent to the following address: Billings Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 316 N. 26th Street, Billings, Montana 59101. Notices to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, Montana, must be sent to the Portland Regional Director at the address listed in paragraph (b)(11) of this section.

(6) For child-custody proceedings in the Texas counties of El Paso and Hudspeth or in Colorado or New Mexico (exclusive of notices to the Navajo Nation from the New Mexico counties listed in paragraph (b)(9) of this section), notices must be sent to the following address: Albuquerque Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 615 First Street, P.O. Box 26567, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125. Notices to the Navajo Nation must be sent to the Navajo Regional Director at the address listed in paragraph (b)(9) of this section.

(7) For child-custody proceedings in Alaska (except for notices to the Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve, Alaska), notices must be sent to the following address: Juneau Regional Director, Bureau of Indian

Affairs, 709 West 9th Street, Juneau, Alaska 99802–1219. Notices to the Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve, Alaska, must be sent to the Portland Regional Director at the address listed in paragraph (b)(11) of this section.

(8) For child-custody proceedings in Arkansas, Missouri, or the eastern Oklahoma counties of Adair, Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Cherokee, Craig, Creek, Choctaw, Coal, Delaware, Garvin, Grady, Haskell, Hughes, Jefferson, Johnson, Latimer, LeFlore, Love, Mayes, McCurtain, McClain, McIntosh, Murray, Muskogee, Nowata, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Osage, Ottawa, Pittsburg, Pontotoc, Pushmataha, Marshall, Rogers, Seminole, Sequoyah, Stephens, Tulsa, Wagoner, or Washington, notices must be sent to the following address: Muskogee Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 101 North Fifth Street, Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401.

(9) For child-custody proceedings in the Arizona counties of Apache, Coconino (except for notices to the Hopi Tribe of Arizona and the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe of Arizona) or Navajo (except for notices to the Hopi Tribe of Arizona); the New Mexico counties of McKinley (except for notices to the Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation), San Juan, or Socorro; or the Utah county of San Juan, notices must be sent to the following address: Navajo Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, P.O. Box 1060, Gallup, New Mexico 87301. Notices to the Hopi and San Juan Southern Paiute Tribes of Arizona must be sent to the Phoenix Regional Director at the address listed in paragraph (b)(10) of this section. Notices to the Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation must be sent to the Albuquerque Regional Director at the address listed in paragraph (b)(6) of this section.

(10) For child-custody proceedings in Arizona (exclusive of notices to the Navajo Nation from those counties listed in paragraph (b)(9) of this section), Nevada, or Utah (exclusive of San Juan County), notices must be sent to the following address: Phoenix Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1 North First Street, P.O. Box 10, Phoenix, Arizona 85001.

(11) For child-custody proceedings in Idaho, Oregon, or Washington, notices must be sent to the following address: Portland Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97232. All notices to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation, located in the Montana counties of Flathead, Lake, Missoula, and Sanders,

must also be sent to the Portland Regional Director.

(12) For child-custody proceedings in California or Hawaii, notices must be sent to the following address: Sacramento Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Federal Office Building, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825.

(c) Upon receipt of the notice, the Secretary will make reasonable documented efforts to locate and notify the child's Tribe and the child's parent or Indian custodian. The Secretary will have 15 days, after receipt of the notice, to notify the child's Tribe and parents or Indian custodians and to send a copy of the notice to the court. If within the 15-day period the Secretary is unable to verify that the child meets the criteria of an Indian child as defined in § 23.2, or is unable to locate the parents or Indian custodians, the Secretary will so inform the court and state how much more time, if any, will be needed to complete the verification or the search. The Secretary will complete all research efforts, even if those efforts cannot be completed before the child-custody proceeding begins.

(d) Upon request from a party to an Indian child-custody proceeding, the Secretary will make a reasonable attempt to identify and locate the child's Tribe, parents, or Indian custodians to assist the party seeking the information.

■ 4. Revise § 23.71 to read as follows:

**§ 23.71 Recordkeeping and information availability.**

(a) The Division of Human Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), is authorized to receive all information and to maintain a central file on all State Indian adoptions. This file is confidential and only designated persons may have access to it.

(b) Upon the request of an adopted Indian who has reached age 18, the adoptive or foster parents of an Indian child, or an Indian Tribe, BIA will disclose such information as may be necessary for purposes of Tribal enrollment or determining any rights or benefits associated with Tribal membership. Where the documents relating to such child contain an affidavit from the biological parent or parents requesting anonymity, BIA must certify to the Indian child's Tribe, where the information warrants, that the child's parentage and other circumstances entitle the child to enrollment under the criteria established by such Tribe.

(c) BIA will ensure that the confidentiality of this information is maintained and that the information is not subject to the Freedom of

Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, as amended.

■ 5. Add subpart I to read as follows:

**Subpart I—Indian Child Welfare Act Proceedings**

**General Provisions**

Sec.

- 23.101 What is the purpose of this subpart?
- 23.102 What terms do I need to know?
- 23.103 When does ICWA apply?
- 23.104 What provisions of this subpart apply to each type of child-custody proceeding?
- 23.105 How do I contact a Tribe under the regulations in this subpart?
- 23.106 How does this subpart interact with State and Federal laws?

**Pretrial Requirements**

- 23.107 How should a State court determine if there is reason to know the child is an Indian child?
- 23.108 Who makes the determination as to whether a child is a member, whether a child is eligible for membership, or whether a biological parent is a member of a Tribe?
- 23.109 How should a State court determine an Indian child's Tribe when the child may be a member or eligible for membership in more than one Tribe?
- 23.110 When must a State court dismiss an action?
- 23.111 What are the notice requirements for a child-custody proceeding involving an Indian child?
- 23.112 What time limits and extensions apply?
- 23.113 What are the standards for emergency proceedings involving an Indian child?
- 23.114 What are the requirements for determining improper removal?

**Petitions To Transfer to Tribal Court**

- 23.115 How are petitions for transfer of a proceeding made?
- 23.116 What happens after a petition for transfer is made?
- 23.117 What are the criteria for ruling on transfer petitions?
- 23.118 How is a determination of "good cause" to deny transfer made?
- 23.119 What happens after a petition for transfer is granted?

**Adjudication of Involuntary Proceedings**

- 23.120 How does the State court ensure that active efforts have been made?
- 23.121 What are the applicable standards of evidence?
- 23.122 Who may serve as a qualified expert witness?
- 23.123 [Reserved]

**Voluntary Proceedings**

- 23.124 What actions must a State court undertake in voluntary proceedings?
- 23.125 How is consent obtained?
- 23.126 What information must a consent document contain?
- 23.127 How is withdrawal of consent to a foster-care placement achieved?

23.128 How is withdrawal of consent to a termination of parental rights or adoption achieved?

**Dispositions**

- 23.129 When do the placement preferences apply?
- 23.130 What placement preferences apply in adoptive placements?
- 23.131 What placement preferences apply in foster-care or preadoptive placements?
- 23.132 How is a determination of “good cause” to depart from the placement preferences made?

**Access**

- 23.133 Should courts allow participation by alternative methods?
- 23.134 Who has access to reports and records during a proceeding?
- 23.135 [Reserved]

**Post-Trial Rights & Responsibilities**

- 23.136 What are the requirements for vacating an adoption based on consent having been obtained through fraud or duress?
- 23.137 Who can petition to invalidate an action for certain ICWA violations?
- 23.138 What are the rights to information about adoptees’ Tribal affiliations?
- 23.139 Must notice be given of a change in an adopted Indian child’s status?

**Recordkeeping**

- 23.140 What information must States furnish to the Bureau of Indian Affairs?
- 23.141 What records must the State maintain?
- 23.142 How does the Paperwork Reduction Act affect this subpart?

**Effective Date**

- 23.143 How does this subpart apply to pending proceedings?

**Severability**

- 23.144 What happens if some portion of this part is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction?

**Subpart I—Indian Child Welfare Act Proceedings**

**General Provisions**

**§ 23.101 What is the purpose of this subpart?**

The regulations in this subpart clarify the minimum Federal standards governing implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) to ensure that ICWA is applied in all States consistent with the Act’s express language, Congress’s intent in enacting the statute, and to promote the stability and security of Indian tribes and families.

**§ 23.102 What terms do I need to know?**

The following terms and their definitions apply to this subpart. All other terms have the meanings assigned in § 23.2.

*Agency* means a nonprofit, for-profit, or governmental organization and its employees, agents, or officials that performs, or provides services to biological parents, foster parents, or adoptive parents to assist in the administrative and social work necessary for foster, preadoptive, or adoptive placements.

*Indian organization* means any group, association, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity owned or controlled by Indians or a Tribe, or a majority of whose members are Indians.

**§ 23.103 When does ICWA apply?**

(a) ICWA includes requirements that apply whenever an Indian child is the subject of:

- (1) A child-custody proceeding, including:
  - (i) An involuntary proceeding;
  - (ii) A voluntary proceeding that could prohibit the parent or Indian custodian from regaining custody of the child upon demand; and
  - (iii) A proceeding involving status offenses if any part of the proceeding results in the need for out-of-home

placement of the child, including a foster-care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement, or termination of parental rights.

- (2) An emergency proceeding.
- (b) ICWA does not apply to:
  - (1) A Tribal court proceeding;
  - (2) A proceeding regarding a criminal act that is not a status offense;
  - (3) An award of custody of the Indian child to one of the parents including, but not limited to, an award in a divorce proceeding; or
  - (4) A voluntary placement that either parent, both parents, or the Indian custodian has, of his or her or their free will, without a threat of removal by a State agency, chosen for the Indian child and that does not operate to prohibit the child’s parent or Indian custodian from regaining custody of the child upon demand.

(c) If a proceeding listed in paragraph (a) of this section concerns a child who meets the statutory definition of “Indian child,” then ICWA will apply to that proceeding. In determining whether ICWA applies to a proceeding, the State court may not consider factors such as the participation of the parents or the Indian child in Tribal cultural, social, religious, or political activities, the relationship between the Indian child and his or her parents, whether the parent ever had custody of the child, or the Indian child’s blood quantum.

(d) If ICWA applies at the commencement of a proceeding, it will not cease to apply simply because the child reaches age 18 during the pendency of the proceeding.

**§ 23.104 What provisions of this subpart apply to each type of child-custody proceeding?**

The following table lists what sections of this subpart apply to each type of child-custody proceeding identified in § 23.103(a):

Section	Type of proceeding
23.101–23.106 (General Provisions) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.
<i>Pretrial Requirements:</i>	
23.107 (How should a State court determine if there is reason to know the child is an Indian child?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.108 (Who makes the determination as to whether a child is a member whether a child is eligible for membership, or whether a biological parent is a member of a Tribe?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.109 (How should a State court determine an Indian child’s Tribe when the child may be a member or eligible for membership in more than one Tribe?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.110 (When must a State court dismiss an action?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.111 (What are the notice requirements for a child-custody proceeding involving an Indian child?) .....	Involuntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.112 (What time limits and extensions apply?) .....	Involuntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.113 (What are the standards for emergency proceedings involving an Indian child?) .....	Emergency.
23.114 (What are the requirements for determining improper removal?) .....	Involuntary.
<i>Petitions to Transfer to Tribal Court:</i>	
23.115 (How are petitions for transfer of a proceeding made?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).

Section	Type of proceeding
23.116 (What happens after a petition for transfer is made?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.117 (What are the criteria for ruling on transfer petitions?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.118 (How is a determination of “good cause” to deny transfer made?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.119 (What happens after a petition for transfer is granted?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
<i>Adjudication of Involuntary Proceedings:</i>	
23.120 (How does the State court ensure that active efforts have been made?) .....	Involuntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.121 (What are the applicable standards of evidence?) .....	Involuntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.122 (Who may serve as a qualified expert witness?) .....	Involuntary (foster-care placement and termination of parental rights).
23.123 Reserved .....	N/A.
<i>Voluntary Proceedings:</i>	
23.124 (What actions must a State court undertake in voluntary proceedings?) .....	Voluntary.
23.125 (How is consent obtained?) .....	Voluntary.
23.126 (What information must a consent document contain?) .....	Voluntary.
23.127 (How is withdrawal of consent to a foster-care placement achieved?) .....	Voluntary.
23.128 (How is withdrawal of consent to a termination of parental rights or adoption achieved?) .....	Voluntary.
<i>Dispositions:</i>	
23.129 (When do the placement preferences apply?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.130 (What placement preferences apply in adoptive placements?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.131 (What placement preferences apply in foster-care or preadoptive placements?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.132 (How is a determination of “good cause” to depart from the placement preferences made?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
<i>Access:</i>	
23.133 (Should courts allow participation by alternative methods?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary.
23.134 (Who has access to reports and records during a proceeding?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary.
23.135 Reserved. ....	N/A.
<i>Post-Trial Rights &amp; Responsibilities:</i>	
23.136 (What are the requirements for vacating an adoption based on consent having been obtained through fraud or duress?) .....	Involuntary (if consent given under threat of removal), voluntary.
23.137 (Who can petition to invalidate an action for certain ICWA violations?) .....	Emergency (to extent it involved a specified violation), involuntary, voluntary.
23.138 (What are the rights to information about adoptees’ Tribal affiliations?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.139 (Must notice be given of a change in an adopted Indian child’s status?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
<i>Recordkeeping:</i>	
23.140 (What information must States furnish to the Bureau of Indian Affairs?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.141 (What records must the State maintain?) .....	Involuntary, Voluntary.
23.142 (How does the Paperwork Reduction Act affect this subpart?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.
<i>Effective Date:</i>	
23.143 (How does this subpart apply to pending proceedings?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.
<i>Severability:</i>	
23.144 (What happens if some portion of part is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction?) .....	Emergency, Involuntary, Voluntary.

**Note:** For purposes of this table, status-offense child-custody proceedings are included as a type of involuntary proceeding.

**§ 23.105 How do I contact a Tribe under the regulations in this subpart?**

To contact a Tribe to provide notice or obtain information or verification under the regulations in this subpart, you should direct the notice or inquiry as follows:

(a) Many Tribes designate an agent for receipt of ICWA notices. The BIA publishes a list of Tribes’ designated Tribal agents for service of ICWA notice in the **Federal Register** each year and makes the list available on its Web site at *www.bia.gov*.

(b) For a Tribe without a designated Tribal agent for service of ICWA notice, contact the Tribe to be directed to the appropriate office or individual.

(c) If you do not have accurate contact information for a Tribe, or the Tribe

contacted fails to respond to written inquiries, you should seek assistance in contacting the Indian Tribe from the BIA local or regional office or the BIA’s Central Office in Washington, DC (see *www.bia.gov*).

**§ 23.106 How does this subpart interact with State and Federal laws?**

(a) The regulations in this subpart provide minimum Federal standards to ensure compliance with ICWA.

(b) Under section 1921 of ICWA, where applicable State or other Federal law provides a higher standard of protection to the rights of the parent or Indian custodian than the protection accorded under the Act, ICWA requires the State or Federal court to apply the higher State or Federal standard.

**Pretrial Requirements**

**§ 23.107 How should a State court determine if there is reason to know the child is an Indian child?**

(a) State courts must ask each participant in an emergency or voluntary or involuntary child-custody proceeding whether the participant knows or has reason to know that the child is an Indian child. The inquiry is made at the commencement of the proceeding and all responses should be on the record. State courts must instruct the parties to inform the court if they subsequently receive information that provides reason to know the child is an Indian child.

(b) If there is reason to know the child is an Indian child, but the court does

not have sufficient evidence to determine that the child is or is not an "Indian child," the court must:

(1) Confirm, by way of a report, declaration, or testimony included in the record that the agency or other party used due diligence to identify and work with all of the Tribes of which there is reason to know the child may be a member (or eligible for membership), to verify whether the child is in fact a member (or a biological parent is a member and the child is eligible for membership); and

(2) Treat the child as an Indian child, unless and until it is determined on the record that the child does not meet the definition of an "Indian child" in this part.

(c) A court, upon conducting the inquiry required in paragraph (a) of this section, has reason to know that a child involved in an emergency or child-custody proceeding is an Indian child if:

(1) Any participant in the proceeding, officer of the court involved in the proceeding, Indian Tribe, Indian organization, or agency informs the court that the child is an Indian child;

(2) Any participant in the proceeding, officer of the court involved in the proceeding, Indian Tribe, Indian organization, or agency informs the court that it has discovered information indicating that the child is an Indian child;

(3) The child who is the subject of the proceeding gives the court reason to know he or she is an Indian child;

(4) The court is informed that the domicile or residence of the child, the child's parent, or the child's Indian custodian is on a reservation or in an Alaska Native village;

(5) The court is informed that the child is or has been a ward of a Tribal court; or

(6) The court is informed that either parent or the child possesses an identification card indicating membership in an Indian Tribe.

(d) In seeking verification of the child's status in a voluntary proceeding where a consenting parent evidences, by written request or statement in the record, a desire for anonymity, the court must keep relevant documents pertaining to the inquiry required under this section confidential and under seal. A request for anonymity does not relieve the court, agency, or other party from any duty of compliance with ICWA, including the obligation to verify whether the child is an "Indian child." A Tribe receiving information related to this inquiry must keep documents and information confidential.

**§ 23.108 Who makes the determination as to whether a child is a member, whether a child is eligible for membership, or whether a biological parent is a member of a Tribe?**

(a) The Indian Tribe of which it is believed the child is a member (or eligible for membership and of which the biological parent is a member) determines whether the child is a member of the Tribe, or whether the child is eligible for membership in the Tribe and a biological parent of the child is a member of the Tribe, except as otherwise provided by Federal or Tribal law.

(b) The determination by a Tribe of whether a child is a member, whether a child is eligible for membership, or whether a biological parent is a member, is solely within the jurisdiction and authority of the Tribe, except as otherwise provided by Federal or Tribal law. The State court may not substitute its own determination regarding a child's membership in a Tribe, a child's eligibility for membership in a Tribe, or a parent's membership in a Tribe.

(c) The State court may rely on facts or documentation indicating a Tribal determination of membership or eligibility for membership in making a judicial determination as to whether the child is an "Indian child." An example of documentation indicating membership is a document issued by the Tribe, such as Tribal enrollment documentation.

**§ 23.109 How should a State court determine an Indian child's Tribe when the child may be a member or eligible for membership in more than one Tribe?**

(a) If the Indian child is a member or eligible for membership in only one Tribe, that Tribe must be designated as the Indian child's Tribe.

(b) If the Indian child meets the definition of "Indian child" through more than one Tribe, deference should be given to the Tribe in which the Indian child is already a member, unless otherwise agreed to by the Tribes.

(c) If an Indian child meets the definition of "Indian child" through more than one Tribe because the child is a member in more than one Tribe or the child is not a member of but is eligible for membership in more than one Tribe, the court must provide the opportunity in any involuntary child-custody proceeding for the Tribes to determine which should be designated as the Indian child's Tribe.

(1) If the Tribes are able to reach an agreement, the agreed-upon Tribe should be designated as the Indian child's Tribe.

(2) If the Tribes are unable to reach an agreement, the State court designates,

for the purposes of ICWA, the Indian Tribe with which the Indian child has the more significant contacts as the Indian child's Tribe, taking into consideration:

(i) Preference of the parents for membership of the child;

(ii) Length of past domicile or residence on or near the reservation of each Tribe;

(iii) Tribal membership of the child's custodial parent or Indian custodian; and

(iv) Interest asserted by each Tribe in the child-custody proceeding;

(v) Whether there has been a previous adjudication with respect to the child by a court of one of the Tribes; and

(vi) Self-identification by the child, if the child is of sufficient age and capacity to meaningfully self-identify.

(3) A determination of the Indian child's Tribe for purposes of ICWA and the regulations in this subpart do not constitute a determination for any other purpose.

**§ 23.110 When must a State court dismiss an action?**

Subject to 25 U.S.C. 1919 (Agreements between States and Indian Tribes) and § 23.113 (emergency proceedings), the following limitations on a State court's jurisdiction apply:

(a) The court in any voluntary or involuntary child-custody proceeding involving an Indian child must determine the residence and domicile of the Indian child. If either the residence or domicile is on a reservation where the Tribe exercises exclusive jurisdiction over child-custody proceedings, the State court must expeditiously notify the Tribal court of the pending dismissal based on the Tribe's exclusive jurisdiction, dismiss the State-court child-custody proceeding, and ensure that the Tribal court is sent all information regarding the Indian child-custody proceeding, including, but not limited to, the pleadings and any court record.

(b) If the child is a ward of a Tribal court, the State court must expeditiously notify the Tribal court of the pending dismissal, dismiss the State-court child-custody proceeding, and ensure that the Tribal court is sent all information regarding the Indian child-custody proceeding, including, but not limited to, the pleadings and any court record.

**§ 23.111 What are the notice requirements for a child-custody proceeding involving an Indian child?**

(a) When a court knows or has reason to know that the subject of an involuntary foster-care-placement or

termination-of-parental-rights proceeding is an Indian child, the court must ensure that:

(1) The party seeking placement promptly sends notice of each such child-custody proceeding (including, but not limited to, any foster-care placement or any termination of parental or custodial rights) in accordance with this section; and

(2) An original or a copy of each notice sent under this section is filed with the court together with any return receipts or other proof of service.

(b) Notice must be sent to:

(1) Each Tribe where the child may be a member (or eligible for membership if a biological parent is a member) (*see* § 23.105 for information on how to contact a Tribe);

(2) The child's parents; and

(3) If applicable, the child's Indian custodian.

(c) Notice must be sent by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested. Notice may also be sent via personal service or electronically, but such alternative methods do not replace the requirement for notice to be sent by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested.

(d) Notice must be in clear and understandable language and include the following:

(1) The child's name, birthdate, and birthplace;

(2) All names known (including maiden, married, and former names or aliases) of the parents, the parents' birthdates and birthplaces, and Tribal enrollment numbers if known;

(3) If known, the names, birthdates, birthplaces, and Tribal enrollment information of other direct lineal ancestors of the child, such as grandparents;

(4) The name of each Indian Tribe in which the child is a member (or may be eligible for membership if a biological parent is a member);

(5) A copy of the petition, complaint, or other document by which the child-custody proceeding was initiated and, if a hearing has been scheduled, information on the date, time, and location of the hearing;

(6) Statements setting out:

(i) The name of the petitioner and the name and address of petitioner's attorney;

(ii) The right of any parent or Indian custodian of the child, if not already a party to the child-custody proceeding, to intervene in the proceedings.

(iii) The Indian Tribe's right to intervene at any time in a State-court proceeding for the foster-care placement of or termination of parental rights to an Indian child.

(iv) That, if the child's parent or Indian custodian is unable to afford counsel based on a determination of indigency by the court, the parent or Indian custodian has the right to court-appointed counsel.

(v) The right to be granted, upon request, up to 20 additional days to prepare for the child-custody proceedings.

(vi) The right of the parent or Indian custodian and the Indian child's Tribe to petition the court for transfer of the foster-care-placement or termination-of-parental-rights proceeding to Tribal court as provided by 25 U.S.C. 1911 and § 23.115.

(vii) The mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the court and information related to all parties to the child-custody proceeding and individuals notified under this section.

(viii) The potential legal consequences of the child-custody proceedings on the future parental and custodial rights of the parent or Indian custodian.

(ix) That all parties notified must keep confidential the information contained in the notice and the notice should not be handled by anyone not needing the information to exercise rights under ICWA.

(e) If the identity or location of the child's parents, the child's Indian custodian, or the Tribes in which the Indian child is a member or eligible for membership cannot be ascertained, but there is reason to know the child is an Indian child, notice of the child-custody proceeding must be sent to the appropriate Bureau of Indian Affairs Regional Director (*see* [www.bia.gov](http://www.bia.gov)). To establish Tribal identity, as much information as is known regarding the child's direct lineal ancestors should be provided. The Bureau of Indian Affairs will not make a determination of Tribal membership but may, in some instances, be able to identify Tribes to contact.

(f) If there is a reason to know that a parent or Indian custodian possesses limited English proficiency and is therefore not likely to understand the contents of the notice, the court must provide language access services as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and other Federal laws. To secure such translation or interpretation support, a court may contact or direct a party to contact the Indian child's Tribe or the local BIA office for assistance in locating and obtaining the name of a qualified translator or interpreter.

(g) If a parent or Indian custodian of an Indian child appears in court without an attorney, the court must inform him or her of his or her rights, including any

applicable right to appointed counsel, right to request that the child-custody proceeding be transferred to Tribal court, right to object to such transfer, right to request additional time to prepare for the child-custody proceeding as provided in § 23.112, and right (if the parent or Indian custodian is not already a party) to intervene in the child-custody proceedings.

#### **§ 23.112 What time limits and extensions apply?**

(a) No foster-care-placement or termination-of-parental-rights proceeding may be held until at least 10 days after receipt of the notice by the parent (or Indian custodian) and by the Tribe (or the Secretary). The parent, Indian custodian, and Tribe each have a right, upon request, to be granted up to 20 additional days from the date upon which notice was received to prepare for participation in the proceeding.

(b) Except as provided in 25 U.S.C. 1922 and § 23.113, no child-custody proceeding for foster-care placement or termination of parental rights may be held until the waiting periods to which the parents or Indian custodians and to which the Indian child's Tribe are entitled have expired, as follows:

(1) 10 days after each parent or Indian custodian (or Secretary where the parent or Indian custodian is unknown to the petitioner) has received notice of that particular child-custody proceeding in accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1912(a) and § 23.111;

(2) 10 days after the Indian child's Tribe (or the Secretary if the Indian child's Tribe is unknown to the party seeking placement) has received notice of that particular child-custody proceeding in accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1912(a) and § 23.111;

(3) Up to 30 days after the parent or Indian custodian has received notice of that particular child-custody proceeding in accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1912(a) and § 23.111, if the parent or Indian custodian has requested up to 20 additional days to prepare for the child-custody proceeding as provided in 25 U.S.C. 1912(a) and § 23.111; and

(4) Up to 30 days after the Indian child's Tribe has received notice of that particular child-custody proceeding in accordance with 25 U.S.C. 1912(a) and § 23.111, if the Indian child's Tribe has requested up to 20 additional days to prepare for the child-custody proceeding.

(c) Additional time beyond the minimum required by 25 U.S.C. 1912 and § 23.111 may also be available under State law or pursuant to extensions granted by the court.

**§ 23.113 What are the standards for emergency proceedings involving an Indian child?**

(a) Any emergency removal or placement of an Indian child under State law must terminate immediately when the removal or placement is no longer necessary to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the child.

(b) The State court must:

(1) Make a finding on the record that the emergency removal or placement is necessary to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the child;

(2) Promptly hold a hearing on whether the emergency removal or placement continues to be necessary whenever new information indicates that the emergency situation has ended; and

(3) At any court hearing during the emergency proceeding, determine whether the emergency removal or placement is no longer necessary to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the child.

(4) Immediately terminate (or ensure that the agency immediately terminates) the emergency proceeding once the court or agency possesses sufficient evidence to determine that the emergency removal or placement is no longer necessary to prevent imminent physical damage or harm to the child.

(c) An emergency proceeding can be terminated by one or more of the following actions:

(1) Initiation of a child-custody proceeding subject to the provisions of ICWA;

(2) Transfer of the child to the jurisdiction of the appropriate Indian Tribe; or

(3) Restoring the child to the parent or Indian custodian.

(d) A petition for a court order authorizing the emergency removal or continued emergency placement, or its accompanying documents, should contain a statement of the risk of imminent physical damage or harm to the Indian child and any evidence that the emergency removal or placement continues to be necessary to prevent such imminent physical damage or harm to the child. The petition or its accompanying documents should also contain the following information:

(1) The name, age, and last known address of the Indian child;

(2) The name and address of the child's parents and Indian custodians, if any;

(3) The steps taken to provide notice to the child's parents, custodians, and Tribe about the emergency proceeding;

(4) If the child's parents and Indian custodians are unknown, a detailed explanation of what efforts have been

made to locate and contact them, including contact with the appropriate BIA Regional Director (see [www.bia.gov](http://www.bia.gov));

(5) The residence and the domicile of the Indian child;

(6) If either the residence or the domicile of the Indian child is believed to be on a reservation or in an Alaska Native village, the name of the Tribe affiliated with that reservation or village;

(7) The Tribal affiliation of the child and of the parents or Indian custodians;

(8) A specific and detailed account of the circumstances that led the agency responsible for the emergency removal of the child to take that action;

(9) If the child is believed to reside or be domiciled on a reservation where the Tribe exercises exclusive jurisdiction over child-custody matters, a statement of efforts that have been made and are being made to contact the Tribe and transfer the child to the Tribe's jurisdiction; and

(10) A statement of the efforts that have been taken to assist the parents or Indian custodians so the Indian child may safely be returned to their custody.

(e) An emergency proceeding regarding an Indian child should not be continued for more than 30 days unless the court makes the following determinations:

(1) Restoring the child to the parent or Indian custodian would subject the child to imminent physical damage or harm;

(2) The court has been unable to transfer the proceeding to the jurisdiction of the appropriate Indian Tribe; and

(3) It has not been possible to initiate a "child-custody proceeding" as defined in § 23.2.

**§ 23.114 What are the requirements for determining improper removal?**

(a) If, in the course of any child-custody proceeding, any party asserts or the court has reason to believe that the Indian child may have been improperly removed from the custody of his or her parent or Indian custodian, or that the Indian child has been improperly retained (such as after a visit or other temporary relinquishment of custody), the court must expeditiously determine whether there was improper removal or retention.

(b) If the court finds that the Indian child was improperly removed or retained, the court must terminate the proceeding and the child must be returned immediately to his or her parent or Indian custodian, unless returning the child to his parent or Indian custodian would subject the

child to substantial and immediate danger or threat of such danger.

**Petitions To Transfer to Tribal Court**

**§ 23.115 How are petitions for transfer of a proceeding made?**

(a) Either parent, the Indian custodian, or the Indian child's Tribe may request, at any time, orally on the record or in writing, that the State court transfer a foster-care or termination-of-parental-rights proceeding to the jurisdiction of the child's Tribe.

(b) The right to request a transfer is available at any stage in each foster-care or termination-of-parental-rights proceeding.

**§ 23.116 What happens after a petition for transfer is made?**

Upon receipt of a transfer petition, the State court must ensure that the Tribal court is promptly notified in writing of the transfer petition. This notification may request a timely response regarding whether the Tribal court wishes to decline the transfer.

**§ 23.117 What are the criteria for ruling on transfer petitions?**

Upon receipt of a transfer petition from an Indian child's parent, Indian custodian, or Tribe, the State court must transfer the child-custody proceeding unless the court determines that transfer is not appropriate because one or more of the following criteria are met:

(a) Either parent objects to such transfer;

(b) The Tribal court declines the transfer; or

(c) Good cause exists for denying the transfer.

**§ 23.118 How is a determination of "good cause" to deny transfer made?**

(a) If the State court believes, or any party asserts, that good cause to deny transfer exists, the reasons for that belief or assertion must be stated orally on the record or provided in writing on the record and to the parties to the child-custody proceeding.

(b) Any party to the child-custody proceeding must have the opportunity to provide the court with views regarding whether good cause to deny transfer exists.

(c) In determining whether good cause exists, the court must not consider:

(1) Whether the foster-care or termination-of-parental-rights proceeding is at an advanced stage if the Indian child's parent, Indian custodian, or Tribe did not receive notice of the child-custody proceeding until an advanced stage;

(2) Whether there have been prior proceedings involving the child for which no petition to transfer was filed;

(3) Whether transfer could affect the placement of the child;

(4) The Indian child's cultural connections with the Tribe or its reservation; or

(5) Socioeconomic conditions or any negative perception of Tribal or BIA social services or judicial systems.

(d) The basis for any State-court decision to deny transfer should be stated orally on the record or in a written order.

**§ 23.119 What happens after a petition for transfer is granted?**

(a) If the Tribal court accepts the transfer, the State court should expeditiously provide the Tribal court with all records related to the proceeding, including, but not limited to, the pleadings and any court record.

(b) The State court should work with the Tribal court to ensure that the transfer of the custody of the Indian child and of the proceeding is accomplished smoothly and in a way that minimizes the disruption of services to the family.

**Adjudication of Involuntary Proceedings**

**§ 23.120 How does the State court ensure that active efforts have been made?**

(a) Prior to ordering an involuntary foster-care placement or termination of parental rights, the court must conclude that active efforts have been made to prevent the breakup of the Indian family and that those efforts have been unsuccessful.

(b) Active efforts must be documented in detail in the record.

**§ 23.121 What are the applicable standards of evidence?**

(a) The court must not order a foster-care placement of an Indian child unless clear and convincing evidence is presented, including the testimony of one or more qualified expert witnesses, demonstrating that the child's continued custody by the child's parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child.

(b) The court must not order a termination of parental rights for an Indian child unless evidence beyond a reasonable doubt is presented, including the testimony of one or more qualified expert witnesses, demonstrating that the child's continued custody by the child's parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child.

(c) For a foster-care placement or termination of parental rights, the evidence must show a causal relationship between the particular

conditions in the home and the likelihood that continued custody of the child will result in serious emotional or physical damage to the particular child who is the subject of the child-custody proceeding.

(d) Without a causal relationship identified in paragraph (c) of this section, evidence that shows only the existence of community or family poverty, isolation, single parenthood, custodian age, crowded or inadequate housing, substance abuse, or nonconforming social behavior does not by itself constitute clear and convincing evidence or evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that continued custody is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child.

**§ 23.122 Who may serve as a qualified expert witness?**

(a) A qualified expert witness must be qualified to testify regarding whether the child's continued custody by the parent or Indian custodian is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child and should be qualified to testify as to the prevailing social and cultural standards of the Indian child's Tribe. A person may be designated by the Indian child's Tribe as being qualified to testify to the prevailing social and cultural standards of the Indian child's Tribe.

(b) The court or any party may request the assistance of the Indian child's Tribe or the BIA office serving the Indian child's Tribe in locating persons qualified to serve as expert witnesses.

(c) The social worker regularly assigned to the Indian child may not serve as a qualified expert witness in child-custody proceedings concerning the child.

**§ 23.123 [Reserved]**

**Voluntary Proceedings**

**§ 23.124 What actions must a State court undertake in voluntary proceedings?**

(a) The State court must require the participants in a voluntary proceeding to state on the record whether the child is an Indian child, or whether there is reason to believe the child is an Indian child, as provided in § 23.107.

(b) If there is reason to believe the child is an Indian child, the State court must ensure that the party seeking placement has taken all reasonable steps to verify the child's status. This may include contacting the Tribe of which it is believed the child is a member (or eligible for membership and of which the biological parent is a member) to verify the child's status. As described in § 23.107, where a consenting parent

requests anonymity, a Tribe receiving such information must keep relevant documents and information confidential.

(c) State courts must ensure that the placement for the Indian child complies with §§ 23.129–23.132.

**§ 23.125 How is consent obtained?**

(a) A parent's or Indian custodian's consent to a voluntary termination of parental rights or to a foster-care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement must be executed in writing and recorded before a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) Prior to accepting the consent, the court must explain to the parent or Indian custodian:

(1) The terms and consequences of the consent in detail; and

(2) The following limitations, applicable to the type of child-custody proceeding for which consent is given, on withdrawal of consent:

(i) For consent to foster-care placement, the parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent for any reason, at any time, and have the child returned; or

(ii) For consent to termination of parental rights, the parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent for any reason, at any time prior to the entry of the final decree of termination and have the child returned; or

(iii) For consent to an adoptive placement, the parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent for any reason, at any time prior to the entry of the final decree of adoption, and have the child returned.

(c) The court must certify that the terms and consequences of the consent were explained on the record in detail in English (or the language of the parent or Indian custodian, if English is not the primary language) and were fully understood by the parent or Indian custodian.

(d) Where confidentiality is requested or indicated, execution of consent need not be made in a session of court open to the public but still must be made before a court of competent jurisdiction in compliance with this section.

(e) A consent given prior to, or within 10 days after, the birth of an Indian child is not valid.

**§ 23.126 What information must a consent document contain?**

(a) If there are any conditions to the consent, the written consent must clearly set out the conditions.

(b) A written consent to foster-care placement should contain, in addition to the information specified in paragraph (a) of this section, the name

and birthdate of the Indian child; the name of the Indian child's Tribe; the Tribal enrollment number for the parent and for the Indian child, where known, or some other indication of the child's membership in the Tribe; the name, address, and other identifying information of the consenting parent or Indian custodian; the name and address of the person or entity, if any, who arranged the placement; and the name and address of the prospective foster parents, if known at the time.

**§ 23.127 How is withdrawal of consent to a foster-care placement achieved?**

(a) The parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent to voluntary foster-care placement at any time.

(b) To withdraw consent, the parent or Indian custodian must file a written document with the court or otherwise testify before the court. Additional methods of withdrawing consent may be available under State law.

(c) When a parent or Indian custodian withdraws consent to a voluntary foster-care placement, the court must ensure that the Indian child is returned to that parent or Indian custodian as soon as practicable.

**§ 23.128 How is withdrawal of consent to a termination of parental rights or adoption achieved?**

(a) A parent may withdraw consent to voluntary termination of parental rights at any time prior to the entry of a final decree of termination.

(b) A parent or Indian custodian may withdraw consent to voluntary adoption at any time prior to the entry of a final decree of adoption.

(c) To withdraw consent prior to the entry of a final decree of adoption, the parent or Indian custodian must file a written document with the court or otherwise testify before the court. Additional methods of withdrawing consent may be available under State law.

(d) The court in which the withdrawal of consent is filed must promptly notify the person or entity who arranged any voluntary preadoptive or adoptive placement of such filing, and the Indian child must be returned to the parent or Indian custodian as soon as practicable.

**Dispositions**

**§ 23.129 When do the placement preferences apply?**

(a) In any preadoptive, adoptive, or foster-care placement of an Indian child, the placement preferences specified in § 23.130 and § 23.131 apply.

(b) Where a consenting parent requests anonymity in a voluntary proceeding, the court must give weight

to the request in applying the preferences.

(c) The placement preferences must be applied in any foster-care, preadoptive, or adoptive placement unless there is a determination on the record that good cause under § 23.132 exists to not apply those placement preferences.

**§ 23.130 What placement preferences apply in adoptive placements?**

(a) In any adoptive placement of an Indian child under State law, where the Indian child's Tribe has not established a different order of preference under paragraph (b) of this section, preference must be given in descending order, as listed below, to placement of the child with:

(1) A member of the Indian child's extended family;

(2) Other members of the Indian child's Tribe; or

(3) Other Indian families.

(b) If the Indian child's Tribe has established by resolution a different order of preference than that specified in ICWA, the Tribe's placement preferences apply.

(c) The court must, where appropriate, also consider the placement preference of the Indian child or Indian child's parent.

**§ 23.131 What placement preferences apply in foster-care or preadoptive placements?**

(a) In any foster-care or preadoptive placement of an Indian child under State law, including changes in foster-care or preadoptive placements, the child must be placed in the least-restrictive setting that:

(1) Most approximates a family, taking into consideration sibling attachment;

(2) Allows the Indian child's special needs (if any) to be met; and

(3) Is in reasonable proximity to the Indian child's home, extended family, or siblings.

(b) In any foster-care or preadoptive placement of an Indian child under State law, where the Indian child's Tribe has not established a different order of preference under paragraph (c) of this section, preference must be given, in descending order as listed below, to placement of the child with:

(1) A member of the Indian child's extended family;

(2) A foster home that is licensed, approved, or specified by the Indian child's Tribe;

(3) An Indian foster home licensed or approved by an authorized non-Indian licensing authority; or

(4) An institution for children approved by an Indian Tribe or operated

by an Indian organization which has a program suitable to meet the child's needs.

(c) If the Indian child's Tribe has established by resolution a different order of preference than that specified in ICWA, the Tribe's placement preferences apply, so long as the placement is the least-restrictive setting appropriate to the particular needs of the Indian child, as provided in paragraph (a) of this section.

(d) The court must, where appropriate, also consider the preference of the Indian child or the Indian child's parent.

**§ 23.132 How is a determination of "good cause" to depart from the placement preferences made?**

(a) If any party asserts that good cause not to follow the placement preferences exists, the reasons for that belief or assertion must be stated orally on the record or provided in writing to the parties to the child-custody proceeding and the court.

(b) The party seeking departure from the placement preferences should bear the burden of proving by clear and convincing evidence that there is "good cause" to depart from the placement preferences.

(c) A court's determination of good cause to depart from the placement preferences must be made on the record or in writing and should be based on one or more of the following considerations:

(1) The request of one or both of the Indian child's parents, if they attest that they have reviewed the placement options, if any, that comply with the order of preference;

(2) The request of the child, if the child is of sufficient age and capacity to understand the decision that is being made;

(3) The presence of a sibling attachment that can be maintained only through a particular placement;

(4) The extraordinary physical, mental, or emotional needs of the Indian child, such as specialized treatment services that may be unavailable in the community where families who meet the placement preferences live;

(5) The unavailability of a suitable placement after a determination by the court that a diligent search was conducted to find suitable placements meeting the preference criteria, but none has been located. For purposes of this analysis, the standards for determining whether a placement is unavailable must conform to the prevailing social and cultural standards of the Indian community in which the Indian child's parent or extended family resides or

with which the Indian child's parent or extended family members maintain social and cultural ties.

(d) A placement may not depart from the preferences based on the socioeconomic status of any placement relative to another placement.

(e) A placement may not depart from the preferences based solely on ordinary bonding or attachment that flowed from time spent in a non-preferred placement that was made in violation of ICWA.

#### Access

##### **§ 23.133 Should courts allow participation by alternative methods?**

If it possesses the capability, the court should allow alternative methods of participation in State-court child-custody proceedings involving an Indian child, such as participation by telephone, videoconferencing, or other methods.

##### **§ 23.134 Who has access to reports and records during a proceeding?**

Each party to an emergency proceeding or a foster-care-placement or termination-of-parental-rights proceeding under State law involving an Indian child has a right to timely examine all reports and other documents filed or lodged with the court upon which any decision with respect to such action may be based.

##### **§ 23.135 [Reserved]**

#### Post-Trial Rights & Responsibilities

##### **§ 23.136 What are the requirements for vacating an adoption based on consent having been obtained through fraud or duress?**

(a) Within two years after a final decree of adoption of any Indian child by a State court, or within any longer period of time permitted by the law of the State, the State court may invalidate the voluntary adoption upon finding that the parent's consent was obtained by fraud or duress.

(b) Upon the parent's filing of a petition to vacate the final decree of adoption of the parent's Indian child, the court must give notice to all parties to the adoption proceedings and the Indian child's Tribe and must hold a hearing on the petition.

(c) Where the court finds that the parent's consent was obtained through fraud or duress, the court must vacate the final decree of adoption, order the consent revoked, and order that the child be returned to the parent.

##### **§ 23.137 Who can petition to invalidate an action for certain ICWA violations?**

(a) Any of the following may petition any court of competent jurisdiction to

invalidate an action for foster-care placement or termination of parental rights under state law where it is alleged that 25 U.S.C. 1911, 1912, or 1913 has been violated:

(1) An Indian child who is or was the subject of any action for foster-care placement or termination of parental rights;

(2) A parent or Indian custodian from whose custody such child was removed; and

(3) The Indian child's Tribe.

(b) Upon a showing that an action for foster-care placement or termination of parental rights violated any provision of 25 U.S.C. 1911, 1912, or 1913, the court must determine whether it is appropriate to invalidate the action.

(c) To petition for invalidation, there is no requirement that the petitioner's rights under ICWA were violated; rather, a petitioner may challenge the action based on any violations of 25 U.S.C. 1911, 1912, or 1913 during the course of the child-custody proceeding.

##### **§ 23.138 What are the rights to information about adoptees' Tribal affiliations?**

Upon application by an Indian who has reached age 18 who was the subject of an adoptive placement, the court that entered the final decree of adoption must inform such individual of the Tribal affiliations, if any, of the individual's biological parents and provide such other information necessary to protect any rights, which may include Tribal membership, resulting from the individual's Tribal relationship.

##### **§ 23.139 Must notice be given of a change in an adopted Indian child's status?**

(a) If an Indian child has been adopted, the court must notify, by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested, the child's biological parent or prior Indian custodian and the Indian child's Tribe whenever:

(1) A final decree of adoption of the Indian child has been vacated or set aside; or

(2) The adoptive parent has voluntarily consented to the termination of his or her parental rights to the child.

(b) The notice must state the current name, and any former name, of the Indian child, inform the recipient of the right to petition for return of custody of the child, and provide sufficient information to allow the recipient to participate in any scheduled hearings.

(c) A parent or Indian custodian may waive his or her right to such notice by executing a written waiver of notice and filing the waiver with the court.

(1) Prior to accepting the waiver, the court must explain the consequences of

the waiver and explain how the waiver may be revoked.

(2) The court must certify that the terms and consequences of the waiver and how the waiver may be revoked were explained in detail in English (or the language of the parent or Indian custodian, if English is not the primary language), and were fully understood by the parent or Indian custodian.

(3) Where confidentiality is requested or indicated, execution of the waiver need not be made in a session of court open to the public but still must be made before a court of competent jurisdiction in compliance with this section.

(4) The biological parent or Indian custodian may revoke the waiver at any time by filing with the court a written notice of revocation.

(5) A revocation of the right to receive notice does not affect any child-custody proceeding that was completed before the filing of the notice of revocation.

#### Recordkeeping

##### **§ 23.140 What information must States furnish to the Bureau of Indian Affairs?**

(a) Any State court entering a final adoption decree or order in any voluntary or involuntary Indian-child adoptive placement must furnish a copy of the decree or order within 30 days to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Chief, Division of Human Services, 1849 C Street NW., Mail Stop 4513 MIB, Washington, DC 20240, along with the following information, in an envelope marked "Confidential":

(1) Birth name and birthdate of the Indian child, and Tribal affiliation and name of the Indian child after adoption;

(2) Names and addresses of the biological parents;

(3) Names and addresses of the adoptive parents;

(4) Name and contact information for any agency having files or information relating to the adoption;

(5) Any affidavit signed by the biological parent or parents asking that their identity remain confidential; and

(6) Any information relating to Tribal membership or eligibility for Tribal membership of the adopted child.

(b) If a State agency has been designated as the repository for all State-court adoption information and is fulfilling the duties described in paragraph (a) of this section, the State courts in that State need not fulfill those same duties.

##### **§ 23.141 What records must the State maintain?**

(a) The State must maintain a record of every voluntary or involuntary foster-care, preadoptive, and adoptive

placement of an Indian child and make the record available within 14 days of a request by an Indian child's Tribe or the Secretary.

(b) The record must contain, at a minimum, the petition or complaint, all substantive orders entered in the child-custody proceeding, the complete record of the placement determination (including, but not limited to, the findings in the court record and the social worker's statement), and, if the placement departs from the placement preferences, detailed documentation of the efforts to comply with the placement preferences.

(c) A State agency or agencies may be designated to be the repository for this information. The State court or agency should notify the BIA whether these records are maintained within the court system or by a State agency.

**§ 23.142 How does the Paperwork Reduction Act affect this subpart?**

The collections of information contained in this part have been approved by the Office of Management

and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and assigned OMB Control Number 1076-0186. Response is required to obtain a benefit. A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and you are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the form or regulation requesting the information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. Send comments regarding this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer—Indian Affairs, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240.

**Effective Date**

**§ 23.143 How does this subpart apply to pending proceedings?**

None of the provisions of this subpart affects a proceeding under State law for foster-care placement, termination of parental rights, preadoptive placement, or adoptive placement that was initiated prior to December 12, 2016, but the provisions of this subpart apply to any subsequent proceeding in the same

matter or subsequent proceedings affecting the custody or placement of the same child.

**Severability**

**§ 23.144 What happens if some portion of this part is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction?**

If any portion of this part is determined to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the other portions of the part remain in effect. For example, the Department has considered separately whether the provisions of this part apply to involuntary and voluntary proceedings; thus, if a particular provision is held to be invalid as to one type of proceeding, it is the Department's intent that it remains valid as to the other type of proceeding.

Dated: June 6, 2016.

**Lawrence S. Roberts,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

[FR Doc. 2016-13686 Filed 6-13-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-02-P**

Minnesota .....	3.2
Mississippi .....	3.1
Missouri .....	2.8
Montana .....	3.3
Nebraska .....	3.2
Nevada .....	3.1
New Hampshire .....	2.4
New Jersey .....	3.0
New Mexico .....	3.4
New York .....	2.9
North Carolina .....	3.2
North Dakota .....	3.0
Ohio .....	2.8
Oklahoma .....	2.8
Oregon .....	3.2
Pacific Islands .....	1.8
Pennsylvania .....	2.8
Puerto Rico .....	2.9
Rhode Island .....	2.7
South Carolina .....	3.0
South Dakota .....	3.1
Tennessee .....	3.0
Texas .....	3.3
Utah .....	3.3
Vermont .....	3.0
Virgin Islands .....	2.6
Virginia .....	3.2
Washington .....	3.2
West Virginia .....	3.3
Wisconsin .....	3.3
Wyoming .....	3.1
United States .....	3.1

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Evangeline M. Campbell, Chief, Division of Human Services, Office of Indian Services, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 3641–MIB, Washington, DC 20240; Phone: (202) 513–7621; Email: [Evangeline.campbell@bia.gov](mailto:Evangeline.campbell@bia.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The regulations implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act, 25 U.S.C. 1901 *et seq.*, provide that Federally recognized Tribes may designate an agent other than the Tribal Chairman for service of notice of proceedings under the Act. See 25 CFR 23.12. The Secretary of the Interior is required to update and publish in the **Federal Register** as necessary the names and addresses of the designated Tribal agents. This notice is published in exercise of authority delegated by the Secretary of the Interior to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

In any involuntary proceeding in a State court where the court knows or has reason to know that an Indian child is involved, and where the identity and location of the child’s parent or Indian custodian or Tribe is known, the party seeking the foster-care placement of, or termination of parental rights to, an Indian child must directly notify the parents, the Indian custodians, and the child’s Tribe by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested, of the pending child-custody proceedings and their right of intervention. Copies of these notices must be sent to the appropriate Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Regional Director by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested or by personal delivery. See 25 CFR 23.11. No notices are required to be sent to the Secretary’s office or the BIA Central Office, except for final adoption decrees. Final adoption decrees are required to be sent to the BIA Central Office in Washington, DC.

If the identity or location of the child’s parents, the child’s Indian custodian, or the Federally Recognized Tribe(s) in which the Indian child is a

member or eligible for membership cannot be ascertained, but there is reason to know the child is an Indian child, notice of the child-custody proceeding must be sent to the appropriate BIA Regional Director (see [www.bia.gov](http://www.bia.gov)). See 25 CFR 23.111.

This notice presents, the names and addresses of current designated Tribal agents for service of notice, and includes each designated Tribal agent received by the Secretary of the Interior prior to the date of this publication. Part A, published in this notice, lists designated Tribal agents by BIA Region and alphabetically by Tribe within each of the 12 BIA Regions. Part A is also available electronically at: <https://www.bia.gov/bia/ois>.

In between the BIA’s annual **Federal Register** publication the ICWA Designated Agent List, it will also be available on the [IndianAffairs.gov](http://IndianAffairs.gov) website, the link is: <https://www.bia.gov/bia/ois/dhs/icwa>.

ICWA Designated agents will be updated every three months on the website link to assist the public.

**A. List of Designated Tribal Agents by BIA Region**

1. Alaska Region
2. Eastern Region
3. Eastern Oklahoma Region
4. Great Plains Region
5. Midwest Region
6. Navajo Region
7. Northwest Region
8. Pacific Region
9. Rocky Mountain Region
10. Southern Plains Region
11. Southwest Region
12. Western Region

**A. List of Designated Tribal Agents by BIA Region**

*1. Alaska Region*

Alaska Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Human Services, 3601 C Street, Suite #1200 MC–403, Anchorage, Alaska 99503; Phone: (907) 271–4111; Fax: 907 271–4083.

[FR Doc. 2021–21511 Filed 10–1–21; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 4210–67–P

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Bureau of Indian Affairs**

[212A2100DD/AAKC001030/  
AOA501010.999900 253G]

**Indian Child Welfare Act; Designated Tribal Agents for Service of Notice**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indians Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The regulations implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act provide that Federally recognized Indian Tribes may designate an agent other than the Tribal Chairman for service of notice of proceedings under the Act. This notice includes the current list of designated Tribal agents for service of notice.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:amandam@apiai.org">amandam@apiai.org</a> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association Inc., 1131 East International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276–2700	(907) 222–9735
Akiachak Native Community .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543–8691	(907) 543–7644
Akiak Native Community .....	Olinka Jones, ICWA Director .....	P.O. Box 52127, Akiak, AK 99552 .....	(907) 765–7112	(907) 765–7512
Alatna Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:akiakicwadept@gmail.com">akiakicwadept@gmail.com</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452–8251	(907) 459–3984
Algaaciq Native Village (St. Mary’s) .....	Sven Paulkan, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:Spaukan187@gmail.com">Spaukan187@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 48, St. Mary’s, AK 99658 .....	(907) 438–2932	(907) 438–2227
Allakaket Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452–8251	(907) 459–3984

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Alutiq Tribe of Old Harbor .....	Alyssa Brenteson, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:abrenteson@alutiqtribe.org">abrenteson@alutiqtribe.org</a> .	P.O. Box 62, Old Harbor, AK 99643 .....	(907) 286-2215	(907) 286-2350
Angoon Community Association .....	Marlene Zuboff, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:mzuboff.agntribe10@gmail.com">mzuboff.agntribe10@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 328, Angoon, AK 99820 .....	(907) 788-3411	(907) 788-3412
Anvik Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Arctic Village .....	Margorie Gemmill, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:Margoriegemmillava@gmail.com">Margoriegemmillava@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 22069, Arctic Village, AK 99722.	(907) 587-5523	(907) 587-5128
Asa'carsarmiut Tribe .....	Darlene Peterson, Director of Social Services & Education I/II, <a href="mailto:atcicwa@gic.net">atcicwa@gic.net</a> .	P.O. Box 32107, Mountain Village, AK 99632.	(907) 591-2428	(907) 591-2934
Native Village of Atkasuk .....	Joshua Stein, Director of Social Services, <a href="mailto:Joshua.stein@arcticslope.org">Joshua.stein@arcticslope.org</a> .	Arctic Slope Native Association, P.O. Box 2153, Utqiagvik, AK 99723.	(907) 852-9374	(907) 852-2761
Beaver Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Birch Creek Tribe .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes.	Barbara Dude, Family Services Administrator, <a href="mailto:icwamail@cchitha-nsn.gov">icwamail@cchitha-nsn.gov</a> .	320 West Willoughby Avenue, Ste #300, Juneau, AK 99801.	(907) 463-7169	(907) 885-0032
Chalkyitsik Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:Miriam.titus@tanachiefs.org">Miriam.titus@tanachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Cheesh-Na Tribe .....	Agnes Denny, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:agnesadenny@gmail.com">agnesadenny@gmail.com</a> .	HC01 Box 217, Gakona, AK 99586 .....	(907) 822-3503	(907) 822-5179
Chevak Native Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Chickaloon Native Village .....	Corrina Atkinson, Health, Education, & Social Services Director/ICWA Program Manager, <a href="mailto:caatkings@chickaloon-nsn.gov">caatkings@chickaloon-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 1105, Cicchickaloon, AK 99674.	(907) 745-0794	(907) 745-0704
Chignik Bay Tribal Council .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Chignik Lake Village .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Chilkat Indian Village (Klukwan) .....	Carrie-Ann Durr, ICWA Case Worker, <a href="mailto:edurr@chilkat-nsn.gov">edurr@chilkat-nsn.gov</a> .	HC 60 Box 2207, Haines, AK 99827 .....	(907) 767-5505	(907) 767-5408
Chilkoot Indian Association (Haines) .....	Barbara Dude, Family Services Administrator, <a href="mailto:icwamail@cchitha-nsn.gov">icwamail@cchitha-nsn.gov</a> .	Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes, 320 West Willoughby Ave., Ste 300, Juneau, AK 99801.	(907) 463-7169	(907) 885-0032
Chinik Eskimo Community (Golovin) .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Chuloonawick Native Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:SLindley@avep.org">SLindley@avep.org</a> .	P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559 .....	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Circle Native Community .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Craig Tribal Association .....	Barbara Dude, Family Services Administrator, <a href="mailto:icwamail@cchitha-nsn.gov">icwamail@cchitha-nsn.gov</a> .	Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes, 320 West Willoughby Ave., Ste 300, Juneau, AK 99801.	(907) 463-7169	(907) 885-0032
Curyung Tribal Council .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Douglas Indian Association .....	Alyssa Cadiente-Laiti Blattner, Family Case Worker, <a href="mailto:ablattner@diataku.com">ablattner@diataku.com</a> .	811 W 12th Street, Juneau, AK 99801 ...	(907) 364-2916	(907) 364-2917
Egegik Village .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Eklutna Native Village .....	Dawn Harris, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:dharris@eklutna.org">dharris@eklutna.org</a> .	P.O. Box 670666, Chugiak, AK 99567 ...	(907) 688-6020	(907) 688-6021
Emmonak Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Evansville Village (aka Bettles Field) .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Galena Village (aka Loudon Village) .....	Susie Sam, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:susiej.sam@loudentribe.com">susiej.sam@loudentribe.com</a> .	P.O. Box 244, Galena, AK 99741 .....	(907) 656-1711	(907) 656-2491
Gulkana Village Council .....	Rachel Stratton Morse, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:icwa@gulkanacouncil.org">icwa@gulkanacouncil.org</a> .	P.O. Box 254, Gakona, AK 99586 .....	(907) 822-5363	(907) 822-3976
Healy Lake Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Holy Cross Tribe .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Hoonah Indian Association .....	Akasha Moulton, Human Development Division Director, <a href="mailto:Akasha.Moulton@hiatribe.org">Akasha.Moulton@hiatribe.org</a> .	P.O. Box 602, Hoonah, AK 99829 .....	(907) 945-3545	(907) 945-3703
Hughes Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Huslia Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Hydaburg Cooperative Association .....	Margaret Peele, Human Services Director, <i>human.services.hca@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 349, Hydaburg, AK 99922 .....	(907) 285-3666	(907) 285-3541
Igiugig Village .....	Alicia Tinney, ICWA Worker, <i>alicia.s.zackar@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 4008, Igiugig, AK 99613 .....	(907) 533-3211	(907) 533-3217
Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope .....	Marie H. Ahsok, Social Services Director, <i>social@inupiatgov.com</i> .	P.O. Box 934, Barrow, AK 99723 .....	(907) 852-5923	(907) 852-5924
Iqumiut Traditional Council .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Ivanof Bay Tribe .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.com</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Kaguyak Village .....	Alyssa Brenteson, Tribal Manager, <i>kaguyak.tribal.council@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 5078, Akhiok, AK 99615 .....	(907) 836-2231	—
Kaktovik Village (aka Barter Island) .....	Joshua Stein, Director of Social Services, <i>joshua.stein@arcticslope.org</i> .	Arctic Slope Native Association, P.O. Box 2153, Barrow, AK 99723.	(907) 852-9374	(907) 852-2761
Kasigluk Traditional Elders Council .....	Lena Keene, ICWA Worker, <i>kasigluktribalicwa@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 19, Kasigluk, AK 99609 .....	(907) 477-6418	(907) 477-6412
Kenaitze Indian Tribe .....	Maria Guerra, Family and Social Services Director, <i>familyservicesdepartment@kenaitze.org</i> .	P.O. Box 988, Kenai, AK 99611 .....	(907) 335-7628	(907) 202-8359
Ketchikan Indian Community .....	Douglas J. Gass, Case Management Supervisor, <i>dgass@kictribe.org</i> .	2960 Tongass Avenue, Ketchikan, AK 99901.	(907) 228-9324	(800) 378-0469
King Island Native Community .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <i>hpayenna@kawerak.org</i> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
King Salmon Tribe .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.com</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Klawock Cooperative Association .....	Barbara Dude, Family Services Administrator, <i>icwamail@cchita.nsn.gov</i> .	Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes, 320 West Willoughby Ave, Ste 300, Juneau, AK 99801.	(907) 463-7163	(907) 885-0032
Knik Tribe .....	Geraldine Nicoli-Ayonayon, ICWA Manager, <i>gnyonayon@kniktribe.org</i> .	P.O. Box 871565, Wasilla, AK 99687 .....	(907) 373-7938	(907) 373-2153
Kokhanok Village .....	Mary Andrew, ICWA Worker, <i>kokhanokicwa@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1007, Kokhanok, AK 99606 .....	(907) 282-2224	(907) 282-2221
Koyukuk Native Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Levelock Village .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.org</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Lime Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>lcwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Manley Hot Springs Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Manokotak Village .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.org</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
McGrath Native Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Mentasta Traditional Council .....	Sarah Martin, ICWA Caseworker, <i>mentasta.icwa@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 6019, Mentasta Lake, AK 99780.	(907) 291-2319	(907) 291-2305
Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve.	Jacqueline Wilson, Craig White, ICWA Social Worker, Social Services Director, <i>jwilsonm4@outlook.com</i> .	P.O. Box 8, Metlakatla, AK 99926 .....	(907) 886-6914	(907) 886-6913
Naknek Native Village .....	Linda Halverson, Tribal President, <i>nnvcpresident@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 210, Naknek, AK 99633 .....	(907) 246-4210	(907) 246-3563
Native Village of Afognak .....	Denise Malutin, ICWA Program Manager, <i>denise@afognak.org</i> .	115 Mill Bay Road, Kodiak, AK 99615 ...	(907) 486-6357	(907) 486-6529
Native Village of Akhiok .....	Amanda Holden, ICWA Specialist, <i>Amanda.holden@kodiakhealthcare.org</i> .	Kodiak Area Native Association, 3449 Rezanof Drive East, Kodiak, AK 99615.	(907) 952-3628	(907) 486-1329
Native Village of Akutan .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <i>amandam@api.ai.org</i> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Native Village of Aleknagik .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.com</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Native Village of Ambler .....	Jackie Hill, Director, <i>jackie.hill@maniilaq.org</i> .	Maniilaq Association Family Services, P.O. Box 256, Kotzebue, AK 99752.	(907) 442-7879	(907) 442-7885
Native Village of Atka .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <i>amandam@api.ai.org</i> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government.	Mary Jane Lang, Executive Director, <i>maryjane.lang@nvbarrow.net</i> .	P.O. Box 1130, Barrow, AK 99723 .....	(907) 852-4411	(907) 852-8844
Native Village of Belkofski .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <i>amandam@api.ai.org</i> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Native Village of Brevig Mission .....	Heather Payenna, Children & Family Services Manager, <i>hpayenna@kawerak.org</i> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Native Village of Buckland .....	Rebecca Hadley, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:icwa@nunachiak.org">icwa@nunachiak.org</a> .	P.O. Box 67, Buckland, AK 99727 .....	(907) 494-2171	(907) 494-2192
Native Village of Cantwell .....	Arleen Lenard, ICWA Advocate, <a href="mailto:alenard@cmative.org">alenard@cmative.org</a> .	P.O. Box H, Copper Center, AK 99573 ..	(907) 822-5241	(888) 959-2389
Native Village of Chenega (aka Chanega)	Buell Russell, General Manager, <a href="mailto:brussell@chenegaira.com">brussell@chenegaira.com</a> .	3000 C Street, Ste 200, Anchorage, AK 99503.	(907) 230-3036	(907) 569-6939
Native Village of Chignik Lagoon .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Native Village of Chitina .....	Gyna Gordon, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:ggordonCTIVCicwa@outlook.com">ggordonCTIVCicwa@outlook.com</a> .	P.O. Box 31, Chitina, AK 99566 .....	(907) 823-2215	(907) 823-2285
Native Village of Chuathbaluk (Russian Mission, Kuskokwim).	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Council .....	Rhonda West, Tribal Coordinator .....	P.O. Box 2050, Nome, AK 99762 .....	(907) 443-4498	(907) 443-5965
Native Village of Deering .....	Pearl Moto, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:icwa@ipnatchiaq.org">icwa@ipnatchiaq.org</a> .	P.O. Box 36095, Deering, AK 99736 .....	(907) 363-2229	(907) 363-2195
Native Village of Diomedede (aka Inalik) .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Eagle .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Native Village of Eek .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Ekuk .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Native Village of Ekwok .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Native Village of Elim .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Eyak (Cordova) .....	Linda Powell, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:icwa@eyak-nsn.gov">icwa@eyak-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 1388, Cordova, AK 99574 .....	(907) 424-2227	(907) 424-7809
Native Village of False Pass .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:amandam@api.ai.org">amandam@api.ai.org</a> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Assn Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Native Village of Fort Yukon .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Native Village of Gakona .....	Lisa Nicolai, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:gakonaprojects@gmail.com">gakonaprojects@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 102, Gakona, AK 99586 .....	(907) 822-5777	(907) 822-5997
Native Village of Gambell .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Georgetown .....	Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:info@georgetowntc.com">info@georgetowntc.com</a> .	5313 Arctic Blvd, Ste 104, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 274-2195	(907) 274-2196
Native Village of Goodnews Bay .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Hamilton .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Hooper Bay .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Kanatak .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Native Village of Karluk .....	Kristeen Reft, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:programassistant@karluktribal.org">programassistant@karluktribal.org</a> .	P.O. Box 22, Karluk, AK 99608 .....	(907) 241-2238	(907) 241-2213
Native Village of Kiana .....	Elysa MacKenzie, ICWA Coordinator .....	P.O. Box 69, Kiana, AK 99749 .....	(907) 475-2226	(907) 475-2266
Native Village of Kipnuk .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Kivalina .....	Millie Hawley, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:tribeadmin@kivaliniq.org">tribeadmin@kivaliniq.org</a> .	P.O. Box 50051, Kivalina, AK 99750 .....	(907) 645-2153	(907) 645-2193
Native Village of Kluti Kaah (aka Copper Center).	Willard E. Hand, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:nvkkgov@klutikaah.com">nvkkgov@klutikaah.com</a> .	P.O. Box 68, Copper Center, AK 99573	(907) 822-5541	(907) 822-5130
Native Village of Kobuk .....	Jackie Hill, Director, <a href="mailto:jackie.hill@maniilaq.org">jackie.hill@maniilaq.org</a> .	Maniilaq Association Family Services, P.O. Box 256, Kotzebue, AK 99752.	(907) 442-7879	(907) 442-7885
Native Village of Kongiganak .....	Janet Otto, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:Kong.tribe@gmail.com">Kong.tribe@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 5069, Kongiganak, AK 99545	(907) 557-5226	(907) 557-5224
Native Village of Kotzebue .....	Bibianna Scott, Tribal Family Services Director, <a href="mailto:bibianna.scott@qira.org">bibianna.scott@qira.org</a> .	P.O. Box 253, Kotzebue, AK 99752 .....	(907) 442-3467	(907) 442-4013
Native Village of Koyuk .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Kwigillingok .....	Andrew Beaver, ICWA Program Director, <a href="mailto:icwa@kwigitribe.org">icwa@kwigitribe.org</a> .	P.O. Box 90, Kwigillingok, AK 99622 .....	(907) 588-8114	(907) 588-8429
Native Village of Kwinhagak (aka Quinhagak).	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
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Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Native Village of Marshall (aka Fortuna Ledge).	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Mary's Igloo .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Mekoryuk .....	Melanie Shavings, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:melanie.s@mekoryuktc.org">melanie.s@mekoryuktc.org</a> .	P.O. Box 66, Mekoryuk, AK 99630 .....	(907) 827-8827	(907) 827-8133
Native Village of Minto .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	.....
Native Village of Nanwalek (aka English Bay).	Katrina Berestoff, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:kberestoff@gmail.com">kberestoff@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 8028, Nanwalek, AK 99603 ....	(907) 281-2284	.....
Native Village of Napaimute .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Napakiak .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
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Native Village of Nelson Lagoon .....	Amanda McAadoo, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:amandam@api.ai.org">amandam@api.ai.org</a> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Assn Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Native Village of Nightmute .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Nikolski .....	Amanda McAadoo, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:amandam@api.ai.org">amandam@api.ai.org</a> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Assn Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Native Village of Noatak .....	Jennifer Sage, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:icwa@nautaaq.org">icwa@nautaaq.org</a> .	P.O. Box 89, Noatak, AK 99761 .....	(907) 485-2030	(907) 485-2137
Native Village of Nuiqsut (aka Nooiksut) ..	Joshua Stein, Director of Social Services, <a href="mailto:Joshua.stein@arcticslope.org">Joshua.stein@arcticslope.org</a> .	Arctic Slope Native Association, P.O. Box 2153, Utqiagvik, AK 99723.	(907) 852-9374	(907) 852-2761
Native Village of Nunam Iqua .....	Charlene Striling, Community Family Service Specialist III, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 238-3730	(907) 238-3705
Native Village of Nunapitchuk .....	Tom N. Neck, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:tribaladmin@yupik.org">tribaladmin@yupik.org</a> .	P.O. Box 130, Nunapitchuk, AK 99641 ..	(907) 527-5705	(907) 527-5711
Native Village of Ouzinkie .....	Amanda Holden, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:Amanda.holden@kodiakhealthcare.org">Amanda.holden@kodiakhealthcare.org</a> .	Kodiak Area Native Association, 3449 Rezanof Drive East, Kodiak, AK 99615.	(907) 942-3628	(907) 486-1329
Native Village of Paimiut .....	Colleen Timmer, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:colleent@nvptc.org">colleent@nvptc.org</a> .	P.O. Box 240084, Anchorage, AK 99524	(907) 561-0304	(907) 561-0305
Native Village of Perryville .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Native Village of Pilot Point .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Native Village of Point Hope .....	Qalayauq Frankson, Family/ICWA Case Worker, <a href="mailto:family.caseworker@tikigaq.com">family.caseworker@tikigaq.com</a> .	P.O. Box 109, Point Hope, AK 99766 ....	(907) 368-3122	(907) 368-2332
Native Village of Point Lay .....	Marie Ahsoak, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:social@inupiatgov.com">social@inupiatgov.com</a> .	Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope, P.O. Box 934, Barrow, AK 99723.	(907) 852-5923	(907) 852-5924
Native Village of Port Graham .....	Patrick Norman, Chief & ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:pat@portgraham.org">pat@portgraham.org</a> .	ICWA Program, P.O. Box 5510, Port Graham, AK 99603.	(907) 284-2227	(907) 284-2222
Native Village of Port Heiden .....	Amber Christensen-Fox, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:amber@portheidenalaska.com">amber@portheidenalaska.com</a> .	P.O. Box 49007, Port Heiden, AK 99549	(907) 837-2296	(907) 837-2297
Native Village of Port Lions .....	Willie Nelson, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:portlionstribes.org">portlionstribes.org</a> .	P.O. Box 69, Port Lions, AK 99550 .....	(907) 454-2234	(907) 454-2434
Native Village of Ruby .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Native Village of Saint Michael .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Savoonga .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Scammon Bay .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Selawik .....	Jackie Hill, Director, <a href="mailto:jackie.hill@maniilaq.org">jackie.hill@maniilaq.org</a> .	Maniilaq Association Family Services, P.O. Box 256, Kotzebue, AK 99752.	(907) 442-7879	(907) 442-7885
Native Village of Shaktoolik .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Shishmaref .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Shungnak .....	Jackie Hill, Director, <a href="mailto:jackie.hill@maniilaq.org">jackie.hill@maniilaq.org</a> .	Maniilaq Association Family Services, P.O. Box 256, Kotzebue, AK 99752.	(907) 442-7879	(907) 442-7885
Native Village of Stevens .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananchiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Native Village of Tanacross .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Native Village of Tanana .....	Donna May Folger, ICWA Manager, <i>Tanana.TFYS@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 130, Tanana, AK 99777 .....	(907) 336-1025	(907) 366-7246
Native Village of Tatitlek .....	Rami Paulsen, Tribal Administrator, <i>rpaulsen@tatitlek.com</i> .	P.O. Box 171, Tatitlek, AK 99677 .....	(907) 325-2311	(907) 325-2289
Native Village of Tazlina .....	Donna Renard, ICWA Coordinator, <i>Asst.tazlina@cvinternet.net</i> .	P.O. Box 87, Glennallen, AK 99588 .....	(907) 822-4375	(907) 822-5865
Native Village of Teller .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <i>hpayenna@kawerak.org</i> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of Tetlin .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Native Village of Tuntutuliak .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Tununak .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Native Village of Tyonek .....	Arthur Standifer, Tribal Child Welfare Worker, <i>tyonekicwa@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 82009, Tyonek, AK 99682 .....	(907) 583-2209	(907) 583-2219
Native Village of Unalakleet .....	Christy Schuneman, ICWA Caseworker, <i>tfc.unk@unkira.org</i> .	P.O. Box 357, Unalakleet, AK 99684 .....	(907) 624-3622	(907) 624-5104
Native Village of Unga .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <i>amandam@apiai.org</i> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government (Arctic Village and Village of Venetie).	Tribal President .....	P.O. Box 81080, Venetie, AK 99781 .....	(907) 849-8454	(907) 849-8216
Native Village of Wales .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <i>hpayenna@kawerak.org</i> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Native Village of White Mountain .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <i>hpayenna@kawerak.org</i> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Nenana Native Association .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
New Koliganek Village Council .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.com</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
New Stuyahok Village .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.com</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Newhalen Village .....	Maxine Wassillie, ICWA Worker, <i>maxinewassillie@newhalentribal.com</i> .	P.O. Box 207, Iliamna, AK 99606 .....	(907) 571-1410	(907) 571-1537
Newtok Village .....	Andrew John, Tribal Administrator, <i>wwt10nnc@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 5596, Newtok, AK 99559 .....	(907) 237-2202	(907) 237-2210
Nikolai Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Ninilchik Village .....	Christina Pinnow, ICWA Specialist, <i>cpinnow@ninilchiktribe-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 39444, Ninilchik, AK 99639 .....	(907) 567-3313	(907) 567-3354
Nome Eskimo Community .....	Lola Tobuk, Family Services Director .....	561 E 36th Avenue, Ste 102, Anchorage, AK 99503.	(907) 339-8623	(907) 222-2996
Nondalton Village .....	Fawn Silas, Tribal Administrator .....	P.O. Box 49, Nondalton, AK 99640 .....	(907) 294-2257	(907) 294-2271
Noorvik Native Community .....	Jackie Hill, Director, <i>jackie.hill@maniilaq.org</i> .	Maniilaq Association Family Svcs, P.O. Box 256, Kotzebue, AK 99752.	(907) 442-7879	(907) 442-7885
Northway Village .....	Tasha Demit, ICWA Worker, <i>icwa@aptalaska.net</i> .	P.O. Box 516, Northway, AK 99764 .....	(907) 778-2311	(907) 778-2220
Nulato Village .....	Sharon Agnes, Director of Human Services, <i>Sharon.agnes62@outlook.com</i> .	P.O. Box 65049, Nulato, AK 99765 .....	(907) 898-2339	(907) 898-2207
Nunakauyarmiut Tribe .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Organized Village of Grayling (aka Holikachuk).	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Organized Village of Kake .....	Nathalie Austin, Social Services Director, <i>icwa@kake-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 316, Kake, AK 99830 .....	(907) 785-6471	(907) 785-4902
Organized Village of Kasaan .....	Barbara Dude, Family Services Administrator, <i>icwamail@cchita-nsn.gov</i> .	Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes, 320 W Willoughby Ave., Ste 300, Juneau, AK 99801.	(907) 463-7169	(907) 885-0032
Organized Village of Kwethluk .....	Sophie Berlin, ICWA Worker, <i>sophieberlinovkicwa@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 130, Kwethluk, AK 99621 .....	(907) 757-6715	(907) 757-6328
Organized Village of Saxman .....	Barbara Dude, Family Services Administrator, <i>icwamail@cchita-nsn.gov</i> .	Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes, 320 W Willoughby Ave., Ste 300, Juneau, AK 99801.	(907) 463-7169	(907) 885-0032
Orutsarmiut Traditional Native Council ..	Marie Dorris, Social Services Director, <i>mdorris@nativecouncil.org</i> .	P.O. Box 927, Bethel, AK 99559 .....	(907) 543-2608	(907) 543-2639
Oscarville Traditional Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Pauloff Harbor Village .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <i>amandam@apiai.org</i> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Assn Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Pedro Bay Village .....	Verna Kolyaha, Program Services, <a href="mailto:vjkolyaha@pedrobay.com">vjkolyaha@pedrobay.com</a> .	P.O. Box 47020, Pedro Bay, AK 99647	(907) 850-2341	(907) 850-2232
Petersburg Indian Association .....	Kara Wesebaum, ICWA/Social Services, <a href="mailto:icwa@piatribal.org">icwa@piatribal.org</a> .	P.O. Box 1418, Petersburg, AK 99833 ...	(907) 772-3636	(907) 772-3686
Pilot Station Traditional Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Pitka's Point Traditional Council .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Platinum Traditional Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-7461	(907) 543-7644
Portage Creek Village (aka Ohgsenakale)	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point ...	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:amandam@api.ai.org">amandam@api.ai.org</a> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Assn Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:amandam@api.ai.org">amandam@api.ai.org</a> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Assn Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Rampart Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Saint George Island .....	Amanda McAdoo, Family Services Coordinator, <a href="mailto:amandam@api.ai.org">amandam@api.ai.org</a> .	Aleutian Pribilof Islands Assn Inc., 1131 E International Airport Road, Anchorage, AK 99518.	(907) 276-2700	(907) 222-9735
Saint Paul Island .....	Sheridan DesGranges, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:icwa@aleut.com">icwa@aleut.com</a> .	P.O. Box 86, St. Paul Island, AK 99660	(907) 257-2639	(907) 546-3254
Salamatof Tribe .....	Maria Guerra, Family and Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:familyservicesdepartment@kenaitze.org">familyservicesdepartment@kenaitze.org</a> .	Kenaitze Indian Tribe, P.O. Box 988, Kenai, AK 99611.	(907) 335-7613	(907) 202-8359
Seldovia Village Tribe .....	Shannon Custer, Youth & Family Services Director, <a href="mailto:scuster@svt.org">scuster@svt.org</a> .	P.O. Drawer L, Seldovia, AK 99663 .....	(907) 234-7898	(907) 234-7865
Shageluk Native Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Sitka Tribe of Alaska .....	Melonie Boord, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:melonie.boord@sitkatriben-sn.gov">melonie.boord@sitkatriben-sn.gov</a> .	456 Katlian Street, Sitka, AK 99835 .....	(907) 747-7221	(907) 747-4915
Skagway Village .....	Melissa Alley, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:melissa@skagwaytraditional.org">melissa@skagwaytraditional.org</a> .	P.O. Box 1157, Skagway, AK 99840 .....	(907) 983-4068	(907) 983-3068
South Naknek Village .....	Lorianne Zimin, ICWA Coordinator .....	2521 E Mountain Village Dr., Ste. B PMB 388, Wasilla, AK 99654.	(907) 631-3648	(907) 631-0949
Stebbins Community Association .....	Heather Payenna, CFS Manager, <a href="mailto:hpayenna@kawerak.org">hpayenna@kawerak.org</a> .	Kawerak Inc. Children & Family Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762.	(907) 443-4261	(907) 443-4601
Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak .....	Linda Resoff, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:socialservices@sunaq.org">socialservices@sunaq.org</a> .	115 Mill Bay Road, Ste 201, Kodiak, AK 99615.	(907) 486-0260	(907) 486-0264
Takotna Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Tangirnaq Native Village .....	Shelly Peterson, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:info@woodyisland.com">info@woodyisland.com</a> .	3449 Rezanof Drive East, Kodiak, AK 99615.	(907) 486-9872	(907) 486-4829
Telida Village .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <a href="mailto:miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org">miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</a> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Traditional Village of Togiak .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Tuluksak Native Community .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Twin Hills Village .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <a href="mailto:ljohnson@bbna.com">ljohnson@bbna.com</a> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 842-4139	(907) 842-4106
Ugashik Village .....	Steven Alvarez, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:manager@ugashikvillage.com">manager@ugashikvillage.com</a> .	2525 Blueberry Road, Ste 205, Anchorage, AK 99503.	(907) 338-7611	(907) 338-7659
Umkumiut Native Village .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Alakanuk .....	Charlene Striling, Community Family Service Specialist III, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 219, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Anaktuvuk Pass .....	Joshua Stein, Director of Social Services, <a href="mailto:Joshua.stein@arcticslope.org">Joshua.stein@arcticslope.org</a> .	Arctic Slope Native Association, P.O. Box 2153, Utqiagvik, AK 99723.	(907) 852-9374	(907) 852-2761
Village of Aniak .....	Mary L. Kvamme, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:mkvamme61@gmail.com">mkvamme61@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 349, Aniak, AK 99556 .....	(907) 675-4349	(907) 675-4513
Village of Atmaultuak .....	Joanne Paul, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:icwa617@gmail.com">icwa617@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 6568, Atmaultuak, AK 99559 ..	(907) 553-5510	(907) 553-5612
Village of Bill Moore's Slough .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:icwa2@avcp.org">icwa2@avcp.org</a> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Chefornak .....	Edward Kinagak, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:suckaq@gmail.com">suckaq@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 110, Chefornak, AK 99561 .....	(907) 867-8808	(907) 867-8711

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Village of Clarks Point .....	Lou Johnson, Children's Services Division Manager, <i>ljohnson@bbna.com</i> .	Bristol Bay Native Association, P.O. Box 310, Dillingham, AK 99576.	(907) 542-4139	(907) 842-4106
Village of Crooked Creek .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Dot Lake .....	Tracy Charles-Smith or Chance Shank, ICWA Worker, <i>mwalleri@fairbanksaklaw.com</i> .	P.O. Box 70494, Fairbanks, AK 99701 ..	(907) 882-2695	(907) 882-5558
Village of Iliamna .....	Louise Anelon, ICWA Worker, <i>louise.anelon@iliamna.org</i> .	P.O. Box 286, Iliamna, AK 99606 .....	(907) 571-3532	(907) 571-3539
Village of Kalskag .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Kaltag .....	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Village of Kotlik .....	Charlene Striling, Community Family Service Specialist III, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Lower Kalskag .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Ohogamiut .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Red Devil .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Sleetmute .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Solomon .....	Elizabeth Johnson, <i>tc.sol@kawerak.org</i>	P.O. Box 2053, Nome, AK 99762 .....	(907) 443-4985	(907) 443-5189
Village of Stony River .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644
Village of Venetie (See Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government).	Miriam A. Titus, Child Protection Program Manager, <i>miriam.titus@tananachiefs.org</i> .	Tanana Chiefs Conference, 122 First Avenue, Ste 600, Fairbanks, AK 99701.	(907) 452-8251	(907) 459-3984
Village of Wainwright .....	Joshua Stein, Director of Social Services, <i>joshua.stein@arcticslope.org</i> .	Arctic Slope Native Association, P.O. Box 2153, Utqiagvik, AK 99723.	(907) 852-9374	(907) 852-2761
Wrangell Cooperative Association .....	Barbara Dude, Family Services Administrator, <i>cwamail@cchita-nsn.gov</i> .	Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes, 320 W Willoughby Ave., Ste 300, Juneau, AK 99801.	(907) 463-7169	(907) 885-0032
Yakutat Tlingit Tribe .....	Marry Knutsen, ICWA Advocate, <i>mknutsen@ytltribe.org</i> .	P.O. Box 418, Yakutat, AK 99689 .....	(907) 784-3268	(907) 784-3595
Yupit of Andreafski .....	Sharon Lindley, ICWA Manager, <i>icwa2@avcp.org</i> .	Association of Village Council Presidents, P.O. Box 218, Bethel, AK 99559.	(907) 543-8691	(907) 543-7644

2. Eastern Region

Eastern Regional Director, 545 Marriott Drive, Suite #700, Nashville,

TN 37214; Phone: (615) 546-6500; Fax: (615) 564-6701.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Aroostook Band of Micmacs .....	Norma Saulis, ICWA Coordinator, <i>nsaulis@micmac-nsn.gov</i> .	7 Northern Road, Presque Isle, ME 04769.	(207) 764-1972	(207) 764-7667
Catawba Indian Nation (previously listed as Catawba Tribe of South Carolina).	Jessica Grant, Program Manager, <i>Jessica.grant@catabaindian.net</i> .	Catawba Indian Nation, 996 Avenue of Nations, Rock Hill, SC 29730.	(803) 366-4792	(803) 325-1242
Cayuga Nation .....	Sharon Leroy, Executor, <i>sharon.leroy@nscayuganation-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 803, Seneca Falls, NY 13148	(315) 568-0750	(315) 568-0752
Chickahominy Indian Tribe .....	Martha N. Adkins, ICWA Coordinator .....	8200 Lott Cary Road, Providence Forge, VA 23140.	(804) 829-2027	.....
Chickahominy Indian Tribe—Eastern Division.	Gene W. Adams, Chief, <i>doris.austin@cied.org</i> .	8200 Loft Cary Road, Providence Forge, VA 23140.	(808) 966-7815	.....
Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana .....	Karen Matthews, Director of Health and Human Services, <i>karen@chitimacha.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 520, Charenton, LA 70523 .....	(337) 923-7000	(337) 923-2475
Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana .....	Rayne Langlely, Social Services Interim Director, <i>rlanglely@coushattatribela.org</i> .	1984 CC Bel RD, Elton, LA 70532 .....	(337) 584-1433	.....
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians .....	Jenny Bean, Family Safety Supervisor, <i>jennbean@nc-cherokee.com</i> .	P.O. Box 666, Cherokee, NC 28719 .....	(828) 359-6149	(828) 359-0216
Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians .....	Lori Jewell, ICWA Coordinator, <i>ljewell@maliseets.com</i> .	13-2 Clover Court, Houlton, ME 04730	(207) 532-7260	(207) 532-7287
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians .....	Mona Maxwell, Social Services Director, <i>mmaxwell@jenachoctaw.org</i> .	P.O. Box 14, Jena, LA 71342 .....	(318) 992-0136	(318) 992-4162
Mashantucket Pequot Indian Tribe .....	Valerie Burgess, Director Child Protective Services, <i>vburgess@mptn-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 3313, Mashantucket, CT 6338	(860) 396-2007	(860) 396-2144

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe .....	Catherine M. Hendrix, ICWA Director, <i>catherine.hendricks@nwtribe-nsn.gov</i> .	483 Great Neck Road—South, Mashpee, MA 02639.	(508) 477-0208	(774) 361-6034
Miccosukee Tribe of Indians .....	Martha Vewga, Director of Social Services, <i>marthavdg13@gmail.com</i> .	37790 SW 8 Street, Tumiami Station, Miami, FL 33194.	(305) 223-8380	(305) 894-5232
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians .....	Jessica Martinez, ICWA Coordinator, <i>icwa@choctaw.org</i> .	P.O. Box 6258, Choctaw, MS 39350 .....	(601) 656-4507	(601) 656-1357
Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut .....	Connie Hilbert, Director of Tribal Member Services.	13 Crow Hill Road, Uncasville, CT 06832.	(860) 862-6253	(860) 862-6324
Monacan Indian Nation .....	Chief Kenneth Branham, TribalOffice@MonacanNation.com.	P.O. Box 960, Amherst, VA 24521 .....	(434) 946-0389	.....
Nansemond Indian Tribe .....	Sam Bass, ICWA Coordinator, <i>samflyingeagle@yahoo.com</i> .	1001 Pembroke Lane, Suffolk, VA 23434.	.....	.....
Narragansett Indian Tribe .....	Wenonah Harris, Director, Tribal Child Advocate, <i>Wenonah@niithpo.com</i> .	P.O. Box 268, Charlestown, RI 02813 ...	(401) 824-9034	(401) 364-1104
Oneida Indian Nation .....	Kim Jacobs, Nation Clerk, <i>kjacobs@oneida-nation.org</i> .	Box 1, Vernon, NY 13476 .....	(315) 829-8337	(315) 366-9231
Onondaga Nation .....	Cissy Elm, Director .....	4040 Route 11, 104 W Conklin Ave., Nedrow, NY 13120.	(315) 469-9196	(315) 469-3250
Pamunkey Indian Tribe .....	Allyn Cook-Swartz, Tribal Administrator, <i>allyn.cook-swartz@pamunkey.org</i> .	1054 Pocahontas Trail, King William, VA 23086.	(804) 843-2372	.....
Passamaquoddy Tribe: —Indian Township .....	(see below) .....	(see below) .....	(see below)	(see below)
—Pleasant Point .....	Tracy Dore, Director of Child Welfare, <i>tracydore@itwpass.com</i> .	P.O. Box 301, Princeton, ME 04668 .....	(207) 796-6133	.....
Penobscot Nation .....	Frances LaCoute, Social Services Director, <i>flacoute@wabanaki.com</i> .	P.O. Box 343, Perry, ME 04667 .....	(207) 853-2600	(207) 853-9618
Poarch Band of Creeks .....	Michael Augustine, Director of Social Services, <i>Brooke.loring@penobscotnation.org</i> .	1 Down Street, Indian Island, ME 04468	(207) 817-3461	(207) 817-3166
Rappahannock Tribe, Inc. ....	Synthia K. Thomas, ICWA Director, <i>stthomas@pci-nsn.gov</i> .	5811 Jack Springs Road, Atmore, AL 36502.	(251) 368-9136	.....
Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe .....	G. Anne Richardson, ICWA Coordinator	5036 Indian Neck Road, Indian Neck, VA 23148.	(804) 796-0260	.....
Seminole Tribe of Florida .....	Jean Square, ICWA Program Manager, <i>icwa@srm-nsn.gov</i> .	412 State Route 37, Akwesasne, NY 13365.	(518) 358-2360	(518) 358-9107
Seneca Nation of Indians .....	Shamika Beasley, Advocacy Administrator, <i>shamikabeasley@semtribe.com</i> .	111 W Coral Way, Hollywood, FL 33024	(954) 965-1338	(954) 985-2339
Shinnecock Indian Nation .....	Sharon Francis, ICWA Coordinator, <i>sfrancis@senecahealth.org</i> .	36 Thomas Indian School Drive, Irving, NY 14081.	(716) 532-8223	(716) 945-7881
Tonawanda Band of Seneca .....	Paula Collins, <i>paulacollins@shinnecock.org</i> .	P.O. Box 1268, South Hampton, NY 11969.	(631) 287-6476	.....
Tunica-Biloxi Indian Tribe .....	Darwin Hill, Chief, <i>tonseneca@aol.com</i>	Council of Chiefs, 7027 Meadville Road, Basom, NY 14013.	(716) 542-4244	(716) 542-4008
Tuscarora Nation .....	Evelyn Cass, Registered Social Worker, <i>ecass@tunica.org</i> .	P.O. Box 493, Marksville, LA 71351 .....	(318) 240-6444	(318) 500-3011
Upper Mattaponi Tribe .....	ICWA Coordinator .....	2006 Mt. Hope Road, Lewistown, NY 14092.	.....	.....
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah).	Wilma Hicks, Assistant Tribal Coordinator, <i>assistantadmin@umitribe.org</i> .	13476 King William Rd, King William, VA 23086.	(804) 769-0041	.....
	Ambika Datta, ICWA Coordinator, <i>chairwoman@wampanoagtribe.net</i> .	20 Black Brook Road, Aquinnah, MA 02535.	(508) 645-9265	(508) 645-2755

## 3. Eastern Oklahoma Region

74401; Phone: (918) 781-4608; Fax: (918) 781-4604.

Eastern Oklahoma Regional Director,  
3100 W Peak Blvd., Muskogee, OK

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town .....	Samuel Deere, ICW Director, <i>sdeere@alabama-quassarte.org</i> .	P.O. Box 187, Wetumka, OK 74883 .....	(405) 452-3659	(405) 452-3435
Cherokee Nation .....	Lou Stretch, ICW Director, <i>lou-stretch@cherokee.org</i> .	P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, OK 74465 .....	(918) 458-6900	(918) 458-6146
Delaware Tribe of Indians .....	Aimee Turner, Department of Family and Children Services, <i>aturner@delawaretribe.org</i> .	5100 Tuxedo Blvd., Suite #C, Bartlesville, OK 74006.	(918) 337-6510	(918) 337-6518
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma .....	Tamara Gibson, Child and Family Services Coordinator, <i>tgibson@estoo.net</i> .	10100 S Bluejacket Road Suite #3, Wyandotte, OK 74370.	(918) 666-7710	(888) 971-3908
Kialagee Tribal Town .....	Sheila Armstrong, ICW Coordinator, <i>sheila.armstrong@kialageetribe.net</i> .	P.O. Box 332, Wetumka, OK 74883 .....	(405) 452-5388	(405) 452-3413
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma .....	Wanda Stovall, ICW Coordinator .....	P.O. Box 1326, Miami, OK 74355 .....	(918) 541-1359	(918) 542-6448
Modoc Nation .....	Regina Shelton, Children & Family Services Specialist, <i>Regina.shelton@modoctribe.com</i> .	625 6th SE, Miami, OK 74354 .....	(918) 542-7890	(918) 542-7878
Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma .....	Roy A. Ross, Social Services and CPS Director, <i>rross.oto@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 110, Miami, OK 74355 .....	(918) 540-1536	(918) 542-3214
Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma .....	Tracy Coach, Indian Child Welfare Director, <i>tcoach@peoriatribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1527, Miami, OK 74355 .....	(918) 540-2535	(918) 540-2538
Quapaw Nation .....	Mandy Dement, Family Services, <i>mdement@quapawtribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 765, Quapaw, OK 74363 .....	(918) 238-3152	(918) 674-2581
Seneca-Cayuga Nation .....	Dana Giles, Family Service Manager, <i>dgiles@sctribe.com</i> .	23701 South 655, Grove, OK 74344 .....	(918) 786-3508	(918) 787-5521

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Shawnee Tribe .....	Sean Graham, ICW Representative, <a href="mailto:sean@shawnee-tribe.com">sean@shawnee-tribe.com</a> .	P.O. Box 189, Miami, OK 74355 .....	(918) 542-7232 .....	.....
The Chickasaw Nation .....	Michelle Price, Director, <a href="mailto:Michelle.price@chickasaw.net">Michelle.price@chickasaw.net</a> .	810 Colony Drive, Ada, OK 74820 .....	(580) 272-5550	(580) 272-5553
The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma .....	Amanda Robinson, ICW Director, <a href="mailto:cfsreferrals@choctawnation.com">cfsreferrals@choctawnation.com</a> .	P.O. Box 1210, Durant, OK 74702 .....	(580) 924-8280	(580) 920-3197
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation .....	Kimee Wind-Hummingbird, Director of Child and Family Services, <a href="mailto:kwind-hummingbird@mcn-nsn.gov">kwind-hummingbird@mcn-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 .....	(918) 732-7859	(918) 732-7855
The Osage Nation .....	Ladonna Shadlow, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:Ishadlow@osagenation-nsn.gov">Ishadlow@osagenation-nsn.gov</a> .	255 Senior Drive, Pawhuska, OK 74056	(918) 287-5243	(918) 287-5231
The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma .....	Tracy Haney, Director, <a href="mailto:Haney.t@sno-nsn.gov">Haney.t@sno-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 1498, Wewoka, OK 74884 .....	(405) 257-9038	(405) 257-9036
Thlopthocco Tribal Town .....	Yvonda Fixico, Social Service Director, <a href="mailto:yfixico@tttown.org">yfixico@tttown.org</a> .	P.O. Box 188, Okemah, OK 74859 .....	(918) 560-6121	(918) 623-3023
United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma.	Roxana Wilden, ICW Advocate, <a href="mailto:rwilden@ukb-nsn.gov">rwilden@ukb-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 746, Tahlequah, OK 74465 .....	(918) 871-2839	(918) 431-0152
Wyandotte Nation .....	Tara Gragg, Social Worker, <a href="mailto:tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org">tgragg@wyandotte-nation.org</a> .	64700 E Hwy. 60, Wyandotte, OK 74370	(918) 678-6355	(918) 678-3087

## 4. Great Plains Region

Phone: (605) 226-7343; Fax: (605) 226-7446.

Great Plains Regional Director, 115 4th Avenue SE, Aberdeen, SD 57401;

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation, South Dakota.	Diane Garreau, ICWA Program Director, <a href="mailto:Dgarreau61@hotmail.com">Dgarreau61@hotmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 590, Eagle Butte, SD 57625 ...	(605) 964-6460	(605) 964-6463
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, South Dakota.	Marlow Medicine Crow, Jr., ICWA Director, <a href="mailto:icwaccst@gmail.com">icwaccst@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 143, Ft Thompson, SD 57339	(605) 245-2581	(605) 245-2401
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota.	Jessica Morson, ICWA Administrator, <a href="mailto:jessica.morson@fsst.org">jessica.morson@fsst.org</a> .	P.O. Box 283, Flandreau, SD 57028 .....	(605) 997-5055	(605) 997-3694
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation, South Dakota.	Jera Brouse-Koster, Designated Tribal Agent-ICWA, <a href="mailto:jerabrouse@lowerbrule.net">jerabrouse@lowerbrule.net</a> .	187 Oyate Circle, Lower Brule, SD 57548.	(605) 473-5561	(605) 473-0119
Oglala Sioux Tribe .....	David Red Cloud, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:DavidRedCloud77@yahoo.com">DavidRedCloud77@yahoo.com</a> .	P.O. Box 604, Pine Ridge, SD 57770 ....	(605) 867-5752	(605) 867-5941
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska .....	Mosiah Harlan, ICWA Director, <a href="mailto:mosiah.harlan@omahatribe.com">mosiah.harlan@omahatribe.com</a> .	106 S Tallman Street, Walthill, NE 68067.	(402) 837-5331	(402) 837-5362
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska .....	Lynn Schultz, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:lschultz@poncatribes-ne.org">lschultz@poncatribes-ne.org</a> .	1800 Syracuse Avenue, Norfolk, NE 68701.	(402) 371-8834	(402) 371-7564
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, South Dakota.	Shirley J. Bad Wound, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:rsticwa9@gwtc.netrsticwa9@gwtc.net">rsticwa9@gwtc.net</a> .	P.O. Box 609, Mission, SD 57555 .....	(605) 856-5270	(605) 856-5268
Santee Sioux Nation, Nebraska .....	Rena Wolf, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:renae.wolf@nebraska.gov">renae.wolf@nebraska.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 5191, Niobrara, NE 68760 .....	(402) 857-2342	(402) 857-2361
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, South Dakota.	Evelyn Pilcher, ICWA Director, <a href="mailto:evelyn.pilcher@state.sd.us">evelyn.pilcher@state.sd.us</a> .	P.O. Box 509, Agency Village, SD 57262.	(605) 698-3992	(605) 698-3999
Spirit Lake Tribe, North Dakota .....	Marie Martin, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:sticwadir@spiritalakenation.com">sticwadir@spiritalakenation.com</a> .	P.O. Box 356, Fort Totten, ND 58335 ....	(701) 766-4404	(701) 766-4722
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North & South Dakota.	Rebecca Greybull, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:rgreybull@standingrock.org">rgreybull@standingrock.org</a> .	P.O. Box 770, Fort Yates, ND 58538 .....	(701) 854-3095	(701) 854-5575
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota.	Bobbie Johnson, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:bjohnson@mhanation.com">bjohnson@mhanation.com</a> .	404 Frontage Road, New Town, ND 58763.	(701) 627-8199	(701) 627-4225
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota.	Marilyn Poitra, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:marilynpoitra@tmcwfs.net">marilynpoitra@tmcwfs.net</a> .	P.O. Box 900, Belcourt, ND 58316 .....	(701) 477-5688	(701) 477-5797
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska .....	Elexa Mollet, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:elexa.mollet@winnebagotribe.com">elexa.mollet@winnebagotribe.com</a> .	P.O. Box 723, Winnebago, NE 68071 ....	(402) 878-2379	(402) 878-2228
Yankton Sioux Tribe of South Dakota .....	Melissa Sanchez, ICWA Director, <a href="mailto:ysticwa@outlook.com">ysticwa@outlook.com</a> .	P.O. Box 1153, Wagner, SD 57380 .....	(605) 384-5712	(605) 384-5014

## 5. Midwest Region

Pointe II Building, Bloomington, MN

Midwest Regional Director, 5600 West American Blvd., Suite #500, Norman

55437; Phone: (612) 725-4500; Fax: (612) 713-4401.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the Bad River Reservation, Wisconsin.	Gina Secord, Abinoojig Resource Center Program Manager, <a href="mailto:ARCMgr@badriver-nsn.gov">ARCMgr@badriver-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 55, Odanah, WI 54861 .....	(715) 682-7135	(715) 682-7887
Bay Mills Indian Community, Michigan .....	Phyllis Kinney, Tribal Court Administrator, <a href="mailto:phyllisk@baymills.org">phyllisk@baymills.org</a> .	12449 West Lakeshore Drive, Brimley, MI 49715.	(906) 248-3241	(906) 248-8811
Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin.	Maline Enders, ICWA Supervisor, <a href="mailto:maline.enders@icpotawatomi-nsn.gov">maline.enders@icpotawatomi-nsn.gov</a> .	5415 Everybody's Road, Crandon, WI 54520.	(715) 478-4812	(715) 478-7442
Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians, Michigan.	Helen Cook, Anishinaabek Family Services Supervisor, <a href="mailto:helen.cook@gtbindians.com">helen.cook@gtbindians.com</a> .	2605 N West Bayshore Drive, Peshawbestown, MI 49682.	(231) 534-7681	(231) 534-7706

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Hannahville Indian Community, Michigan	Wendy Lanaville, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:wendy.lanaville@hichealth.org">wendy.lanaville@hichealth.org</a> .	N15019 Hannahville B1 Road, Wilson, MI 49896.	(906) 723-2512	(906) 466-7397
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin .....	Valerie Blackdeer, CFS Director, <a href="mailto:valerie.blackdeer@ho-chunk.com">valerie.blackdeer@ho-chunk.com</a> .	P.O. Box 40, Black River Falls, WI 54615.	(715) 284-2622	(715) 284-9486
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Michigan.	Caitlin Bowers, Director, <a href="mailto:cbowers@kbc-nsn.gov">cbowers@kbc-nsn.gov</a> .	16429 Bear Town Road, Baraga, MI 49908.	(906) 353-4201	(906) 353-8171
Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin.	Tibissum Rice, Indian Child Welfare Director, <a href="mailto:Tibissum.Rice@lco-nsn.gov">Tibissum.Rice@lco-nsn.gov</a> .	13394 W Trepania Road, Hayward, WI 54843.	(715) 558-7457	(715) 634-2981
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation of Wisconsin.	Kristin Allen, ICW Director, <a href="mailto:ldftribe.com">ldftribe.com</a> .	P.O. Box 216, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538.	(715) 588-4275	(715) 588-3855
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Michigan.	Dee Dee McGeshick, Social Services Director and Marisa Vanzile, <a href="mailto:dee.mcgeshick@lvdtribal.com">dee.mcgeshick@lvdtribal.com</a> .	P.O. Box 249, Watersmeet, MI 49969 ....	(906) 358-4940	(906) 358-9920
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Michigan.	Shayne Machen, Prosecutor, <a href="mailto:shayne_machen@lrboi-nsn.gov">shayne_machen@lrboi-nsn.gov</a> .	3031 Domres Road, Manistee, MI 49660	(231) 398-3384	(231) 398-3387
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan.	Heather Boening, Human Services Director, <a href="mailto:hboening@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov">hboening@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov</a> .	7500 Odawa Circle, Attn: DHS, Harbor Springs, MI 49740.	(231) 242-1620	(213) 242-1635
Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota.	Lisa Jones, Director, <a href="mailto:lisa.jones@lowersioux.com">lisa.jones@lowersioux.com</a> .	39458 Reservation Highway 1, Morton, MN 56270.	(507) 697-8683	(507) 697-6198
Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians of Michigan.	Dominique Ambriz, ICWA Representative, <a href="mailto:Dominique.Ambriz@hhs.glt-nsn.gov">Dominique.Ambriz@hhs.glt-nsn.gov</a> .	2880 Mission Dr., Shelbyville, MI 49344	(269) 397-1760	(269) 397-1763
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin .....	Carol Corn, Director of Social Services, <a href="mailto:ccorn@mitw.org">ccorn@mitw.org</a> .	P.O. Box 520, Keshena, WI 54135 .....	(715) 799-5161	(715) 799-6061
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe—Bois Forte Band (Nett Lake).	Angela Wright, Indian Child Welfare Supervisor, <a href="mailto:amwright@boisforte-nsn.gov">amwright@boisforte-nsn.gov</a> .	13071 Nett Lake Road, Ste. #A, Nett Lake, MN 55771.	(218) 757-3295	(218) 757-3335
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe—Fond du Lac Band.	Kevin Dupuis, Chairman, Indian Child Welfare Supervisor, <a href="mailto:kevindupuis@fdlrez.com">kevindupuis@fdlrez.com</a> .	1720 Big Lake Road, Cloquet, MN 55720.	(218) 879-4593	(218) 879-4146
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe—Grand Portage Band.	ICWA Representative, Human Service Director, <a href="mailto:humanservices@grandportage.com">humanservices@grandportage.com</a> .	P.O. Box 428, Grand Portage, MN 55605.	(218) 475-2453	(218) 475-2455
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe—Leech Lake Band.	Dawn Eckdahl, Child Welfare Department Manager, <a href="mailto:dawn.eckdahl@llojibwe.net">dawn.eckdahl@llojibwe.net</a> .	P.O. Box 967, Cass Lake, MN 56633 ....	(218) 335-8270	(218) 335-7234
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe—Mille Lacs Band.	Mishelle Ballinger, Administrative Case Aid, Intake Family Services, <a href="mailto:mishelle.ballinger@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov">mishelle.ballinger@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov</a> .	18562 Minobimaadizi Loop, Onamia, MN 56359.	(320) 532-7766	(320) 532-4569
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe—White Earth Band.	Laurie York, Program Director, <a href="mailto:laurie.york@whiteearth-nsn.gov">laurie.york@whiteearth-nsn.gov</a> .	White Earth Indian Child Welfare, P.O. Box 358, White Earth, MN 56591.	(218) 983-4647	(218) 983-3712
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Minnesota .....	George Goggeye, Human Services Director, <a href="mailto:ggoggeye@mnchippewatribe.org">ggoggeye@mnchippewatribe.org</a> .	P.O. Box 217, Cass Lake, MN 56633 ....	(218) 335-8586	(218) 335-8080
Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Pottawatomis, Michigan.	Meg Fairchild, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:meg.fairchild@nhbp-nsn.gov">meg.fairchild@nhbp-nsn.gov</a> .	1485 Mno Bmadzewen Way, Fulton, MI 49052.	(269) 704-8341	(269) 729-5920
Oneida Nation .....	Jennifer Berg-Hargrove, Family Services Director, <a href="mailto:icw@oneidanation.org">icw@oneidanation.org</a> .	ATTN: Oneida Family Services, ICW Department, P.O. Box 365, Oneida, WI 54155.	(920) 490-3700	(920) 490-3820
Pokagon Band of Pottawatomis Indians, Michigan & Indiana.	Mark Pompey, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:mark.pompey@pokagonband-nsn.gov">mark.pompey@pokagonband-nsn.gov</a> .	58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI 49047	(269) 462-4277	(269) 782-4295
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota.	Patricia Aw-Yang, Enrollment Office, <a href="mailto:Patricia.Aw-Yang@pic.org">Patricia.Aw-Yang@pic.org</a> .	5636 Sturgeon Lake Road, Welch, MN 55089.	(651) 385-4126	(651) 385-4180
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin.	Gretchen Morris, Indian Child Welfare Director, <a href="mailto:gretchen.morris@redcliff-nsn.gov">gretchen.morris@redcliff-nsn.gov</a> .	37820 Community Road, Bayfield, WI 54814.	(715) 779-3785	(715) 779-3783
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota.	ICWA Representative, Executive Director—Family & Children Services, <a href="mailto:icwa@redlakenation.org">icwa@redlakenation.org</a> .	P.O. Box 427, Red Lake, MN 56671 .....	(612) 286-8057	.....
Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa.	Brian Walker, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:sww.mfs@meskwaki-nsn.gov">sww.mfs@meskwaki-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 245, Tama, IA 52339 .....	(641) 484-4444	(641) 484-2103
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.	Angela Gonzalez, ICWA & Licensing Supervisor, <a href="mailto:agonzalez@sagchip.org">agonzalez@sagchip.org</a> .	7070 East Broadway Road, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.	(989) 775-4901	(989) 775-4912
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Michigan.	Melissa VanLuven, ICWA Program Director, <a href="mailto:ICWA-MIFPA-Contacts@saulttribe.net">ICWA-MIFPA-Contacts@saulttribe.net</a> .	2218 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.	(906) 632-5250	(906) 632-5266
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community of Minnesota.	Tribal Records, ICWA Contact, <a href="mailto:tribalrecords@shakopeedakota.org">tribalrecords@shakopeedakota.org</a> .	2330 Sioux Trail NW, Prior Lake, MN 55372.	(952) 496-6101	.....
Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Wisconsin.	Nick Vanzile, Director Indian Child Welfare, <a href="mailto:nick.vanzile@scc-nsn.gov">nick.vanzile@scc-nsn.gov</a> .	10808 Sokaogon Drive, Crandon, WI 54520.	(715) 478-6437	(715) 478-0692
St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	Elizabeth Lowe, Indian Child Welfare Director, <a href="mailto:elizabethl@stcroixojibwe-nsn.gov">elizabethl@stcroixojibwe-nsn.gov</a> .	4404 State Road 70, Webster, WI 54893	(715) 214-2940	.....
Stockbridge Munsee Community, Wisconsin.	Teresa Juga, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:teresa.juga@mohican.com">teresa.juga@mohican.com</a> .	Stockbridge Munsee Health and Wellness Center, W12802 County A, Bowler, WI 54416.	(715) 793-4580	(715) 793-1312
Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota .....	Kathleen Pruess, ICWA Representative, <a href="mailto:kathleenp@upperсиouxcommunity.nsn.gov">kathleenp@upperсиouxcommunity.nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 147, Granite Falls, MN 56241	(320) 564-6318	(320) 564-2550

## 6. Navajo Region

NM 87305; Phone: (505) 863-8314; Fax:

Navajo Regional Director, Navajo  
Regional Office, PO Box 1060, Gallup,

(505) 863-8324.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico & Utah.	Crescentia Tso OR Lillian Reed, Principle Social Workers, <a href="mailto:crescentiatso@navajo-nsn.gov">crescentiatso@navajo-nsn.gov</a> .	Navajo Indian Child Welfare Act Program, P.O. Box 1930, Window Rock, AZ 86515.	(928) 928-6806	(928) 871-7667

## 7. Northwest Region

Phone: (503) 231-6702; Fax (503) 231-

Northwest Regional Director, 911 NE  
11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232;

2201.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Burns Paiute Tribe .....	Jim St Martin, ICWA Social Worker .....	100 Pasigo Street, Burns, OR 97720 .....	(541) 573-8005	(541) 573-2323
Coeur D'Alene Tribe .....	Charles Henry, ICWA Program Manager, <a href="mailto:chenry@cdatribe-nsn.gov">chenry@cdatribe-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 408, Plummer, ID 83851 .....	(208) 686-2071	(208) 686-2059
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation.	Lena Tewawina, ICW Caseworker, <a href="mailto:lana.tewawina@cstk.org">lana.tewawina@cstk.org</a> .	P.O. Box 278 , Pablo, MT 59821 .....	(406) 675-2700	.....
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.	Jessica Rammelsberg, Assistant Prosecutor, <a href="mailto:Jessica.Rammelsberg@yakama.com">Jessica.Rammelsberg@yakama.com</a> .	P.O. Box 151, Toppenish, WA 98948 .....	(509) 865-5121	(509) 865-8936
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon.	Arthur Fisher and Cheryl Duprau, Staff Attorney and ICW Manager, <a href="mailto:arthurf@ctsi.nsn.us">arthurf@ctsi.nsn.us</a> .	P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380 .....	(541) 444-8324	(541) 444-2307
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation.	Francis Pickernell, Director of Social Services, <a href="mailto:fpickernell@chehalis-nsn.gov">fpickernell@chehalis-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 536, Oakville, WA 98568 .....	(360) 709-1754	(360) 273-5207
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.	Buffy Nicholson, Children and Family Services Director, <a href="mailto:buffy.nicholson@colvilletribes.com">buffy.nicholson@colvilletribes.com</a> .	P.O. Box 150, Nespelem, WA 99155 .....	(509) 634-2764	(509) 634-2633
Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians.	Shayne Platz and Vicki Faciane, Lead ICWA Case Mgr and Director of Family Support & Behavioral Health Services, <a href="mailto:splatz@ctclusi.org">splatz@ctclusi.org</a> .	1245 Fulton Ave, Coos Bay, OR 97420	(541) 297-3450	(541) 304-2180
Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon.	Donna Johnson, ICWA Intake, <a href="mailto:donna.johnson@grandronde.org">donna.johnson@grandronde.org</a> .	9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.	(503) 879-4529	(503) 879-2142
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.	M. Brent Leonhard, Attorney, <a href="mailto:brentleonhard@ctuir.org">brentleonhard@ctuir.org</a> .	46411 Timine Way, Pendleton, OR 97801.	(541) 429-7406	.....
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.	Lisa Lomas and Cecelia Collins, Chief Judge and CPS Director, <a href="mailto:lisa.loma@wstribe.org">lisa.loma@wstribe.org</a> .	P.O. Box 850, Warm Springs, OR 97761	(541) 553-3278	(541) 553-3281
Coquille Indian Tribe .....	Roni Jackson, ICWA Caseworker, <a href="mailto:ronijackson@coquilletribe.org">ronijackson@coquilletribe.org</a> .	600 Miluk Drive, P.O. Box 3190, Coos Bay, OR 97420.	(541) 888-9494	(541) 888-0673
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians.	Michele Moore, Human Services Director, <a href="mailto:mmoore@cowcreek.com">mmoore@cowcreek.com</a> .	2371 NE Stephens Street, Ste. 100, Roseburg, OR 97470.	(541) 643-8241	(541) 677-5565
Cowlitz Indian Tribe .....	D.J. Personius, ICW Case Manager, <a href="mailto:dpersonius.health@cowlitz.org">dpersonius.health@cowlitz.org</a> .	15455 65th Ave. S., Tukwila, WA 98188	(206) 491-9266	(206) 721-6288
Hoh Indian Tribe .....	Lola Moses, Family Services Manager, <a href="mailto:lola.moses@hohtribe-nsn.org">lola.moses@hohtribe-nsn.org</a> .	P.O. Box 2196, Forks, WA 98331 .....	(360) 374-5037	(360) 374-5426
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe .....	Colleen Studinarz, Administrative Supervisor Social & Community Services, <a href="mailto:cstudinarz@jamestowntribe.org">cstudinarz@jamestowntribe.org</a> .	Social and Community Services, 1033 Old Blyn Hwy, Sequim, WA 98382.	(360) 582-5785	(360) 681-3402
Kalispel Indian Community of the Kalispel Reservation.	Shawna Brady, MSW, <a href="mailto:sbrady@camashealth.com">sbrady@camashealth.com</a> .	934 S Garfield Road, Airway Heights, WA 99001.	(509) 789-7630	(509) 789-7675
Klamath Tribes .....	Lisa Ruiz, Children & Family Service Program Manager, <a href="mailto:Lisa.ruiz@klamathtribes.com">Lisa.ruiz@klamathtribes.com</a> .	P.O. Box 436, Chiloquin, OR 97624 .....	(541) 783-2219	(541) 783-7783
Kootenai Tribe of Idaho .....	Desire Aitken, Treasurer, <a href="mailto:desire@kootenai.org">desire@kootenai.org</a> .	P.O. Box 1269, Bonners Ferry, ID 83805	(208) 267-3519	(208) 267-2960
Lower Elwha Tribal Community .....	Rebecca Sampson-Weed, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:elwhaicw@elwha.org">elwhaicw@elwha.org</a> .	3080 Lower Elwha Road, Port Angeles, WA 98363.	(360) 461-7033	(866) 277-3141
Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation .....	Denise Jefferson, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:denisej@lummi-nsn.gov">denisej@lummi-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 1024, Ferndale, WA 98248 .....	(360) 384-2324	(360) 384-2341
Makah Indian Tribe of the Makah Indian Reservation.	Michelle Claplanpoo, Lead ICW Caseworker, <a href="mailto:michelle.claplanpoo@makah.com">michelle.claplanpoo@makah.com</a> .	P.O. Box 115, Neah Bay, WA 98357 .....	(360) 645-3044	(360) 645-2685
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe .....	Alexandria Cruz-James, Director of Human Services, <a href="mailto:alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us">alex.cruz@muckleshoot.nsn.us</a> .	39015 172nd Avenue SE, Auburn, WA 98092.	(253) 876-3261	(253) 886-8801
Nez Perce Tribe .....	Joni Williams, ICW Director, <a href="mailto:joniw@nezperce.org">joniw@nezperce.org</a> .	P.O. Box 365, Lapwai, ID 83540 .....	(208) 621-4709	(208) 843-9401
Nisqually Indian Tribe .....	Lorraine Van Brunt, Child and Family Services Manager, <a href="mailto:Vanbrunt.lorraine@nisqually-nsn.gov">Vanbrunt.lorraine@nisqually-nsn.gov</a> .	4820 She-Nah-Num Drive SE, Olympia, WA 98513.	(360) 456-5221	(360) 486-9555
Nooksack Indian Tribe .....	Katrice Rodriguez, Youth & Family Services Director, <a href="mailto:krodriguez@nooksack-nsn.gov">krodriguez@nooksack-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 157, Deming, WA 98244 .....	(360) 306-5090	(360) 592-0167

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation.	Patty Timbimboo-Madsen, ICWA Manager, <i>ptimbimboo@nwbshoshone.com</i> .	Enrollment Department, 707 North Main, Brigham City, UT 84302.	(435) 734-2286	(435) 723-6320
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe .....	Cheryl Miller, Children and Family Services Director, <i>cmiller@pgst.nsn.us</i> .	31912 Little Boston Road NE, Kingston, WA 98346.	(360) 297-9665	(360) 297-9666
Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation.	Sandra Cooper and Marriah Betschart, ICW Tribal/State Liaison/ICWA Liaison.	3009 E Portland Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98404.	(253) 405-7544	(253) 680-5998
Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation	Charlene Meneely, ICW Program Manager, <i>charlene.meneely@quileutetribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 279, LaPush, WA 98350 .....	(360) 640-2428	(360) 374-7796
Quinault Indian Nation .....	Amelia DeLaCruz and Dawnadair Lewis-Raincloud, Social Services Manager and ICW Manager, <i>icw@quinault.org</i> .	P.O. Box 189, Taholah, WA 98587 .....	(360) 276-8211	(360) 276-4152
Samish Indian Nation .....	Caritina Gonzalez, Social Services Director, <i>cgonzalez@samishtribe.nsn.us</i> .	Samish Nation Social Services, 715 Seafarer's Way, Ste 103, Anacortes, WA 98221.	(360) 298-6431	(360) 299-4357
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe .....	April McConaughy, ICW Family Services Specialist, <i>icwa@sauk-suiattle.com</i> .	5318 Chief Brown Lane, Darrington, WA 98241.	(360) 436-2204	.....
Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation.	Katherine Horne, Director, <i>khorne@shoalwaterbay-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 130, Tokeland, WA 98590 .....	(360) 267-8134	(360) 267-0247
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation.	Brandelle Whitworth, ICWA Designated Agent Office of General Counsel <i>bwhitworth@sbtribes.com</i> .	Office of General Counsel, P.O. Box 306, Fort Hall, ID 83203.	(208) 478-3822	(208) 237-9736
Skokomish Indian Tribe .....	Denese LaClair, Health Director, <i>dlaclair@skokomish.org</i> .	100 N Tribal Center Road, Skokomish, WA 98584.	(360) 426-5755	(360) 877-2399
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe .....	Carlee Gorman, SICW Program Manager, <i>carlee@snoqualmietribe.us</i> .	P.O. Box 969, Snoqualmie, WA 98065 ..	(425) 888-6551	(425) 689-1272
Spokane Tribe of the Spokane Reservation.	Ricki Peone, Health & Human Services Director, Tawnee Colvin, Health & Human Services Assistant Director, <i>ricki.peone@spokanetribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 540, Wellpinit, WA 99040 .....	(509) 258-7502	(509) 258-4480
Squaxin Island Tribe of the Squaxin Island Reservation.	Charlene Abrahamson, Family Service Director, Adirian Albillar, ICW Manager, <i>cabrahamson@squaxin.us</i> .	10 SE Squaxin Lane, Shelton, WA 98584-9200.	(360) 432-3914	(360) 427-2652
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians of Washington.	Candy Hamilton, ICW Director, <i>icw@stillaguamish.comicw@stillaguamish.com</i> .	P.O. Box 3782, Arlington, WA 98223 .....	(360) 572-3460	(360) 925-2862
Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation.	Nehreen Ayub, Acting Human Services Director, <i>nayub@suquamish.nsn.us</i> .	P.O. Box 498, Suquamish, WA 98392 ...	(360) 394-8479	(360) 697-6774
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community .....	Tracy Parker, Swinomish Family Services Coordinator, <i>tparker@swinomish.nsn.us</i> .	17337 Reservation Rd, LaConner, WA 98257.	(360) 466-7222	(360) 466-1632
Tulalip Tribes of Washington .....	Natasha Fryberg and Jennifer Walls, Manager and Lead ICW Worker, <i>nryberg@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov</i> .	2828 Mission Hill Road, Tulalip, WA 98271.	(360) 716-4059	(360) 716-0750
Upper Skagit Indian Tribe .....	Felice Keegahn, Indian Child Welfare Coordinator, <i>felicek@upperskagit.com</i> .	25944 Community Plaza Way, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284.	(360) 854-7077	(360) 854-7125

## 8. Pacific Region

Pacific Regional Director, BIA,  
Federal Building, 2800 Cottage Way,

Room W-2820, Sacramento, CA 95825;  
Phone: (916) 978-6000; Fax: (916) 978-6099.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation, California.	Jeff Grubbe, Chairman, <i>jplata@aguacaliente.net</i> .	5401 Dinah Shore Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92264.	(760) 699-6919	(760) 699-6863
Alturas Indian Rancheria, California .....	Phillip Del Rosa, <i>Air530@yahoo.com</i> .....	P.O. Box 340, Alturas, CA 96101 .....	(541) 941-2324	(530) 223-4165
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, California.	Heather Haines, Tribal Operations Manager, <i>hhaines@augustinetribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 846, Coachella, CA 92236 .....	(760) 398-4722	(760) 368-4252
Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, California.	Josefina Cortez, Chairwoman, <i>josefinacortez@brb-nsn.gov</i> .	266 Keisner Rd., Loleta, CA 95551 .....	(707) 502-8731	(707) 875-7229
Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California.	Maria Ramirez, ICWA Director & Tribal Representative, <i>mramirez@berrycreekrancheria.com</i> .	5 Tyme Way, Oroville, CA 95966 .....	(530) 534-3859	(530) 534-0343
Big Lagoon Rancheria, California .....	Virgil Moorehead, Chairperson, <i>vmoorehead@earthlink.net</i> .	P.O. Box 3060, Trinidad, CA 95570 .....	(707) 826-2079	(707) 826-0495
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley	<i>info@bigpinepaiute.org</i> .....	P.O. Box 700, Big Pine, CA 93513 .....	(760) 938-2003	(760) 938-2942
Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians of California.	Tamara Hiebert, ICWA Representative, <i>bsricwa@bsmation.com</i> .	P.O. Box 337, Auberry, CA 93602 .....	(559) 374-0066	.....
Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Valley Rancheria, California.	ICWA Representative, <i>resparza@big-valley.net</i> .	ICWA, 2726 Mission Rancheria Road, Lakeport, CA 95453.	(707) 263-3924	(707) 533-2941
Bishop Paiute Tribe .....	Tammy Andrade, ICWA Specialist, <i>tammy.andrade@bishoppaiute.org</i> .	50 TuSu Lane, Bishop, CA 93514 .....	(760) 873-7799	(760) 873-3529
Blue Lake Rancheria, California .....	Claudia Brundin, Chairperson, <i>lalbright@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 428, Blue Lake, CA 95525 .....	(707) 668-5101	(707) 668-4272
Bridgeport Indian Colony .....	John Glazier, Tribal Chair, <i>chair@bridgeportindiancolony.com</i> .	355 Sage Brush Drive, Bridgeport, CA 93517.	(760) 932-7083	(760) 932-7846
Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California.	Christina Pimental, Receptionist, <i>christina@BuenaVistaTribe.com</i> .	1418 20th Street, Suite #200, Sacramento, CA 95811.	(916) 491-0011	(916) 491-0012

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, California.	Doug Welmas, Chairman, <i>nmarkwardt@cabazonindians-nsn.gov</i> .	84-245 Indio Springs Parkway, Indio, CA 92203.	(760) 342-2593	(760) 347-7880
Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community of the Colusa Rancheria, California.	Yvonne Page, Counselor, <i>ypage@colusa-nsn.gov</i> .	3730 Highway 45, Colusa, CA 95932	(530) 458-6571	(530) 458-8061
Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria	Mary J. Norris, Chairperson, <i>chairman@cahto.org</i> .	P.O. Box 1239, Laytonville, CA 95454	(707) 984-6197	(707) 984-6201
Cahuilla Band of Indians	Lisa Mariano, Social Worker, <i>Socialworker@cahuilla.net</i> .	52701 Hwy. 371, Anza, CA 92539	(951) 795-8672	(951) 763-2808
California Valley Miwok Tribe, California	DOI/Bureau of Indian Affairs	Pacific Regional Office, 2800 Cottage Way, Rm. W-2820, Sacramento, CA 95825.	(916) 978-6000	(916) 978-6099
Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Campo Indian Reservation, California.	Indian Child Social Services Director	4058 Willow Road, Alpine, CA 91901	(619) 445-1188	(619) 659-3144
Capitan Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California (Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians of the Barona Reservation, California).	Indian Child Social Services, <i>counciloffice@barona-nsn.gov</i> .	1095 Barona Road, Lakeside, CA 92040	(619) 443-6612	(619) 443-0681
Capitan Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California: Viejas (Baron Long) Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians of the Viejas Reservation, California.	John Christman, Chairman	P.O. Box 908, Alpine, CA 91901	(619) 445-3810	
Cedarville Rancheria, California	Richard Lash, Chairperson, <i>cr.munholand@gmail.com</i> .	300 West 1st Street, Alturas, CA 96101	(530) 233-3969	(530) 233-4776
Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, California.	Amy Atkins, Executive Manager, <i>aatkins@trinidadrancheria.com</i> .	P.O. Box 630, Trinidad, CA 95570	(707) 677-0211	(707) 677-3921
Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California.	Lloyd Mathiesen, Chairman, <i>chixrnch@mlode.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1159, Jamestown, CA 95327	(209) 984-9066	(209) 984-5606
Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California.	Patricia Mermosillo, Chairperson	555 S Cloverdale Blvd., Cloverdale, CA 95425.	(707) 894-5775	(707) 894-5727
Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California.	Helena Alarcon, Chairperson	P.O. Box 209, Tollhouse, CA 93667	(559) 855-5043	(559) 855-4445
Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California.	Liz Elgin DeRouen, Executive Director, <i>liz@icfpp.net</i> .	2525 Cleveland Ave, Ste. H, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.	(707) 463-2644	(707) 463-8956
Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, California.	Liz Elgin DeRouen, Executive Director, <i>liz@icfpp.net</i> .	2525 Cleveland Avenue, Ste. H, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.	(707) 463-2644	(707) 463-8956
Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulphur Bank Rancheria, California.	Augustin Garcia, Chairperson, <i>a.garcia@elemindiancolony.org</i> .	P.O. Box 757, Lower Lake, CA 95457	(707) 994-3400	(707) 994-3408
Elk Valley Rancheria, California	Dale Miller, Chairman, <i>swoods@elk-valley.com</i> .	2332 Howland Hill Rd, Crescent City, CA 95531.	(707) 464-4680	(707) 464-4519
Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California.	Shari Ghalayini, ICWA Representative, <i>sharig@enterpriserancheria.org</i> .	2133 Montevista Ave, Oroville, CA 95966.	(530) 532-9214	(530) 532-1768
Ewiiaapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians, California.	Indian Child Social Services Director	Southern Indian Health Council, Inc., 4058 Willows Road, Alpine, CA 91901.	(619) 445-1188	(619) 659-3144
Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, California.	Greg Sarris, Chairman	6400 Redwood Drive, Ste. #300, Rohnert Park, CA 94928.	(707) 566-2288	(707) 566-2291
Fort Bidwell Indian Community of the Fort Bidwell Reservation of California.	Kevin Dean Townsend, Chairman, <i>liz.zendejas@fbicc.com</i> .	P.O. Box 129, Fort Bidwell, CA 96112	(530) 279-6310	(530) 279-2233
Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians of the Fort Independence Reservation, California.	Norman Wilder, Chairperson, <i>receptionist@fortindependence.com</i> .	P.O. Box 67, Independence, CA 93526	(760) 878-5160	(760) 878-2311
Greenville Rancheria	Patty Allen, ICWA Coordinator, <i>pallen@greenvillerrancheria.com</i> .	P.O. Box 279, Greenville, CA 95947	(530) 284-7990	(530) 284-7299
Grindstone Indian Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki Indians of California.	Ronald Kirk, Chairman, <i>girrancheria@yahoo.com</i> .	ICWA, P.O. Box 63, Elk Creek, CA 95939.	(530) 968-5365	(530) 968-5366
Guidiville Rancheria of California	Merlene Sanchez, Tribal Chairperson, <i>admin@guidiville.net</i> .	P.O. Box 339, Talmage, CA 95481	(707) 462-3682	(707) 462-9183
Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, California.	Sherry Treppa, Chairperson, <i>aaroyosr@hpultribe-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 516, Upper Lake, CA 95485	(707) 275-0737	(707) 275-0757
Hoopa Valley Tribe, California	Ryan Jackson, Chairperson, <i>hoopa.receptionist@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1348, Hoopa, CA 95546	(530) 625-4211	(530) 625-4594
Hopland Band of Pomo Indians, California	Josephine Loomis, ICWA Social Case Manager, <i>jloomis@hoplandtribe.com</i> .	3000 Shanel Rd., Hopland, CA 95449	(707) 472-2100	(707) 744-8643
lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, California	Social Services Director, <i>lipayinfo@yahoo.com</i> .	Santa Ysabel Social Services Dept., P.O. Box 701, Santa Ysabel, CA 92070.	(760) 765-1106	(760) 765-0312
Inaja Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation, California.	Social Services Manager, <i>kkolb@indianhealth.com</i> .	Indian Health Council, Inc., P.O. Box 406, Pauma Valley, CA 92061.	(760) 749-1410	(760) 749-5518
Ione Band of Miwok Indians of California	Sara A. Dutschke, Chairperson, <i>info@ionemiwok.net</i> .	P.O. Box 699, Plymouth, CA 95669	(209) 245-5800	(209) 245-6377
Jackson Band of Miwok Indians	Adam Dalton, Chairperson, <i>mmorla@jacksoncasino.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1090, Jackson, CA 95642	(209) 223-1935	(209) 223-5366
Jamul Indian Village of California	Indian Child Social Services Director	Southern Indian Health Council, Inc., 4058 Willow Rd., Alpine, CA 91901.	(619) 445-1188	(619) 659-3144
Karuk Tribe	Joseph E. Snapp, MSW, LCSW, Karuk Child Welfare Administrator, <i>joesnapp@karuk.us</i> .	P.O. Box 1207, Yreka, CA 96097	(530) 841-3141	(503) 841-7107
Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria, California.	Liz Elgin DeRouen, Executive Director, <i>liz@icfpp.net</i> .	2525 Cleveland Avenue, Ste. H, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.	(707) 463-2644	(707) 463-8956

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Kletsel Dehe Band of Wintun Indians .....	Charlie Wright, Chairperson, <i>cww281@gmail.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1630, Williams, CA 95987 .....	(530) 473-3274	(530) 473-3301
Koi Nation of Northern California .....	Darin Beltran, Chairperson .....	P.O. Box 3162, Santa Rosa, CA 95402	(707) 575-5586	(707) 575-5506
La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians, California.	Social Services Manager, <i>kkolb@indianhealth.com</i> .	Indian Health Council, Inc., P.O. Box 406, Pauma Valley, CA 92061.	(760) 749-5518	(707) 749-5518
La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the La Posta Indian Reservation, California.	Indian Child Social Services Director .....	Southern Indian Health Council Inc., 4058 Willow Rd., Alpine, CA 91901.	(619) 445-1188	(619) 659-3144
Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe .....	Richard Button & Kathy Brancroft, Chairperson & Enrollment Committee Chairperson, <i>chair@lppsr.org</i> .	P.O. Box 747, Lone Pine, CA 93545 .....	(760) 876-1034	(760) 876-4500
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians, California.	Social Services Manager, <i>kkolb@indianhealth.com</i> .	Indian Health Council, Inc., P.O. Box 406, Pauma Valley, CA 92061.	(760) 749-1410	(760) 749-5518
Lytton Rancheria of California .....	Liz Elgin DeRouen, Executive Director, <i>liz@icfpp.net</i> .	2525 Cleveland Avenue, Ste. H, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.	(707) 463-2644	(707) 463-8956
Manchester Band of Pomo Indians of the Manchester Rancheria, California.	Liz Elgin DeRouen, Executive Director, <i>liz@icfpp.net</i> .	2525 Cleveland Avenue, Ste. H, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.	(707) 463-2644	(707) 463-8956
Manzanita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Manzanita Reservation, California.	Angela Elliott-Santos, Chairperson, <i>ljbirdsinger@aol.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1302, Boulevard, CA 91905 ....	(619) 766-4930	(619) 766-4957
Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria, California.	Dennis Ramirez, Chairman, <i>mit@mechoopda-nsn.gov</i> .	125 Mission Ranch Blvd, Chico, CA 95926.	(530) 899-8922	(530) 899-8517
Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Mesa Grande Reservation, California.	Social Services Manager, <i>kkolb@indianhealth.com</i> .	Indian Health Council, Inc., P.O. Box 406, Pauma Valley, CA 92061.	(760) 749-1410	(760) 749-5518
Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California.	Marty Comito, ICWA Director, <i>mcomito@middletownrancheria.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1035, Middletown, CA 95461 ..	(707) 987-8288	(707) 987-9091
Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California.	Benjamin Clark, Chairman, <i>lwinner@mooretown.org</i> .	1 Alverda Drive, Oroville, CA 95966 .....	(530) 533-3625	(530) 533-3680
Morongo Band of Mission Indians, California.	Legal Department, <i>legal@morongo-nsn.gov</i> .	12700 Pumarra Road, Banning, CA 92220.	(951) 572-6016	(951) 572-6108
Northfork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California.	Elaine Bethel Fink & Tawanish Lavell, Chairperson & ICWA Representative, <i>nfrancheria@northforkrancheria-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 929, North Fork, CA 93643 .....	(559) 877-2461	(559) 877-2467
Pala Band of Mission Indians .....	Robert Smith, Chairman, <i>morozco@palatribe.com</i> .	35008 Pala-Temecula Road—PMB-50, Pala, CA 92059.	(760) 891-3500	(760) 891-3587
Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians of California.	Natasha Magana, Tribal Member at Large, <i>office@paskenta.org</i> .	P.O. Box 709, Corning, CA 96021 .....	(530) 528-3538	(530) 528-3553
Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma & Yuima Reservation, California.	Social Services Manager, <i>kkolb@indianhealth.com</i> .	Indian Health Council, Inc., P.O. Box 406, Pauma Valley, CA 92061.	(760) 749-1410	(760) 749-5518
Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation, California.	Mark Macarro, Chairman, <i>cfs@pechanga-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 1477, Temecula, CA 92593 ....	(951) 770-6105	(951) 695-1778
Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians of California.	Orianna C. Walker, ICWA Coordinator, <i>orianna.walker@chukchansi.net</i> .	P.O. Box 2146, Oakhurst, CA 93644 .....	(559) 412-5590	(559) 440-6494
Pinoleville Pomo Nation, California .....	Clayton Freeman, ICWA Coordinator, <i>clayton@pinoleville-nsn.gov</i> .	500 B Pinoleville Drive, Ukiah, CA 95482.	(707) 463-1454	(707) 463-6601
Pit River Tribe, California .....	Percy Tejada, ICWA Coordinator, <i>icwa@pitrivertribe.org</i> .	36970 Park Avenue, Burney, CA 96013	(530) 335-5421	(530) 335-3140
Potter Valley Tribe, California .....	Salvador Rosales, Chairman, <i>pottervalleytribe@pottervalleytribe.com</i> .	2251 South State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482.	(707) 462-1213	(707) 462-1240
Quartz Valley Indian Community of the Quartz Valley Reservation of California.	Conrad Croy, ICWA Director, <i>Conrad.Croy@qvir-nsn.gov</i> .	13601 Quartz Valley Rd., Fort Jones, CA 96032.	(530) 468-5907	(530) 468-5908
Ramona Band of Cahuilla, California .....	Joseph Hamilton, Chairman .....	P.O. Box 391670, Anza, CA 92539 .....	(951) 763-4105	(951) 763-4325
Redding Rancheria, California .....	Jack Potter, Jr., Chairman, <i>hopew@redding-rancheria.com</i> .	2000 Redding Rancheria Road, Redding, CA 96001.	(530) 225-8979	.....
Redwood Valley or Little River Band of Pomo Indians of the Redwood Valley Rancheria California.	Chris Piekarski, ICWA Coordinator, <i>icwa@rvrpomo.net</i> .	3250 Road I, "B" Building, Redwood Valley, CA 95470.	(707) 485-0361	(707) 485-5726
Resighini Rancheria, California .....	Fawn Murphy, Chairperson, <i>fawn.murphy@resighinirancheria.com</i> .	P.O. Box 529, Klamath, CA 95548 .....	(707) 482-2431	(707) 482-3425
Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Rincon Reservation, California.	Social Services Manager, <i>kkolb@indianhealth.com</i> .	Indian Health Council, Inc., P.O. Box 406, Pauma Valley, CA 92061.	(760) 749-1410	(760) 749-5518
Robinson Rancheria .....	Marsha Lee, ICWA Coordinator .....	P.O. Box 4015, Nice, CA 95464 .....	(707) 900-1456	(707) 275-0235
Round Valley Indian Tribes, Round Valley Reservation, California.	James Russ, President, <i>president@council.rvit.org</i> .	77826 Covelo Road, Covelo, CA 95428	(707) 983-6126	(707) 983-6128
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, California.	Tribal Secretary, <i>broberson@sanmanual-nsn.gov</i> .	26569 Community Center Drive, Highland, CA 92346.	(909) 864-8933	(909) 864-0890
San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California.	Social Services Manager, <i>kkolb@indianhealth.com</i> .	Indian Health Council, Inc., P.O. Box 406, Pauma Valley, CA 92061.	(760) 749-1410	(760) 749-5518
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, California.	Steven Estrada, Chairperson, <i>srttribaloffice@aol.com</i> .	P.O. Box 391820, Anza, CA 92539 .....	(951) 659-2700	(951) 689-2228
Santa Rosa Indian Community of the Santa Rosa Rancheria, California.	Luz M. Rodrigues (Primary) and Leo Sisco (Secondary), Tribal Social Services Director/Tribal Chairman, <i>lrodrigues@tachi-yokut-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 8, Lemoore, CA 93245 .....	(559) 924-1278	(559) 925-2947
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Mission Indians of the Santa Ynez Reservation, California.	Caren Romero, ICWA, <i>info@sybmi.org</i> ..	90 Via Juana Lane, Santa Ynez, CA 93460.	(805) 688-7997	(805) 686-9578
Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California.	Kathy Russ, ICWA Advocate .....	1005 Parallel Drive, Lakeport, CA 95453	(707) 263-4220	(707) 263-4345

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California.	Melanie Rafanan and Travis Wright, Tribal Chairperson and ICWA Advocate, <i>mrafanan@sherwoodband.com</i> .	190 Sherwood Hill Drive, Willits, CA 95490.	(707) 459-9690	(707) 459-6936
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria (Verona Tract), California.	Regina Cuellar, Chairwoman, <i>tribalchairperson@ssband.org</i> .	P.O. Box 1340, Shingle Springs, CA 95682.	(530) 698-1400	(530) 384-8064
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, California.	Alicia Golchuk, Director of Soboba Tribal Family Services, <i>agolchuk@sobobansn.gov</i> .	Soboba Tribal Family Services Dept., P.O. Box 487, San Jacinto, CA 92581.	(951) 487-0283	(951) 487-1738
Susanville Indian Rancheria, California ....	Deana M. Bovee, Tribal Chairwoman, <i>dbovee@sir-nsn.gov</i> .	745 Joaquin St., Susanville, CA 96130 ..	(530) 257-6264	(530) 257-7986
Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation .....	Cody Martinez, Chairman .....	1 Kwaaypaay Court, El Cajon, CA 92019.	(619) 445-2613	(619) 445-1927
Table Mountain Rancheria .....	Leanne Walker-Grant, Chairperson .....	P.O. Box 410, Friant, CA 93626 .....	(559) 822-2587	(559) 822-2693
Tejon Indian Tribe .....	Octavio Escobedo, Chairperson, <i>office@tejontribe.net</i> .	1731 Hasti Acres, Ste. 108, Bakersfield, CA 93309.	(661) 834-8566	(661) 834-8564
Timbisha Shoshone Tribe .....	Wallace Eddy, ICWA Representative, <i>icwa@timbisha.com</i> .	621 West Line Street, Ste. 109, Bishop, CA 93514.	(760) 872-3614	(760) 872-3670
Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation .....	Dorothy Wait, CFS Director, <i>dwait@tolowa.com</i> .	Community & Family Services, 16299 Hwy. 101N, Smith River, CA 95567.	(707) 487-9255	(707) 487-0137
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, California.	Thomas Torte, Chairman, <i>thomas.tortez@torresmartinez-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 1160, Thermal, CA 92274 .....	(760) 397-0300	(760) 397-8300
Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation, California.	Neil Peyron, Chairman, <i>Neil.Peyron@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 589, Porterville, CA 93258 .....	(559) 781-4271	(559) 781-4610
Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria of California.	Diane Carpenter, Director, LMFT, ICWA Representative/Supervisor, Social Services Department, <i>diana@mewuk.com</i> .	P.O. Box 699, Tuolumne, CA 95379 .....	(209) 928-5327	(209) 928-1552
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California.	Darrel Mike, Spokesman .....	P.O. Box 2269, Coachella, CA 92236 ....	(760) 863-2444	(760) 863-2449
United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California.	Gene Whitehouse, Chairman, <i>jbeck@auburnrancheria.com</i> .	10720 Indian Hill Road, Auburn, CA 95603.	(530) 883-2390	(530) 833-2380
Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe of the Benton Paiute Reservation, California.	Shane Salque, Chairman, <i>shanesalque@hotmail.com</i> .	25669 Hwy. 6 PMB 1, Benton, CA 93512.	(760) 933-2321	(760) 933-2412
Wilton Rancheria, California .....	Vanessa Pady, Director, <i>vpady@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov</i> .	ICWA, 9728 Kent Street, Elk Grove, CA 95624.	(916) 683-6000	(916) 683-6015
Wiyot Tribe, California .....	Theodore Hernandez, Chairperson, <i>michelle@wiyot.us</i> .	1000 Wiyot Drive, Loleta, CA 95551 .....	(707) 733-5055	(707) 733-5601
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, California ....	James Kinter, Tribal Council Secretary, <i>djones@yochadehe-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 18, Brooks, CA 95606 .....	(530) 796-3400	(530) 796-2143
Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation, California.	Alita Redner, Child and Family Indian Child Welfare Director, <i>YurokICWA@yuroktribe.nsn.us</i> .	P.O. Box 1027, Klamath, CA 95548 .....	(707) 482-1350	(707) 482-1368

9. Rocky Mountain Region

Phone: (406) 247-7943; Fax: (406) 247-7976.

Rocky Mountain Regional Director,  
2021 4th Avenue N, Billings, MT 59101;

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming.	Shelley Mbonu, ICWA Director, <i>shelley.mbonu@northernarapaho.com</i> .	P.O. Box 951, Riverton, WY 82501 .....	(307) 335-3957	(307) 463-4182
Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana.	Ingrid Firemoon, ICWA Coordinator, <i>ifiremoon@fortpecktribes.net</i> .	P.O. Box 1027, Poplar, MT 59255 .....	(406) 768-2308	(406) 768-5658
Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana.	Kathy Calf Boss Ribs, ICWA Coordinator, <i>kathybossribs@yahoo.com</i> .	P.O. Box 588, Browning, MT 59417 .....	(406) 338-5171	(406) 338-7726
Chippewa Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, Montana.	Shaneen Raining Bird Hammond, ICWA Case Manager, <i>icwa@cct.rockyboy.org</i> .	96 Clinic Road No., Box Elder, MT 59521.	(406) 262-8093	(406) 395-5702
Crow Tribe of Montana .....	Kerrera Pretty Paint, ICWA Contact, <i>Kerrera.PrettyPaint@crow-nsn.gov</i> .	P.O. Box 340, Crow Agency, MT 59022	(406) 679-3066	(406) 702-7981
Eastern Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming.	Sara Robinson, ICWA Director, <i>srobinson@easternshoshone.org</i> .	P.O. Box 538, Fort Washakie, WY 82514.	(307) 332-6591	(307) 332-6593
Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation of Montana.	Myron L. Trotter, ICWA Case Manager, <i>mtrotter@fbelknap.org</i> .	656 Agency Main Street, Harlem, MT 59526.	(406) 353-8328	(406) 353-4634
Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana.	Gerald Gray .....	615 Central Ave. West, Great Falls, MT 59404.	(406) 690-9757	.....
Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Montana.	Michelle Little Wolf, ICWA Coordinator I, <i>michelle.littlewolf@cheyennenation.com</i> .	P.O. Box 128, Lame Deer, MT 59043 ....	(406) 477-4830	(406) 477-8333

10. Southern Plains Region

73005; Phone: (405) 247-6673 Ext. 217; Fax: (405) 247-5611.

Southern Plains Regional Director, 1  
Mile North, Hwy. 281, Anadarko, OK

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.	Melissa Hill, ICW Director, <i>mhill@astribe.com</i> .	2025 S Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.	(405) 395-4492	(405) 395-4495
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas .....	Melissa Celestine, ICW Director, <i>celestine.melissa@actribe.org</i> .	571 State Park Road, #56, Livingston, TX 77351.	(936) 563-1253	(936) 563-1254
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma .....	ICW Director, Apache ICW Worker, <i>icw@kiowatribe.org</i> .	P.O. Box 9, Carnegie, OK 73015 .....	(580) 654-6340	.....
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma .....	Kalina Youngman, ICW Caseworker, <i>kalina.youngman@wichitatribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 729, Anadarko, OK 73005 .....	(405) 247-8624	.....
Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Oklahoma	Ephram Kelly, ICW Coordinator, <i>rfeiter@c-a-tribes.org</i> .	P.O. Box 27, Concho, OK 73022 .....	(405) 422-7557	(405) 422-8249
Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma .....	Ashley May, ICW Director, <i>amay@potawatomi.org</i> .	1601 S Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.	(405) 878-4831	(405) 878-4659
Comanche Nation, Oklahoma .....	Evelyn Mithlo-Turner, ICW Director, <i>carolm@comanchenation.com</i> .	P.O. Box 908, Lawton, OK 73502 .....	(580) 280-4751	(580) 280-4751
Delaware Nation, Oklahoma .....	Cassandra Acuna, ICW Director, <i>cacuna@delawarenation.com</i> .	P.O. Box 825, Anadarko, OK 73005 .....	(405) 247-2448	(405) 247-5942
Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma .....	ICWA Coordinator, <i>brian.wahnee@fortsillapache-nsn.gov</i> .	43187 U.S. Highway 281, Apache, OK 73006.	(580) 522-2298	(580) 588-3133
Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska .....	Native American Family Services Inc .....	3303 B. Thrasher Rd., White Cloud, KS 66094.	(785) 595-3260	.....
Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma .....	Tamera Hudgins, ICW Director, <i>thudgins@ioesnation.org</i> .	Rt. 1, Box 721, Perkins, OK 74059 .....	(405) 547-2402	(405) 547-1060
Kaw Nation, Oklahoma .....	Lebrandia Lamley, ICW Director, <i>llemley@kawnation.com</i> .	Drawer 50, Kaw City, OK 74641 .....	(580) 269-2003	(580) 269-2113
Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas .....	ICWA Director .....	2212 Rosita Valley Road, Eagle Pass, TX 78852.	(830) 421-6300	.....
Kickapoo Tribe of Indians of the Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas.	ICWA .....	824 111th Dr., Horton, KS 66439 .....	(785) 486-2131	.....
Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma .....	Nathie Wallace, Indian Child Welfare Director.	P.O. Box 469, McLoud, OK 74851 .....	(405) 964-5426	(405) 964-5431
Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma .....	Davetta Geimausaddle, ICW Director, <i>ICW@kiowatribe.org</i> .	P.O. Box 369, Carnegie, OK 73015 .....	(580) 654-2439	(580) 654-2363
Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, Oklahoma.	Andrea Kihaga, Social Services Director, <i>akihega@omtribe.org</i> .	8151 Highway 177, Red Rock, OK 74651.	(580) 723-4466	(580) 723-1016
Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma .....	Amanda Farren, ICWA Director, <i>afarren@pawneenation.org</i> .	P.O. Box 470, Pawnee, OK 74058 .....	(918) 762-3261	(918) 762-6449
Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma .....	Stephanie Ruminer, ICW Director, <i>ptoicw@gmail.com</i> .	20 White Eagle Drive, Ponca City, OK 74601.	(580) 463-0133	(580) 763-0134
Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation .....	Julia Alfors, ICW Director .....	16281 Q Road, Mayetta, KS 66509 .....	(785) 966-8325	(785) 966-8388
Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska.	Chasity Davis, ICW Director, <i>cdavis@sacandfoxcasino.com</i> .	305 N Main Street, Reserve, KS 66434	(785) 742-4708	(785) 288-1163
Sac and Fox Nation, Oklahoma .....	Karen Hamilton, ICW Director, <i>karen.hamilton@sacandfoxnation-nsn.gov</i> .	215 North Harrison, Box 246, Shawnee, OK 74801.	(918) 968-3526	(405) 395-0858
Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma ....	Christi Gonzalez, ICW Director, <i>cgonzalez@tonkwatribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 70, Tonkawa, OK 74653 .....	(580) 628-7025	(580) 628-7025
Wichita and Affiliated Tribes (Wichita, Keechi, Waco & Tawakonie), Oklahoma.	Joan Williams, ICW Director, <i>joan.williams@wichitatribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 729, Anadarko, OK 73005 .....	(405) 247-8627	(405) 247-3256

## 11. Southwest Region

Southwest Regional Director, 1001  
Indian School Road NW, Albuquerque,

NM 87104; Phone: (505) 563-3103; Fax:  
(505) 563-3101.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Jicarilla Apache Nation, New Mexico .....	Gina Keeswood, ICWA Specialist, <i>gkeeswood@jbhd.org</i> .	P.O. Box 120, Dulce, NM 87528 .....	(575) 759-1712	(575) 759-3757
Kewa Pueblo, New Mexico .....	Virginia Tenorio & Doris Mina, Family Services Director & ICWA Representative, <i>vtenorio@kewa-nsn.us</i> .	P.O. Box 129, Santo Domingo, NM 87052.	(505) 465-0630	(505) 465-2554
Mescalero Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation, New Mexico.	Augusta Williams, ICWA Case Manager, <i>awilliams@mescaleroapachetribe.com</i> .	P.O. Box 228, Mescalero, NM 88340 .....	(575) 464-4334	(575) 464-4331
Ohkay Owingeh, New Mexico .....	Rochelle Thompson, ICWA Manager, <i>rochelle.thompson@ohkay.org</i> .	P.O. Box 1187, Ohkay Owingeh, NM 87566.	(575) 852-6108	(505) 692-0333
Pueblo of Acoma, New Mexico .....	Manfred Failla, Child Welfare Specialist, <i>MFailla@poamail.org</i> .	P.O. Box 354, Acoma, NM 87034 .....	(505) 552-5162	(505) 552-0903
Pueblo of Cochiti, New Mexico .....	Tanya Devon Torres, ICWA Specialist, <i>tanyatorres@pueblodecochiti.org</i> .	P.O. Box 70, Cochiti Pueblo, NM 87072	(505) 465-3139	(505) 465-3173
Pueblo of Isleta, New Mexico .....	Caroline Dailey and Jacqueline Yalch, Social Services Director and ICWA Coordinator, <i>poi05001@isletapueblo.com</i> .	P.O. Box 1270, Isleta, NM 87022 .....	(505) 869-2772	(505) 869-7575
Pueblo of Jemez, New Mexico .....	Annette Gachupin, Child Advocate, <i>agachupin@jemezpueblo.us</i> .	P.O. Box 340, Jemez Pueblo, NM 87024	(575) 834-7117	(575) 834-7103
Pueblo of Laguna, New Mexico .....	Marsha Vallo, Social Service Program Manager, <i>mvallo@pol-nsn.gov</i> .	Social Services Department, P.O. Box 194, Laguna, NM 87026.	(505) 552-6513	(505) 552-6387
Pueblo of Nambe, New Mexico .....	Julie Bird, ICWA Manager, <i>ICWA@nambepueblo.org</i> .	15A NP 102 West, Santa Fe, NM 87506	(505) 445-4446	(505) 455-4449
Pueblo of Picuris, New Mexico .....	Deborah Shemayne, ICWA Director, <i>icwa@picurispueblo.org</i> .	ICWA, P.O. Box 127, Penasco, NM 87553.	(575) 288-9047	(575) 587-1003

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Pueblo of Pojoaque, New Mexico .....	Stacie Waters, Foster Care At Risk Family Coordinator ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:swaters@pojoaque.org">swaters@pojoaque.org</a> .	58 Cities of Gold Rd., Ste. #4, Santa Fe, NM 87506.	(505) 455-0238	(505) 455-0238
Pueblo of San Felipe, New Mexico .....	Darlene J. Valencia, Family Services Director/ICWA Representative, <a href="mailto:dvalencia@sfpueblo.com">dvalencia@sfpueblo.com</a> .	P.O. Box 4339, San Felipe Pueblo, NM 87001.	(505) 771-9900	(505) 771-9978
Pueblo of San Ildefonso, New Mexico .....	Darren Stand, Tribal Administrator, <a href="mailto:dbstand@sanipueblo.org">dbstand@sanipueblo.org</a> .	02 Tunyo Po, Santa Fe, NM 87506 .....	(505) 455-2273	(505) 455-7351
Pueblo of Sandia, New Mexico .....	Bree Kerr, Tribal Court Administrator, <a href="mailto:akerr@sandiapueblo.nsn.us">akerr@sandiapueblo.nsn.us</a> .	481 Sandia Loop, Bernalillo, NM 87004	(505) 771-5005	(505) 867-7099
Pueblo of Santa Ana, New Mexico .....	Edward Ackron, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:edward.Ackron@santaana-nsn.gov">edward.Ackron@santaana-nsn.gov</a> .	02 Dove Road, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM 87004.	(505) 771-6765	(505) 771-6537
Pueblo of Santa Clara, New Mexico .....	Dennis Silva, Director of Social Services, <a href="mailto:dsilva@santaclarapueblo.org">dsilva@santaclarapueblo.org</a> .	P.O. Box 580, Espanola, NM 87532 .....	(505) 753-0419	(505) 753-0420
Pueblo of Taos, New Mexico .....	Ezra Bayles, Director, <a href="mailto:ebayles@taospueblo.com">ebayles@taospueblo.com</a> .	P.O. Box 1846, Taos, NM 87571 .....	(575) 758-7824	(575) 758-3346
Pueblo of Tesuque, New Mexico .....	Donna Quintana, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:donna.quintana@pueblooftesuque.org">donna.quintana@pueblooftesuque.org</a> .	Box 360T, Route 42, Santa Fe, NM 87506.	(505) 469-0173	(505) 820-7780
Pueblo of Zia, New Mexico .....	Wiyanna Chavez, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:wiyanna.chavez@ziapueblo.org">wiyanna.chavez@ziapueblo.org</a> .	135 Capital Square Drive, Zia Pueblo, NM 87053.	(505) 401-8142	(505) 867-3308
Ramah Navajo Chapter of the Navajo Nation.	Loretta Martinez, Social Service Director, <a href="mailto:lorettamrtz@yahoo.com">lorettamrtz@yahoo.com</a> .	Ramah Navajo School Board Inc.—Ramah Navajo Social Service Program, P.O. Box 250, Pinehill, NM 87357.	(505) 775-3221	(505) 775-3520
Southern Ute Indian Tribe of the Southern Ute Reservation, Colorado.	Julianne Begay, Social Services Attorney, <a href="mailto:jbegay@southernute-nsn.gov">jbegay@southernute-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 737, Ignacio, CO 81137 .....	(970) 563-0100	(970) 563-4854
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe .....	Tywana Billie Lopez, UMU Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:tbillie@utemountain.org">tbillie@utemountain.org</a> .	P.O. Box 309, Towaoc, CO 81334 .....	(970) 564-5307	.....
Ysleta del Sur Pueblo .....	Leah Lopez, Supervisor, <a href="mailto:llopez@ydsps-nsn.gov">llopez@ydsps-nsn.gov</a> .	9314 Juanchido Ln., El Paso, TX 79907	(915) 860-6170	(915) 242-6556
Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation, New Mexico.	Ron Reid, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:ron.reid@ashiwi.org">ron.reid@ashiwi.org</a> .	P.O. Box 339, Zuni, NM 87327 .....	(505) 782-7166	(505) 782-7221

## 12. Western Region

Western Regional Director, 2600 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

85004; Phone: (602) 379-6600; Fax: (602) 379-4413.

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Ak-Chin Indian Community .....	Dorissa Garcia, Enrollment Coordinator, <a href="mailto:dgarcia@ak-chin.nsn.us">dgarcia@ak-chin.nsn.us</a> .	42507 West Peters & Nall Road, Maricopa, AZ 85138.	(520) 568-1074	(520) 568-1079
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe of the Chemehuevi Reservation, California.	Dawn McElwain, ICWA Director, <a href="mailto:icwa@cit-nsn.gov">icwa@cit-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 1976, Havasu Lake, CA 92363	(760) 858-5426	(760) 858-5400
Cocopah Tribe of Arizona .....	Rafael D. Morales, Jr., ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:moralesr@cocopah.com">moralesr@cocopah.com</a> .	14515 South Veterans Dr., Somerton, AZ 85350.	(928) 627-3729	(928) 627-3316
Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation, Arizona and California.	Rebecca Loudbear, Attorney General, <a href="mailto:rloudbear@critdoj.com">rloudbear@critdoj.com</a> .	26600 Mohave Road, Parker, AZ 85344	(928) 669-1271	(928) 669-5675
Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation, Nevada and Utah.	Jeanine Hooper, Social Services/ICWA Director, <a href="mailto:jeanine.hooper@ctgr.us">jeanine.hooper@ctgr.us</a> .	HC61 Box 6104, Ibabah, UT 84034 .....	(833) 228-6509	(435) 234-1219
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation, Nevada.	Debra O'Neil, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:debbie.oneil@ths.gov">debbie.oneil@ths.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 140087, Duckwater, NV 89314	(775) 863-0222	(775) 863-0142
Ely Shoshone Tribe of Nevada .....	Georgia Valdez, Social Services Worker, <a href="mailto:dorda123@yahoo.com">dorda123@yahoo.com</a> .	250B Heritage Drive, Ely, NV 89301 .....	(775) 289-4133	(775) 289-3237
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes of the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation, Nevada and Oregon.	Elena Dave, ICWA Advocate, <a href="mailto:alenadave83@gmail.com">alenadave83@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 68, McDermitt, NV 89421 .....	(775) 532-8263	(775) 532-8060
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Arizona ...	ICWA Coordinator/CPS Worker, ICWA Coordinator/CPS Worker Wassaja Family Services.	P.O. Box 17779, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269.	(480) 789-7990	(480) 837-4809
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe of Arizona, California & Nevada.	Melvin Lewis Sr., Social Services Department Director, <a href="mailto:ssdir@fmojave.com">ssdir@fmojave.com</a> .	500 Merriman Avenue, Needles, CA 92363.	(928) 346-1550	(928) 346-1552
Gila River Indian Community of the Gila River Indian Reservation, Arizona.	Antoinette Enos, ICWA Case Manager, <a href="mailto:antoinette.enos@gric.nsn.gov">antoinette.enos@gric.nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 427, Sacaton, AZ 85147 .....	(520) 562-3396	(520) 562-3633
Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation, Arizona.	Rita Uqualla, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:ruqualla@yahoo.com">ruqualla@yahoo.com</a> .	P.O. Box 10, Supai, AZ 86435 .....	(928) 433-8153	(928) 433-8119
Hopi Tribe of Arizona .....	Lorene Vicente, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:LVicente@hopi.nsn.us">LVicente@hopi.nsn.us</a> .	P.O. Box 123, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039 ....	(928) 734-3392	(928) 734-1158
Hualapai Indian Tribe of the Hualapai Indian Reservation, Arizona.	Idella Keluche, ICWA Worker, <a href="mailto:ikeluche@hualapai-nsn.gov">ikeluche@hualapai-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 480, Peach Springs, AZ 86434	(928) 769-2269/2383/2384/2397	(928) 769-2659
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation, Arizona.	Jennie K. Kalauli, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:ikeluche@hualapai-nsn.gov">ikeluche@hualapai-nsn.gov</a> .	HC 65 Box 2, Fredonia, AZ 86022 .....	(928) 643-8320	(888) 822-3777
Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians of the Las Vegas Indian Colony, Nevada.	Travis Parashonts, Director of LVPT HHS.	1257 Paiute Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89106.	(702) 382-0784	(702) 384-5272
Lovelock Paiute Tribe of the Lovelock Indian Colony, Nevada.	Maribel Morales, ICWA Case Worker, <a href="mailto:icwa@lovelocktribe.com">icwa@lovelocktribe.com</a> .	P.O. Box 878, Lovelock, NV 89419 .....	(775) 273-7861	(775) 273-3802

Tribe	ICWA POC	Mailing address	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation, Nevada.	Laura Watters-Parry, Chairman, <a href="mailto:chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org">chair.mbop@moapabandofpaiutes.org</a> .	P.O. Box 304, Moapa, NV 89025 .....	(702) 865-2787	(702) 864-2875
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah (Cedar Band of Paiutes, Kanosh Band of Paiutes, Koosharem Band of Paiutes, Indian Peaks Band of Paiutes, and Shivwits Band of Paiutes).	Tracie Lund, Family Services Manager, <a href="mailto:tlund@fourpointshealth.org">tlund@fourpointshealth.org</a> .	440 North Paiute Drive, Cedar City, UT 84721.	(435) 586-1112	(435) 238-4262
Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the Fallon Reservation and Colony, Nevada.	Jennifer Pishion, ICWA Representative, <a href="mailto:yfsmanager@fpst.org">yfsmanager@fpst.org</a> .	1007 Rio Vista Drive, Fallon, NV 89406	(775) 423-1215	(775) 423-8960
Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona .....	Tamara Walters, Assistant Attorney General, <a href="mailto:tamara.walters@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov">tamara.walters@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov</a> .	Office of the Attorney General, 7777 S Camino Huivism—Bldg. C, Tucson, AZ 85757.	(520) 883-5108	(520) 883-5084
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nevada.	Christine McKamey, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:cmckamey@plpt-nsn.us">cmckamey@plpt-nsn.us</a> .	P.O. Box 256, Nixon, NV 89424 .....	(775) 574-1047	(775) 574-1052
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, California & Arizona.	Cody I. Hartt, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:icwaspecialist@quechantribe.com">icwaspecialist@quechantribe.com</a> .	P.O. Box 1899, Yuma, AZ 85366 .....	(760) 572-0201	(760) 572-2099
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Nevada .....	Carrie Brown, Human Services Manager, <a href="mailto:cbrown@rsic.org">cbrown@rsic.org</a> .	405 Golden Lane, Reno, NV 89502 .....	(775) 329-5071	(775) 785-8758
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community of the Salt River Reservation, Arizona.	Allison Miller, ICWA Manager, <a href="mailto:Allison.Miller@srpmic-nsn.gov">Allison.Miller@srpmic-nsn.gov</a> .	SRPMIC Social Services/ICWA Unit, 10,005 East Osborn Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85256.	(480) 362-7533	(480) 362-5574
San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation, Arizona.	Aaron Begay, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:nantaan@tss.scac-nsn.gov">nantaan@tss.scac-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 0, San Carlos, AZ 85550 .....	(928) 475-2313	(928) 475-2342
San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe of Arizona.	Mary Lou Boone, Enrollment Officer, <a href="mailto:m.boone@sanjuanpaiute-nsn.gov">m.boone@sanjuanpaiute-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 2950, Tuba City, AZ 86045 .....	(928) 212-9794	(928) 233-8948
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation, Nevada.	Roberta Hanchor, Social Worker, <a href="mailto:hanchor.roberta@shopai.org">hanchor.roberta@shopai.org</a> .	P.O. Box 219, Owyhee, NV 89832 .....	(775) 757-2921	(775) 757-2910
Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians of Utah.	Candace Bear, Chairperson .....	407 Skull Valley Road, Skull Valley, UT 84029.	(435) 830-4526	.....
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe of Nevada .....	Randi Lone Eagle, Chairwoman, <a href="mailto:randi.loneeagle@summitlaketribe.org">randi.loneeagle@summitlaketribe.org</a> .	1001 Rock Boulevard, Sparks, NV 89431.	(775) 827-9670	(775) 827-9678
Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada (Four constituent bands: Battle Mountain Band; Elko Band; South Fork Band; and, Wells Band).	Battle Mountain Band, Tammy Carrera, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:bmbssd2018@outlook.com">bmbssd2018@outlook.com</a> .	37 Mountain View Drive, Battle Mountain, NV 89820.	(775) 635-2004	(775) 635-8528
	South Fork Band, Amanda Gettings, Tribal Social Worker/ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:sftribalservices@gmail.com">sftribalservices@gmail.com</a> .	21 Lee, B-13, Spring Creek, NV 89815	(775) 744-4273	(775) 744-4523
	Elko Band, Marlene Dick, Social Worker, <a href="mailto:ssworker@elkoband.org">ssworker@elkoband.org</a> .	1745 Silver Eagle Drive, Elko, NV 89801	(775) 738-9310	(775) 778-3397
	Wells Band, Heather N. Martinez, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:wellsbandssicwa@gmail.com">wellsbandssicwa@gmail.com</a> .	P.O. Box 809, Wells, NV 89835 .....	(775) 345-3045	(775) 752-2179
Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona .....	Joshua Rees, Attorney General, <a href="mailto:joshua.rees@tonation-nsn.gov">joshua.rees@tonation-nsn.gov</a> .	P.O. Box 830, Sells, AZ 85634 .....	(520) 383-3410	(520) 383-2689
Tonto Apache Tribe of Arizona .....	Lisa Belonga, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:lbelonga@tontoapache.org">lbelonga@tontoapache.org</a> .	#30 Tonto Apache Reservation, Payson, AZ 85541.	(928) 474-5000	.....
Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Utah.	Ramalda Guzman, Assistant Director, <a href="mailto:ramadlag@utetribe.com">ramadlag@utetribe.com</a> .	P.O. Box 190, Fort Duchesne, UT 84052	(435) 722-5141	(435) 722-5072
Walker River Paiute Tribe of the Walker River Reservation, Nevada.	Elliott Aguilar, ICWA Specialist, <a href="mailto:eaguilar@wrpt.org">eaguilar@wrpt.org</a> .	Social Services Department, P.O. Box 146, Schurz, NV 89427.	(775) 773-2058	(775) 773-2096
Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California (Carson Colony, Dresslerville Colony, Woodfords Community, Stewart Community, & Washoe Ranches).	Stacy L. Stahl, Social Services Director, <a href="mailto:Stacy.Stahl@washoetribe.us">Stacy.Stahl@washoetribe.us</a> .	919 U.S. Highway 395 North, Gardnerville, NV 89410.	(775) 265-8691	(775) 265-4593
White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Reservation, Arizona.	Cora Hinton, ICWA Representative/CPS Supervisor, <a href="mailto:chinton@wmat.us">chinton@wmat.us</a> .	P.O. Box 1870, Whiteriver, AZ 85941 .....	(928) 338-4164	(928) 338-1469
Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada .....	Judy Rojo, Chairperson, <a href="mailto:admin.wic@winnemuccaindiancolony.org">admin.wic@winnemuccaindiancolony.org</a> .	595 Humboldt Street, Reno, NV 89509 .....	(775) 329-5800	(775) 329-5819
Yavapai-Apache Nation of the Camp Verde Indian Reservation, Arizona.	Melissa Stevens, ICWA Coordinator, <a href="mailto:mstevens@yan-tribe.org">mstevens@yan-tribe.org</a> .	2400 West Datsi Street, Camp Verde, AZ 86322.	(928) 649-7108	(928) 567-6832
Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe .....	Tasha Salters, Family Support Supervisor, <a href="mailto:tsalters@ypit.com">tsalters@ypit.com</a> .	530 East Merritt, Prescott, AZ 86301 .....	(928) 515-7351	(928) 541-7945
Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony and Campbell Ranch, Nevada.	Nathaniel Landa, Human Services Director, <a href="mailto:nlanda@ypt-nsn.gov">nlanda@ypt-nsn.gov</a> .	171 Campbell Lane, Yerington, NV 89447.	(775) 783-0200	(775) 463-5919
Yomba Shoshone Tribe of the Yomba Reservation, Nevada.	Belinda Hooper, Social Services Eligibility Worker, <a href="mailto:socialservices@yombatribe.org">socialservices@yombatribe.org</a> .	HC 61 Box 6275, Austin, NV 89310 .....	(775) 964-6020	.....

**Bryan Newland,**

Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.

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# Tribes by OCS Region and OCS Regional ICWA Specialist Contact Information

## Tribes within the Anchorage OCS Region

1. Eklutna Native Village
2. Tyonek, Native Village of

## OCS Anchorage Region ICWA Specialist

Robin Charlie  
323 E. 4th Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
(907) 269-3954  
robin.charlie@alaska.gov



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## Tribes within the Southeast OCS Region

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Angoon Community Association                                 | 10. Organized Village of Kasaan      |
| 2. Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska | 11. Ketchikan Indian Community       |
| 3. Chilkat Indian Village (Klukwan)                             | 12. Klawock Cooperative Association  |
| 4. Chilkoot Indian Association (Haines)                         | 13. Metlakatla Indian Community      |
| 5. Craig Tribal Association                                     | 14. Petersburg Indian Association    |
| 6. Douglas Indian Association                                   | 15. Organized Village of Saxman      |
| 7. Hoonah Indian Association                                    | 16. Sitka Tribe of Alaska            |
| 8. Hydaburg Cooperative Association                             | 17. Skagway Village                  |
| 9. Organized Village of Kake                                    | 18. Wrangell Cooperative Association |
|   | 19. Yakutat Tlingit Tribe            |

## OCS Southeast Region ICWA Specialist

Kristen Robinson  
9107 Mendenhall Mall Rd, Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801  
(907) 465-8158  
kristen.robinson@alaska.gov



### **Tribes within the Western OCS Region**

1. Akiachak Native Community
2. Akiak Native Community
3. Alakanuk, Village of
4. Algaaciq Native Village (St. Mary's)
5. Aniak, Village of
6. Anvik Village
7. Asa'carsarmuit Tribe (Mountain Village)
8. Atmautluak, Village of
9. Bill Moore's Slough, Village of
10. Chefornak, Village of
11. Chevak Native Village
12. Chuathbaluk, Native Village of
13. Chuloonawick Native Village
14. Crooked Creek, Village of
15. Eek, Native Village of
16. Emmonak Village
17. Georgetown, Native Village of
18. Goodnews Bay, Native Village of
19. Grayling, Organized Village of
20. Hamilton, Native Village of
21. Holy Cross Tribe
22. Hooper Bay, Native Village of
23. Iqurmiut Traditional Council (Russian Mission)
24. Kalskag, Village of (Upper Kalskag)
25. Kasigluk Traditional Elders Council
26. Kipnuk, Native Village of
27. Kongiganak, Native Village of
28. Kotlik, Village of
29. Kwethluk, Organized Village of
30. Kwigillingok, Native Village of
31. Kwinhagak, Native Village of (Quinhagak)
32. Lime Village
33. Lower Kalskag, Village of
34. Marshall, Native Village of
35. McGrath Native Village
36. Mekoryuk, Native Village of
37. Napaimute, Native Village of
38. Napakiak, Native Village of
39. Napaskiak, Native Village of
40. Newtok Village
41. Nightmute, Native Village of
42. Nikolai Village (Edzeno)
43. Nunakauyarmiut Tribe (Toksook Bay)
44. Nunam Iqua, Native Village of
45. Nunapitchuk, Native Village of
46. Ohagamiut, Native Village of
47. Orutsararmiut Native Council (Bethel)
48. Oscarville Traditional Village
49. Paimiut, Native Village of
50. Pilot Station Traditional Village
51. Pitka's Point, Native Village of
52. Platinum Traditional Village
53. Red Devil, Village of
54. Scammon Bay, Native Village of
55. Shageluk Native Village
56. Sleetmute, Village of
57. Stony River, Village of
58. Takotna Village
59. Telida Village
60. Tuluksak Native Community
61. Tuntutuliak, Native Village of
62. Tununak, Native Village of
63. Umkumiut Native Village
64. Yupiit of Andreafski

### **OCS Western Region ICWA Specialist**

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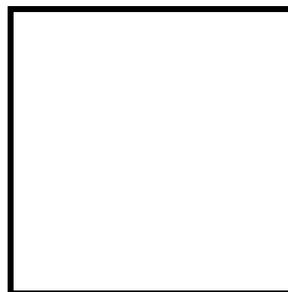


### **Tribes within the Southcentral OCS Region**

1. Afognak, Native Village of
2. Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove
3. Akhiok, Native Village of
4. Akutan, Native Village of
5. Aleknagik, Native Village of
6. Atka, Native Village of
7. Belkofski, Native Village of
8. Cheesh-Na Tribe
9. Chenega, Native Village of
10. Chickaloon Native Village
11. Chignik Bay Tribal Council
12. Chignik Lagoon, Native Village of
13. Chignik Lake Village
14. Chitina, Native Village of
15. Clarks Point, Village of
16. Curyung Tribal Council (Dillingham)
17. Egegik Village
18. Ekuk, Native Village of
19. Ekwok, Native Village of
20. Eyak, Native Village of (Cordova)
21. False Pass, Native Village of
22. Gakona, Native Village of
23. Gulkana Village Council
24. Igiugig Village
25. Iliamna, Village of
26. Ivanoff Bay Tribe
27. Kaguyak Village
28. Kanatak, Native Village
29. Karluk, Native Village of
30. Kenaitze Indian Tribe
31. King Salmon Tribe
32. Kluti-Kaah, Native Village of (Copper Center)
33. Knik Tribe
34. Kokhanok Village
35. Larsen Bay, Native Village of
36. Levelock Village
37. Manokotak Village
38. Mentasta Traditional Council
39. Naknek Native Village
40. Nanwalek, Native Village of
41. Nelson Lagoon, Native Village of
42. New Koliganek Village Council
43. New Stuyahok Village
44. Newhalen Village
45. Nikolski, Native Village of
46. Ninilchik Village
47. Nondalton Village
48. Old Harbor, Alutiiq Tribe of
49. Ouzinkie, Native Village of
50. Pauloff Harbor Village
51. Pedro Bay Village
52. Perryville, Native Village of
53. Pilot Point, Native Village of
54. Port Graham, Native Village of
55. Port Heiden, Native Village of
56. Port Lions, Native Village of
57. Portage Creek Village
58. Qagan Tayaguyngin Tribe of Sand Point Village
59. Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska
60. Saint George Island
61. Saint Paul, Pribilof Islands Aleut Community of
62. Salamatoff Tribe
63. Seldovia Village Tribe
64. South Naknek Village
65. Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
66. Tangirnaq (Lesnoi Village AKA Woody Island)
67. Tatitlek, Native Village of
68. Tazlina, Native Village of
69. Togiak, Traditional Village of
70. Twin Hills Village Council
71. Ugashik Village
72. Unga, Native Village of

### **OCS Southcentral Region ICWA Specialist**

Catherine Lester  
695 E. Parks Hwy, Suite 3  
Wasilla, AK 99687  
(907) 357-9797  
catherine.lester@alaska.gov



### **Tribes within the Northern OCS Region**

1. Alatna Village
2. Allakaket Village
3. Ambler, Native Village of
4. Anaktuvuk Pass, Village of
5. Arctic Slope, Inupiat Community of the
6. Arctic Village
7. Atqasuk Village
8. Barrow, Native Village of
9. Beaver Village
10. Birch Creek Tribe
11. Brevig Mission, Native Village of
12. Buckland, Native Village of
13. Cantwell, Native Village of
14. Chalkyitsik Village
15. Chinik Eskimo Community (AKA Golovin)
16. Circle Native Community
17. Council, Native Village of
18. Deering, Native Village of
19. Diomede, Native Village of
20. Dot Lake, Village of
21. Eagle, Native Village of
22. Elim, Native Village of
23. Evansville Village (AKA Bettles Field)
24. Fort Yukon, Native Village of (Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government)
25. Galena Village (AKA Loudon)
26. Gambell, Native Village of
27. Healy Lake Village
28. Hughes Village
29. Huslia Village
30. Kaktovik, Village of (AKA Barter Island)
31. Kaltag, Village of
32. Kiana, Native Village of
33. King Island Native Community
34. Kivalina, Native Village of
35. Kobuk, Native Village of
36. Kotzebue, Native Village of
37. Koyuk, Native Village of
38. Koyukuk Native Village
39. Manley Hot Springs Village
40. Mary's Igloo, Native Village of
41. Minto, Native Village of
42. Nenana Native Association
43. Noatak, Native Village of
44. Nome Eskimo Community
45. Noorvik Native Community
46. Northway Village
47. Nuiqsut, Native Village of
48. Nulato Village
49. Point Hope, Native Village of
50. Point Lay, Native Village of
51. Rampart Village
52. Ruby, Native Village of
53. Saint Michael, Native Village of
54. Savoonga, Native Village of
55. Selawik, Native Village of
56. Shaktoolik, Native Village of
57. Shishmaref, Native Village of
58. Shungnak, Native Village of
59. Solomon, Village of
60. Stebbins Community Association
61. Stevens, Native Village of
62. Tanacross, Native Village of
63. Tanana, Native Village of
64. Teller, Native Village of
65. Tetlin, Native Village of
66. Unalakleet, Native Village of
67. Venetie, Village of
68. Wainwright, Village of
69. Wales, Native Village of
70. White Mountain, Native Village of

### **OCS Northern Region ICWA Specialist**

Leah Warburton  
751 Old Richardson Hwy., Suite 300  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
(907) 451-2062  
leah.warburton@alaska.gov



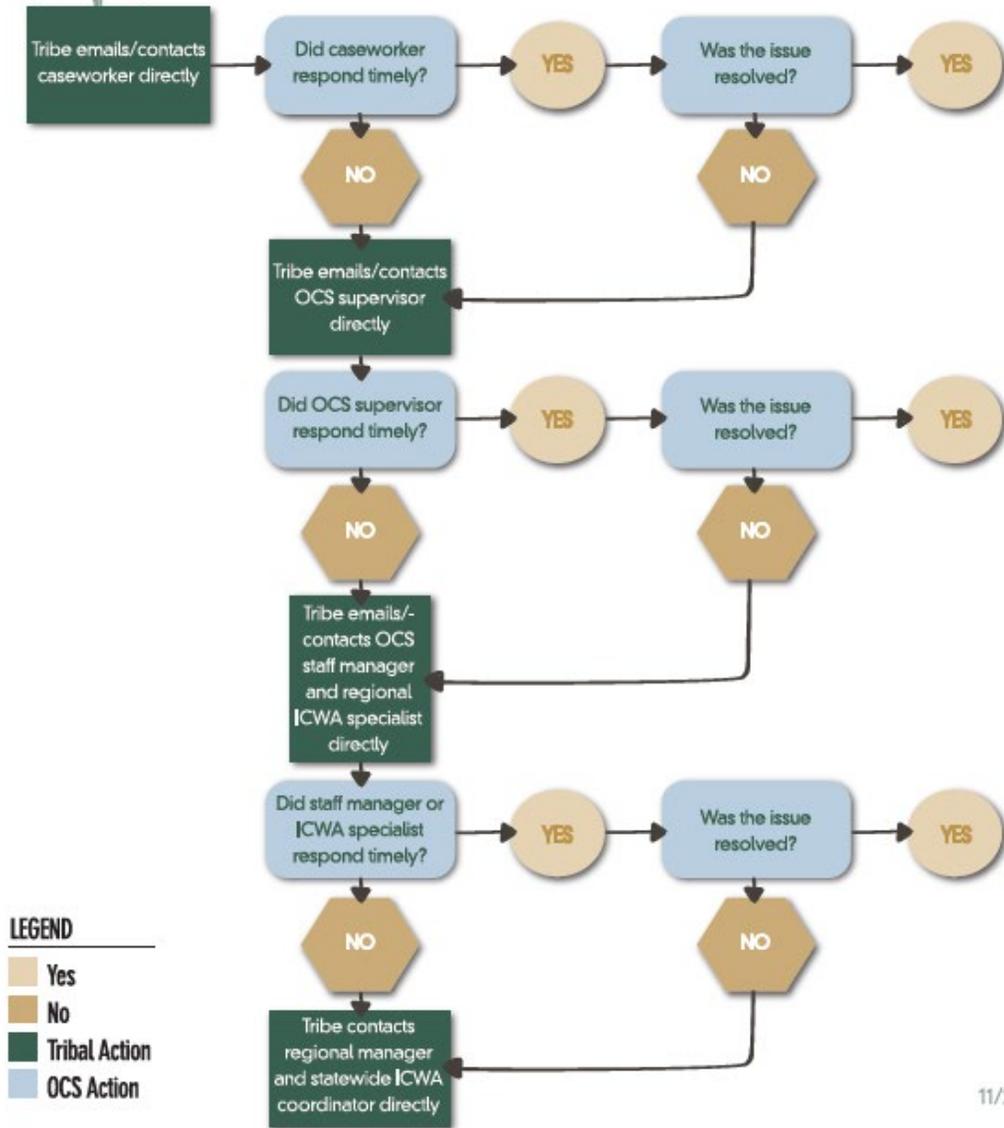
**OCS Statewide ICWA Coordinator**

Tasha Yatchmeneff  
3901 Old Seward Hwy  
Suite 132  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
907-375-7743  
Tasha.yatchmeneff@alaska.gov





# TRIBAL CONCERN FLOW CHART



11/2016

**ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**  
**NON-PROFIT**

**ALEUTIAN PRIBILOF ISLANDS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

1131 East International Airport Rd.  
Anchorage Alaska 99518  
Phone: (907) 276-2700 Toll Free: (800) 478-2742  
Fax: (907) 279-4351  
E-mail: [apiai@apiai.org](mailto:apiai@apiai.org)

**ARCTIC SLOPE NATIVE ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 1232  
7000 Uula St.  
Barrow, Alaska 99723  
Phone: (Main line) 907-852-2762

**ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS**

101 Main Street  
PO Box 219  
Bethel, Alaska 99559  
Phone: AVCP Main Line (907)543-7300 or Toll Free: 800-478-3521  
Fax: (907)543-3596

**BRISTOL BAY NATIVE ASSOCIATION**

1500 Kanakanak Road  
P.O. Box 310  
Dillingham, Alaska 99576  
Phone: (907) 842-5257 Toll Free: 1-800-478-5257  
Fax: (907)842-5932

**CENTRAL COUNCIL TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA**

320 West Willoughby Avenue, Suite 300, Juneau, AK 99801  
Receptionist: 907.586.1432 Toll Free: 800.344.1432  
Fax: 907.586.8970  
[www.ccthita.org](http://www.ccthita.org)

**CHUGACHMIUT, INC.**

1840 Bragaw Street, Suite 110  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-3463  
Phone: 907-562-4155 Toll Free: 1-800-478-4155  
Fax: 907-563-2891 Toll Free: 1-800-793-2891

**COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL**

3600 San Jeronimo Drive  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508  
Phone: main (907) 793-3600 Toll Free: (877) 985-5900  
E-mail: [info@CITCI.org](mailto:info@CITCI.org)

**COPPER RIVER NATIVE ASSOCIATION**

Mile 111.5 Richardson Hwy  
Drawer H  
Copper Center, AK 99573  
Phone: 907-822-5241  
Fax: 907-822-8801

**KAWERAK, INC.**

500 & 504 Seppala Dr., Nome, AK 99762  
Phone: 907-443-5231  
Email: [contact@kawerak.org](mailto:contact@kawerak.org)

**KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION**

3449 E Rezanof Drive, Kodiak, AK 99615  
Phone: 907-486-9800 Toll Free: 800-478-5721  
Fax: 907-486-9898

**KAWERAK, INC.**

500 & 504 Seppala Dr., Nome, AK 99762  
Phone: 907-443-5231  
Email: [contact@kawerak.org](mailto:contact@kawerak.org)

**MANILAQ**

P.O. Box 256, #733 2nd Avenue  
Kotzebue, AK 99752  
Phone: 1-800-478-3312 (within Alaska) or (907) 442-3311

**TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE**

122 1st Avenue  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
Phone Numbers: (907) 452-8251  
1(800)478-6822 in State  
1(800)770-8251 out of State

**ALASKA NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATIONS**  
**FOR-PROFIT**

The following is a list of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) for profit corporations as well as the villages they serve. Some of these corporations have a non-profit organization that you will find listed on the above previous pages.

**AHTNA, INC. (907)822-3476**

*Ahtna Includes Copper River Basin, Cantwell, Chistochina, Copper Center, Gulkana, Mentasta Lake, and Tazlina*

PO Box 649 1760 Abbott RD  
Glennallen, Alaska 99588 or Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
[www.ahtna-inc.com](http://www.ahtna-inc.com)

**ALEUT CORPORATION (907)561-4300**

*Aleut includes Aleutian Islands, Akutan, Atka, Belkofski, False Pass, King Cove, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, St. George, St. Paul, Sand Point, Unalaska, and Unga*

1 Aleut Plaza  
4000 Old Seward Highway Suite 300  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
[www.aleutcorp.com/](http://www.aleutcorp.com/)

**ARCTIC SLOPE REGIONAL CORP. (907)349-2369**

*Arctic Slope includes Arctic Alaska, Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasook, Barrow, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, Point Hope, Point Lay, and Wainwright.*

PO Box 129 301 Arctic Slope AVE  
Barrow, Alaska 99723 or Anchorage, AK 99517-3035  
[www.asrc.com/intro.html](http://www.asrc.com/intro.html)

**BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORP. (907)443-5252**

*Bering Straits includes Seward Peninsula, Nome, Brevig Mission, Council, Golovin, King Island, Inalik/Diomedea, Koyuk, Mary's Igloo, St. Michael, Shaktoolik, Shishmaref, Stebbins, Teller, Unalakleet, Wales, and White Mountain.*

PO Box 1009  
Nome, Alaska 99762  
[www.beringstraits.com/](http://www.beringstraits.com/)

**BRISTOL BAY NATIVE CORPORATION (800)478-5257**

*BBNA includes Aleknagik, Chignik, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Clarks Point, Dillingham, Egegik, Ekuk, Ekwok, Igiugig, Iliamna, Ivanof Bay, Kokhanok, Koliganek, Levelock, Manokotak, Naknek, Newhalen, New Stuyahok, Nondalton, Pedro Bay, Perryville, Pilot Point, Portage Creek, Port Heiden, South Naknek, Togiak, Twin Hills, and Ugashik.*

800 Cordova ST STE 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-6299  
[www.www.bbnc.net](http://www.www.bbnc.net)

**CALISTA CORPORATION (907)279-5516**

*Calista Corporation includes the Yukon- Kuskokwim Region, Akiachuk, Akiak, Alakanuk, Andreafsky, Aniak, Atmautluak, Bethel, Bill Moores, Chefnak, Chevak, Chuathbaluk, Chuloonawik, Crooked Creek, Eek, Emmonak, Georgetown, Goodnews Bay, Hamilton, Hooper Bay, Kasigluk, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwethluk, Kwigillingok, Lime Village, Lower Kalskag, Marshall, Mekoryuk, Mountain Village, Napaimuite, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Newtok, Nightmute, Nunapitchuk, Ohogamuit, Pilot Station, Quinhagak, Red Devil, Russian Mission, St. Mary's, Scammon Bay, Sheldon's Point, Sleetmute, Stony River, Tooksook Bay, Tuluskak, Tuntutuliak, Tununak, Umkumuit, and Upper Kalskag*

301 Calista Court STE A  
Anchorage, Alaska 99518  
[www.calistacorp.com/](http://www.calistacorp.com/)

**CHUGACH ALASKA CORPORATION. (907)563-8866**

*Chugach includes Chenega, Eyak, Nanwalek, Port Graham, and Tatitlik.*

561 E 36th AVE  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
[www.chugach-ak.com/](http://www.chugach-ak.com/)

**COOK INLET REGION, INC. (907)274-8836**

*CIRI includes Chickaloon, Eklutna, Knik, Ninilchik, Seldovia, Tyonek*

2525 C ST  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
[www.ciri.com/](http://www.ciri.com/)

**DOYON LTD. (800)478-4755**

*Doyon includes Alatna, Allakaket, Anvik, Beaver, Bettles Field, Chalkyitsik, Dot Lake, Eagle, Fort Yukon, Galena, Grayling, Healy Lake, Holy Cross, Hughes, Huslia, Kaltag, Koyuk, Manley Hot Springs, Mc Grath, Minto, Nenana, Nikoli, Northway, Nulato, Rampart, Ruby, Shageluk, Steven's Village, Takotna, Tanacross, Tanana, and Telida*

1 Doyon PL STE 300  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
[www.doyon.com/](http://www.doyon.com/)

**KONIAG, INC.. (907)561-2668**

*Koniag includes Afognak, Akhoik, Kaguyak, Karluk, Larsen Bay, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Port Lions, and Woody Island*

4300 B ST STE 407                      202 Center AVE STE 201  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503            or                      Kodiak, AK 99615  
[www.koniag.com/koniak/index.cfm](http://www.koniag.com/koniak/index.cfm)

**NANA REGIONAL CORPORATION (907)265-4100**

*NANA includes Ambler, Buckland, Deering, Kiana, Kivalina, Kobuk, Kotzebue, Noatak, Noorvik, Selawik, and Shungnak*

PO Box 49            1001 E Benson BLVD  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752            or                      Anchorage, AK 99508  
[www.nana.com/](http://www.nana.com/)

**SEALASKA CORPORATION (907)586-2621**

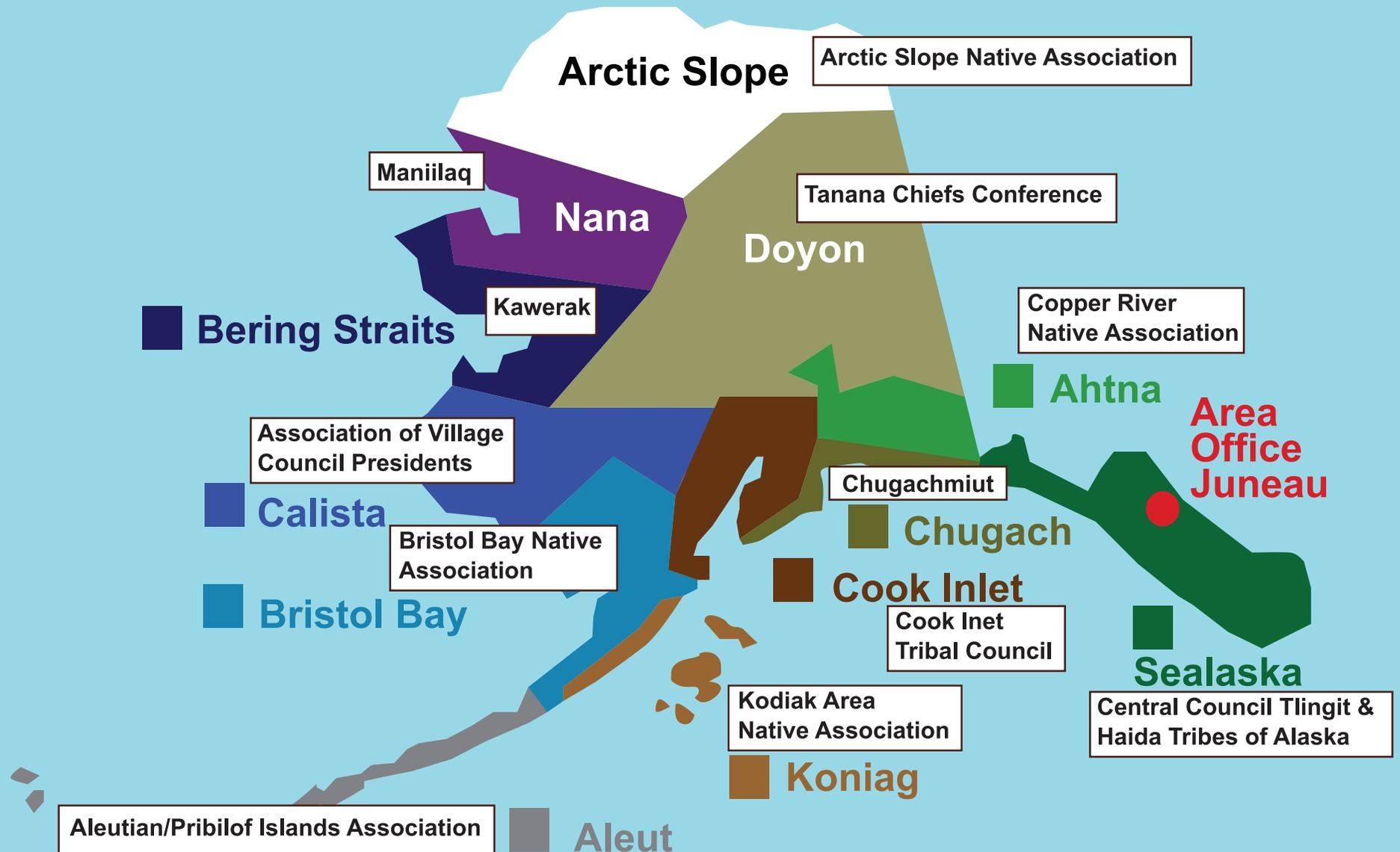
*Sealaska includes Angoon, Craig, Hoonah, Hydaburg, Kake, Kasaan, Klawock, Saxman, Sitka, Yakutat*

One Sealaska Plaza STE 400  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
[www.sealaska.com/](http://www.sealaska.com/)

**THE 13TH REGIONAL CORP. (206)254-0688**

951 Industry DR  
Seattle, Washington 98188  
[www.the13thregion.com/](http://www.the13thregion.com/)

# Alaska Native Regional Corporations



Regional non-profit corporations are listed in text boxes. Contact information is listed on the following pages for both non-profit and for-profit corporations.



**Memorandum**

Date: August 3, 2020

To: All Staff, Office of Children's Services

From: Natalie Norberg, Director 

Re: Regional Specialists' Authority

The purpose of this memo is to provide clarity and guidance on the role and authority of Regional ICWA Specialists, Regional Independent Living Specialists and Regional Permanency Planning Specialists. These Specialists are to be utilized as topic matter experts and their recommendations and counsel are to be followed and adhered to.

These positions are the "go-to" experts on ICWA, independent living and permanency in your regions. As such, the recommendations and consultation they provide to staff are to be treated with the same respect and follow through as if it came from the Protective Services Specialist's supervisor. Specialists and Supervisors shall collaborate in regards to case recommendations so both are clear on the guidance provided to the PSS.

If there is differing opinions among staff, it should be resolved through the regional chain of command.

Please consider this direction permanent and effective immediately.

Cc: Human Resources

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**Program Instruction:** 16-01

**Issue Date:** March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

**Effective Date:** March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

**From:** Christy Lawton, Director

**Subject:** Indian Child Welfare Act

In 1978, the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) became federal law. The intent behind ICWA is to “protect the best interests of Indian children and to promote the stability and security of Indian Tribes and families” (25 U.S.C 1902). In February 2015, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) issued updated guidelines to provide state agencies and courts with assistance in interpreting the ICWA. The BIA released proposed regulations in March 2015 and OCS took initiative to provide further guidance through this program instruction.

The Office of Children's Services (OCS) works with Tribal partners to prioritize ICWA compliance throughout the life of the case that involves an “Indian child,” defined as an “unmarried person who is under the age of eighteen and is either (a) a member of an Indian tribe or (b) is eligible for membership in an Indian tribe and is the biological child of a member of an Indian tribe.” (25 U.S.C. 1903(4)). Through Tribal partnerships and culturally competent casework, OCS strives to improve outcomes for Alaska Native children and families by keeping children safe and families strong. The following procedures are effective immediately:

#### **Active Efforts:**

“Active efforts are primarily intended to maintain and reunite an Indian child with his or her family or tribal community (*Fed. Reg./Vol. 80, No. 37, Guidelines, A.2.*)” Active efforts begin at Initial Assessment and continue throughout the life of the case. Assisting families with timely reunification of their children may look different depending on the family and their unique needs. Active efforts are a higher standard than reasonable efforts which are required by Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. Examples of active efforts may include:

- Identifying appropriate services and helping the parents to overcome barriers and assist in obtaining services;
- Offering and employing culturally appropriate extended family preservation strategies;
- Notifying and consulting with extended family members of the Indian child to provide family structure and support for the Indian child, to assure cultural connections, and to serve as placement resources for the Indian child;
- Exploring and encouraging traditional and cultural ways of addressing the needs of the Indian child's parents and extended family;
- Requesting the assistance of representatives designated by the Indian child's Tribe with substantial knowledge of the prevailing social and cultural standards, and taking into account the Indian child's Tribe's prevailing social and cultural conditions and way of life.

### **When ICWA Applies:**

When the Department has reason to believe that a child may be an Indian child the standards of ICWA will apply, including active efforts. If a child's ICWA eligibility cannot be confirmed, the case will be treated like an ICWA case and active efforts will be provided until it is determined that the child is not eligible under ICWA. For all children whom ICWA cannot be confirmed, the worker shall complete the following:

- Ask the parents, guardians, child, extended family, family friends, Tribal and community partners, about possible extended family of the child. *"Extended family member is defined by the law or custom of the Indian child's tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, shall be a person who has reached the age of eighteen and who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent"* (25 U.S.C 1903);
- Search Prober, ORCA, etc. for possible extended family for the child(ren), ICWA status or placement options.
- Conduct a (Seneca/Accurint) engine search for the child to identify possible extended family;
- Document all relatives in the Relative Tab in the Maintain Case page in ORCA. Document all communication and efforts in a Relative/Placement Search Activity Note.
- Inform the relative and send the Right to Request Placement notice in ORCA to all identified relatives.

If there is reason to believe the child may be an Indian Child, the following efforts must be completed:

- Call, fax, email, or send a letter to the Tribe to ask if the child is a member or is eligible for membership and if either parent is a member; and
- Ask the parent(s), legal guardian(s), Indian custodian(s), or Tribal representative for written documentation of Tribal membership or eligibility of membership.

If it is determined that a child may be an Indian child by obtaining any of the above, the worker will notify the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) of all potential Tribes of which the child may be a member or eligible for membership and if either parent is a member.

If the above steps have been completed and the worker was unable to document that the child is a member or is eligible for membership, the PS Specialist will consult with the AAG to determine next steps.

### **Placement Preferences:**

OCS strives for children to be placed in the highest possible placement preference. OCS staff shall continue to follow policies **2.5.3 Search for Relatives and 3.5.4 How to Look for Relative Placements, Process Requests for Placement and Process Placement Denials.**

The following are some examples of what may constitute good cause to depart from the ICWA placement preferences:

- The request of the parents, if both parents attest that they have reviewed the placement options that comply with the order of preference;
- The request of the child, if the child is able to understand and comprehend the decision that is being made;
- The extraordinary physical or emotional needs of the child, such as specialized treatment services that may be unavailable in the community;

- Does not include ordinary bonding or attachment that may have occurred as a result of a placement or the fact that the child has, for an extended amount of time, been in another placement that does not comply with the ICWA;
- The extended family is not capable of providing for the child's emotional or physical needs due to a higher level of care needed.

**Transfer of Jurisdiction:** OCS supports transfers of jurisdiction to the Indian child's Tribe. A decision to take the position that there is good cause **not** to transfer jurisdiction will be made on a case by case basis after a consultation with the AAG and OCS Director.

OCS' goal is to better the outcomes for families and find ways to provide safety to children in the most culturally competent way. For any questions that OCS staff may have in regards to ICWA or this program instruction please contact the Regional ICWA Specialist for further guidance.

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**Program Instruction:** 18-01  
**Issue Date:** 01/02/2018  
**Effective Date:** 01/02/2018  
**From:** Christy Lawton, Director  
**Subject:** Distributing Protective Services Reports to Tribes and Tribal Organizations

Tribes have inherent authority over child protection matters for their member children. As such, any Federally Recognized Tribe that requests protective services reports on their Tribal citizens has a legitimate interest to receive that information.

**Policy:** OCS shall provide the information contained in each protective services report (PSR) received by, or transmitted to it, to any Tribe or designated Tribal Organization that has entered into a confidentiality agreement with the Office of Children's Services and when there is reasonable cause to believe that Tribe or Tribal Organization has legitimate interest. There is reasonable cause to believe that a Tribe or Tribal Organization has legitimate interest when Tribal affiliation is provided by a reporter, collaterals, or found in the case record or other databases. Tribal affiliation is defined as a child's membership in a Tribe or eligibility for membership in a Tribe. Each Tribe or Tribal Organization requesting PSRs will designate a point of contact to receive PSRs through email via MOVEit. The distribution of PSRs by OCS shall be made at the earliest possible time, but no later than the corresponding response period to the priority outlined under the OCS policy. The distribution of screened out reports shall be provided within seven (7) days of the screening decision. The distribution of PSRs does not replace the policy of providing notice to the Tribe and inviting the Tribe to participate in the initial assessment.

#### **OCS Intake Procedure**

- A. Intake Specialists will ask every reporter for the race and ethnicity of the child and parents. If there is a reason to believe that the child is Alaska Native or American Indian, the Intake Specialist will attempt to identify possible Tribes in which the child is a member or eligible for membership. If the reporter does not know, they will be asked where the family is originally from.
- B. If the reporter does not know what Tribe the child may be a member of or eligible for membership with, the Intake Specialist will use ORCA to identify the possible affiliated Tribes of the child.
- C. The results of the Intake Specialist's Tribal affiliation search will be documented under the Household Composition and Tribal Affiliation section of the PSR. Including, the Tribe or potential Tribes and name and contact information of the Tribal representative(s).
- D. Intake Specialist will enter any possible Tribes on the child's ICWA Tab in ORCA.
- E. After the PSR is approved, Intake will verify that the Tribe or Tribal Organization is on file for having a signed confidentiality agreement, verification of Tribes served, and a point of contact with OCS. If the Tribe or Tribal Organization is on file, the Intake Specialist will send an e-mail to the designated Office Assistant that includes the ORCA number, case initials, affiliated Tribe(s), screening decision and priority level.
- F. The designated Office Assistant will e-mail the PSR using MOVEit to the Tribe or Tribal Organization's point of contact e-mail address. The Office Assistant will document the date and time that the PSR was emailed via MOVEit, along with what Tribe(s) the PSR was sent to, in ORCA under an Activity Note (Category: Correspondence).
- G. If a Tribe or Tribal Organization contacts Intake to request Protective Services Reports and is not on file for having the information listed in E of this program instruction, Intake will notify the ICWA Social Services Program Coordinator and provide information to the Tribe or Tribal Organization so they can begin to receive this information.

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**Program Instruction: 18-02**

**Issue Date: March 16, 2018**

**Effective Date: March 16, 2018**

**From: Christy Lawton, Director**

**Subject: Certificates of Degree of Indian Blood Requests**

A Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) is beneficial to Alaska Native children in state custody, allowing eligible children access to education benefits, Indian Health Services, and related programs. Additionally, a CDIB may be a requirement for the child to be enrolled in a Tribe. However, CDIBs are not evidence of Tribal membership. If a worker is informed that a child already has a CDIB, the worker will request a copy from the parents (or contact the BIA directly if parents cannot provide a copy).

CDIB requests are to be submitted upon **full completion** in adherence to the below protocol. Incomplete requests will be returned with a request for further information. The BIA cannot accept faxed or emailed requests. The following is to be submitted to the BIA by certified mail or in person by the OCS worker:

1. A Cover Sheet (separate one for each child), completed clearly and legibly (attached).
2. The CDIB application form located at [www.bia.gov](http://www.bia.gov) (under quick links) including the:
  - a. Completed lineage form titled "Request for Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood";
  - b. Completed "Notices and Certification" form (OCS worker signature and date at the bottom of the page); and
  - c. Required documents:
    - 1) Original birth certificate of each child (requested through the legal inbox email [hssocslegal@alaska.gov](mailto:hssocslegal@alaska.gov));
    - 2) Original birth certificate(s) of Alaska Native biological parent(s) (requested through the parents or relatives, for assistance obtaining contact your regional ICWA Specialist or Statewide ICWA Coordinator);
    - 3) Most recent signed court order indicating the child is in state custody (requested through the AAG, case file (under legal section), or through the regional Eligibility Technician); and
    - 4) A clear copy of the OCS employee I.D.
3. The following are the BIA offices to mail the documents or to deliver in person:

<b>Anchorage</b> BIA-Tribal Government Services 3601 C Street, Suite 1200 Anchorage, AK. 99503 12 <sup>th</sup> Floor (In person)	<b>Fairbanks</b> BIA-Tribal Government Services Fairbanks Agency 101 12th Ave., Room 166 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701	<b>Juneau</b> BIA-Tribal Government Services P.O. Box 21647 Juneau, Alaska 99802-1647 709 W. 9th Street, 3rd Floor, Federal Building
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For more information, please contact your OCS Regional ICWA Specialist or Statewide ICWA Coordinator.



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Alaska Regional Office  
3601 C Street, Suite 1200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
M.C. 407 Tribal Operations

Requests for Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB)

**State Social Services/State Courts**

**PRINT CLEARLY**

Name of Requester	
Job Title	
Address	
City and Zip	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Name of Child(ren)	
Are children tribal members?	Yes    If yes, what tribe?    No
Did the state court notify the tribe as required by the Indian Child Welfare Act?	Yes    If yes, what date?    No
Are children in foster care?	Yes                      No
Are children to be adopted?	Yes    If yes, what date is adoption hearing?    No
What is the purpose for requesting the CDIB?	
Signature and Date	
Print Name Clearly	
<b>BIA Tribal Operations Review/Approval</b>	

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
M.C. 408

## CERTIFICATE OF DEGREE OF INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE BLOOD (CDIB) APPLICATION REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Applicants helpful tips:

- ✓ Complete an application out to the best of your knowledge from the Biological Alaskan Native family members, if you do not know something leave that item blank (i.e. Roll Nos.)
- ✓ A requestor is who you are applying for, parents or guardians sign on page 2 on behalf of minors or a deceased individual
- ✓ You are advised to write down a good contact number on the application
- ✓ State ID, Military ID, Passport are preferred for Identification
- ✓ If you do not have a particular document that is required; please submit what you do have so that it can be reviewed and determined if the item is acceptable or not
- ✓ Applications are required, and there is only 1 form for all types of requests (1<sup>st</sup> time, adoption, name change, replacement, copy, etc.)

If the requestor was born BEFORE December 18, 1971 & 1/4 or more blood quantum, they might be an **Original Enrollee**

1. Completed Application with Signature and Date
2. Submit Identification for who signs the application
3. If applicable submit any Marriage Certificate/Divorce Decree/Name Change Court Documents

If the requestor was born AFTER December 18, 1971, they might be a **Descendent**

1. Completed Application with Signature and Date
2. Submit Identification for who signs the application
3. Submit Birth Certificate
4. If applicable submit any Marriage Certificate/Divorce Decree/Name Change Court Documents

If requestor is **Adopted**

1. Completed Application with Signature and Date
2. Submit Identification for who signs the application
3. Submit Birth Certificate with Biological Parents
4. Submit Decree of Adoption Paperwork
5. Submit Birth Certificate with Adopted Parents

If requestor is **in Legal Guardianship**

1. Completed Application with Signature and Date
2. Submit Identification for who signs the application
3. Submit Birth Certificate
4. Submit Court order citing guardianship and/or Power of Attorney

Due to safety mandates we are closed to the public at this time.

During the current health pandemic, you are able to submit your applications and documentations via:

Email: [akenrollment@bia.gov](mailto:akenrollment@bia.gov)

Mail:	BIA-Enrollment Services 3601 C Street, Suite 1200 Anchorage, Alaska 99503	BIA-Fairbanks 101 12 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rm 166 Fairbanks, AK 99701	BIA-Juneau P.O. Box 21647 Juneau, AK 99802
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Fax:	(907) 271-4090	(907) 456-0225	(907) 586-7252
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Drop-Box: Located at the Anchorage Office on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor to the right of the Suite 1200 doors.

**BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
CERTIFICATE OF DEGREE OF INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE BLOOD  
INSTRUCTIONS**

All portions of the Request for Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood (CDIB) must be completed. You must show your relationship to an enrolled member(s) of a federally recognized Indian tribe, whether it is through your birth mother or birth father, or both. A federally recognized Indian tribe means an Indian or Alaska Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community which appears on the list of recognized tribes published in the Federal Register by the Secretary of the Interior (25 U.S.C. § 479a-1(a)).

- Your degree of Indian blood is computed from lineal ancestors of Indian blood who were enrolled with a federally recognized Indian tribe or whose names appear on the designated base rolls of a federally recognized Indian tribe.
- You must give the maiden names of all women listed on the Request for CDIB, unless they were enrolled by their married names.
- A Certified Copy of a Birth Certificate is required to establish your relationship to a parent(s) enrolled with a federally recognized Indian tribe(s).
- If your parent is not enrolled with a federally recognized Indian tribe, a Certified Copy of your parent's Birth or Death Certificate is required to establish your parent's relationship to an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe(s). If your grandparent(s) were not enrolled members of a federally recognized Indian tribe(s), a Certified Copy of the Birth or Death Certificate for each grandparent who was the child of an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe is required.
- Certified copies of Birth Certificates, Delayed Birth Certificates, and Death Certificates may be obtained from the State Department of Health or Bureau of Vital Statistics in the State where the person was born or died.
- In cases of adoption, the degree of Indian blood of the natural (birth) parent must be proven.
- **Please return your request and supporting documents to the Agency from whom you receive services.** Incomplete requests will be returned with a request for further information. No action will be taken until the request is complete.

**BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF DEGREE OF INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE BLOOD**

Requester's Name (list all names by which Requester is or has been known):	Requester's Address (including zip code):		Date Received by Bureau of Indian Affairs:
<p>Requester's Date of Birth:</p> <p>Requester's Place of Birth:</p> <p>Is Requester Adopted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Are Requester's Parents Adopted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If Yes, list natural (birth) parents: (If known)</p> <p>Tribe(s) with which Requester is enrolled:</p> <p>Roll Nos:</p>	<p>Father's name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No.:</p> <p>DOB:</p> <p>Deceased <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Year ____</p> <p>Mother's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No.:</p> <p>DOB:</p> <p>Deceased <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Year ____</p>	<p>Paternal Grandfather's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Paternal Grandmother's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Maternal Grandfather's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Maternal Grandmother's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p>	<p>Paternal Great Grandfather's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Paternal Great Grandmother's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Paternal Great Grandfather's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Paternal Great Grandmother's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Maternal Great Grandfather's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Maternal Great Grandmother's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Maternal Great Grandfather's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p> <p>Maternal Great Grandmother's Name:</p> <p>Tribe:</p> <p>Roll No:</p> <p>DOB: Deceased/Year ____</p>

**SUBMIT TO: BIA AGENCY FROM WHOM YOU RECEIVE SERVICES**

All BIA Agency Offices are listed in the [Tribal Leaders Directory](#).

**If you need help with locating the BIA AGENCY FROM WHOM YOU RECEIVE SERVICES,  
please contact the Office of Indian Services at 202-513-7640.**

## NOTICES AND CERTIFICATION

### NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS.

- When you receive your CDIB, you must review it for the correct name spelling, birth dates, and blood degrees. If you believe that there are any mistakes on the CDIB, you must give a written request for corrections and provide supporting documentation to the issuing officer within 45 days (60 for Alaska tribes) of the date on the letter. If you fail to meet this deadline, appeal rights will be lost. If the issuing officer decides that corrections are not needed, he or she will send a written determination with an explanation through certified mail to you and provide you with a copy of the appeals procedures.
- If you are denied a CDIB, you will be given a written determination with an explanation for the denial and a copy of the appeal procedures.

### PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT

The information collection requirement contained in 25 CFR § 70.11 and this request have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3507(d), and assigned clearance number 1076-0153. The agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Information is collected when individuals seek certification that they possess sufficient Indian blood to receive Federal program services based upon their status as American Indians or Alaska Natives. The information collected will be used to assist in determining eligibility of the individual to receive Federal program services. The information is supplied by a respondent to obtain a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood. It is estimated that responding to the request will take an average of 1.5 hours to complete. This includes the amount of time it takes to gather the information and fill out the form. If you wish to make comments on the burden imposed by the form, please send them to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action, Office of the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, 1001 Indian School Road NW, Suite 229, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104. **DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR CDIB REQUEST TO THIS ADDRESS;** you should instead submit your CDIB request to the BIA Agency from whom you receive services. Note: comments, names and addresses of commentators are available for public review during regular business hours. If you wish us to withhold this information, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will honor your request to the extent allowable by law. In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended, the collection has been reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget, and assigned a number and expiration date. The number and expiration date are at the top right corner of the form.

### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT.

This information is collected pursuant to the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a. Pursuant to system of record notice, Tribal Rolls, Interior, BIA-7 (42 FR 19038), the Bureau of Indian Affairs will not disclose any record containing such information without the written consent of the respondent unless the requestor uses the information to perform assigned duties. The primary use of this information is to certify that an individual possesses Indian blood to receive Federal program services. Examples of others who may request the information are U.S. Department of Justice or in a proceeding before a court or adjudicative body; Federal, state, local, or foreign law enforcement agency; Members of Congress; Department of Treasury to effect payment; a Federal agency for collecting a debt; and other Federal agencies to detect and eliminate fraud.

### NOTICE OF EFFECTS OF NON-DISCLOSURE.

Disclosure of the information on this CDIB request is voluntary. However, proof of Indian blood is required to receive Federal program services.

### NOTICE OF STATEMENTS AND SUBMISSIONS.

Falsification or misrepresentation of information provided on this request is punishable under Federal Law, 18 U.S.C. 1001. Conviction may result in a fine and/or imprisonment of not more than 5 years.

I request a CDIB, and certify that I have read the instructions, and above notices about my request for a CDIB. I further certify that the information which I have provided with this request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Requester's signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

**SUBMIT TO: BIA AGENCY FROM WHOM YOU RECEIVE SERVICES**

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**Program Instruction: 19-02**

**Issue Date: May 20, 2019**

**Effective Date: May 20, 2019**

**From: Natalie Norberg, Director**

**Subject: Documentation of Contact with Tribes**

It is OCS policy to partner with the child's Tribe(s) regarding their children and their families. Protective Services (PS) Specialists must make every effort to have regular communication with the child's Tribe on an ongoing basis. Tribes are included throughout the life of the case, providing input and resources to the child and family. This program instruction will assist in increasing the documentation of communication efforts between OCS and Tribes.

#### **Protocol:**

- A. For ICWA eligible cases, the PS Specialist will maintain monthly contact with the child's Tribe. Monthly contact can consist of in-person, phone, email, or written communication.
- B. OCS staff will follow the policies and procedures in the CPS manual regarding collaboration and contact with Tribes. Collaboration and contact requirements include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Conducting the Initial Assessment, see CPS manual section 2.2.5;
  - 2. Placement decisions, see CPS manual section 2.6;
  - 3. Case planning, see CPS manual section 2.9;
  - 4. Team Decision Making, see CPS manual section 2.11;
  - 5. Permanency goals and permanency planning, see CPS manual section 3.1.4; and
  - 6. Guardianship and adoption planning, see CPS manual sections 3.12 and 3.15.
- C. OCS staff will document any contact with the Tribe in a Collaboration with Tribe Activity Note in ORCA. For example;
  - 1. PS Specialist contacts the Tribe, foster parent, GAL, and child regarding an upcoming trip for the child.
  - 2. The PS Specialist would document in the Collaboration with Tribe Activity Note that the Tribe was contacted regarding the upcoming trip for the child.
- D. PS Specialists will continue to document all placement-related activities in a Relative/Placement Search Note in ORCA.

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**Program Instruction: 20-04**

**Issue Date: March 31, 2020, Re-Issue November 16, 2020**

**Effective Date: March 31, 2020, November 16, 2020**

**From: Kim Guay, Acting Director**

**Subject: Coordination with Tribal Communities Prior to Conducting IA**

**Temporary OCS Policy Change in Response to the COVID-19 Outbreak. Unless otherwise specified, these changes go into effect immediately and will remain in effect until June 30, 2021, or until further notice.**

In response to the recent surge in COVID-19 cases, many Tribal communities have shut down travel to and from their community to protect the health of local citizens. When OCS receives a Protective Services Report involving a child residing in a Tribal community (village), the below policy must be followed expeditiously to adhere to priority timeframes for initiation and assessment.

## **Policy:**

- A. When a Protective Services Report involves a child residing in a Tribal community (village), OCS will:
  1. Notify the Tribe of the existence and content of the report as soon as possible, and
  2. Consult with the designated Tribal Representative, Tribal Administrator, Tribal Council, or Regional Tribal Service Organization to request their support for OCS to enter the village.
  3. The Protective Services (PS) Specialist will document this contact in ORCA.
- B. If the Tribe is in support of OCS traveling into their community to conduct the initial assessment, OCS will:
  1. Invite the Tribal representative to participate in the initial assessment, and
  2. Share the health and safety precautions that the OCS staff member will be utilizing, including the health screening of the traveling staff member and utilization of available personal protective equipment (PPE). They will also inquire whether the Tribe requests any additional measures be taken.
- C. If the Tribe does not support OCS traveling into their community at this time, OCS will:
  1. Inquire if the Tribe or law enforcement representative is willing and able to video conference or audio conference with the OCS staff member during an initial face to face contact with the alleged victims and other household members. If possible, this would meet the criteria for an initial face to face with victims, thus initiating the IA and assessing for safety.
    - a. Staff with supervisor and PS Manager (PSM) I to determine if immediate child safety can be established through a face to face contact by the Tribe or law enforcement official.
    - b. If safety of the child(ren) can be managed prior to OCS arriving, OCS and the Tribe will discuss the specific safety actions and who in the community will be responsible for monitoring safety.

- c. OCS and the Tribe will establish and maintain open lines of communication to continue monitoring for child safety until the travel restrictions have been lifted.
- 2. If the Tribe is unable or unwilling to assist OCS, as described in C (1), then the PSM II will staff with the Division Operations Manager to determine the necessary actions required to assure child safety.
  - a. If OCS determines that the safety issues require OCS to enter the community, and the Tribe remains unable or unwilling to support OCS access to the community, the Division Operations Manager will notify the Director.
    - i. OCS will only travel into the community, after obtaining guidance from the Director.
    - ii. Upon entering the community OCS will continue to demonstrate sensitivity to the situation by communicating with the Tribe on how the OCS staff will utilize every precaution, including health screening criteria for the traveling staff member and utilization of available PPE prior to traveling to the community.
  - b. If OCS is not initiating the IA within required timeframes, the PSS IV will document, in a supervisory staffing note in ORCA, how this determination was made.
- 3. While responding to COVID-19, OCS will continue to partner with Tribes to establish creative ways to assure child safety while travel restrictions are in place.

## A Tribal Identification Guide for Alaska Native/American Indian Families

How to navigate potential responses from children, youth and families regarding tribal affiliation

<b>Does Not Know</b>	The question of tribal affiliation can be confusing to many Alaska Native people for various reasons. Many people believe only American Indian communities have tribes. Some people think that ANCSA created tribes. Many families living in urban settings may feel they no longer belong to a tribe because they moved away from their community. <b><i>It may be helpful to ask what community or village their family is originally from on their mother, father or grandparents' side of the family.</i></b>											
"I'm not part of a tribe." or "I have no idea."												
<b>Race</b>	The Federal Office of Management and Budget creates the standards on race that guides the United States Census. The current recognized races are: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. Please note that 'Aleut,' 'Eskimo' and 'Indian' used to be on the US Census. Many people do not use these terms anymore, however, some people may still use them because that is what they always heard.											
<b>Alaska Native or American Indian</b>												
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Ethnicity pertains to what social group a person might feel they belong to and typically identifies national or cultural ties. Interestingly, the United States census only defines ethnicity in terms of whether a person is Hispanic or Not. In Alaska, the Alaska Native population has 10 distinct ethnic groups. Some of these ethnic groups have distinct cultural groups, such as the Athabascans, which include Denaina, Koyukon, Gwich'in, etc. Many Alaska Native social group names translate to <i>the real people</i> .											
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<b>Eyak</b>	<b>Unangax</b>											
<b>Haida</b>	<b>Yup'ik</b>											
<b>Village or Tribe</b>	Alaska has 229 Federally recognized tribes. Many Alaskan tribes have tribal names that are the 'Native Village of ____.' Most villages are tribes in Alaska. Every year the U.S. government updates the list of federally recognized tribes and their contact information in the Federal Register. Please use the most recent register to find the tribe's contact information. (ORCA updates the tribe's contact information each year). In the case that a family is not affiliated with a federally recognized tribe (such as Qutakcak in Seward, Alaska), please staff these cases with your regional ICWA specialist, supervisor and AAG.											
"My family is from the Native Village of ____."												
<b>Alaska Native Regional Corporations</b>	The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) passed in 1971 and created 12 regional corporations in Alaska. Alaska Native people at that time were eligible to become shareholders based on where they were born or where they lived. Corporations are not tribes; they are corporate businesses that serve shareholders.  <b>Village Corporations</b> ANCSA also created over 200 village corporations in Alaska. In addition to being a shareholder of a Regional Corporation, Alaska Native people may be a shareholder of a village corporation. Again, corporations are not tribes.											
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<b>Alaska Native Regional Non-Profits</b>	Each regional corporation has a non-profit organization affiliated with it. Most regional non-profits provide social services to families. Some regional non-profits compact with tribes to provide child welfare services. The Federal Register of Alaska Native and American Indian tribes will list both the tribe and regional non-profit if compacting agreements are in place. In these cases, OCS should notify <u>both</u> the listed tribe and regional non-profit on the federal register.											
<b>Aleutian Pribilof Island Association (APIA)</b> <b>Arctic Slope Native Association (ASNA)</b> <b>Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP)</b> <b>Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA)</b> <b>Chugachmiut</b> <b>Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC)</b> <b>Copper River Native Association (CRNA)</b> <b>Kawerak</b> <b>Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA)</b> <b>Maniilaq</b> <b>Tlingit-Haida Central Council</b> <b>Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)</b>												

# Cultural Support Services



**Which families are eligible?** Eligibility is for all parents with an active OCS case plan (whose children are either living in the home with an open-for services case, or temporarily residing outside of the home due to an open custody case).

**Who can receive payment?** Elders or other natural supports who are identified as willing to provide cultural services to parents meeting the eligibility above. Individuals should be selected through coordination between the Tribe, parent, and OCS.

Elder or other Cultural Support Service Provider is identified as outlined in criteria above.

For new providers, complete the W9 and notify the [Statewide ICWA Coordinator](#) and [Provider Payments Unit](#). Provider Payments Unit will add the individual as a Provider in ORCA and notify the Statewide ICWA Coordinator.

PS Specialist adds cultural services to the parent's case plan to initiate services.

PS Specialist or Regional ICWA Specialist submits a Request for Funds in ORCA for pre-authorization of services.

After services are provided the Cultural Support Services Provider Invoice form is submitted to the Regional ICWA Specialist or Statewide ICWA Coordinator.

Invoices can be submitted following each service or at the end of each month that services are provided.

The Regional ICWA Specialist or Statewide ICWA Coordinator will submit invoices to Provider Payments Unit. Payment will be issued to the Elder or Cultural Support Provider.

# Unlicensed Relative Assessment for Placements

**All relative placement requests are considered placements under emergency conditions.**

The following must be completed before placing a child in the home.

Document the relative placement request in ORCA.

Under the background check tab in ORCA, submit the APSIN request for individuals 16 and older in the home (verbal or written consent is required, APSIN Request Form 06-9721).  
For individuals 12-15 submit the JOMIS request only.  
Review and document results in ORCA.

*After hours only, the worker can request an APSIN check through the Alaska State Troopers (Dispatch # (907) 451-5100, fax # (907) 451-5165).*

Check CourtView and Sex Offender Registry for criminal history.

Check ORCA for child protection and licensing/provider history.

**Consult with PSS IV if safety concerns exist to determine if the concerns would preclude placement at this time.**

Examples: History of **assault, sex offences, domestic violence, CPS.**

If at any point during the assessment it is determined placement can NOT be made at that time, discuss with the family their option to apply to become a licensed foster parent and **provide contact information for OCS Licensing.**  
**Applying to become licensed or obtaining licensure does not guarantee placement of the child(ren).**

Visit the home and complete the Unlicensed Relative and Prospective Foster Home Safety Evaluation (06-9013), scan and upload as an image into ORCA under Create Casework-Upload Files-Placement Docs-ULR/Prospective FH Safety Eval.

Consult again with PSS IV if safety concerns were discovered during the home walk through to determine if placement is appropriate at this time.

Placement may occur with PSS IV approval.

PSS will document the placement in ORCA within 24 hours of placement and complete the disposition of the relative's placement request.

Primary PSS will ensure fingerprints are completed within 30 days of placement. The designated licensing worker will notify the PSS with the fingerprint results and the assigned staff member will document the results in ORCA.

PSS will consult with the PSM II if fingerprint results identify any barring crimes or conditions.  
PSM II approval is required to continue placement.

**NOTE:** Relative placements are prioritized by OCS. Despite background check results the placement may still be in the best interest of the child. Assess for the current circumstances and the child's safety in the home. Assessment can include the following questions:

- What were the circumstances surrounding the incident?
- What services has the individual engaged in to address past behavior?
- How long has it been and is there evidence that demonstrates behavior change?

**Denials:** If placement is denied access the Placement Request page in ORCA to document the reasons for the department's decision as soon as possible. A notice will be automatically generated and mailed to the individual. A copy of the notice will be placed in the hard file so it can be included in discovery.

*See CPS Manual 2.6 Placement, 3.5.5.A Background Checks for Placement Resource, 3.5.5.B Barrier Crimes and Variances, and 3.5.4 Searching for Relatives, Identifying Placement Preferences and Processing Requests for Placement for full policies and procedures.*



## ICWA Due Diligence and Collaboration Process

**Purpose:** An ICWA Due Diligence meeting shall be requested when there are differing positions between the State and the Tribe regarding placement or transfer of jurisdiction of a child in State custody. The goal is to resolve the matter through a series of focused staffing's, and to ensure Tribes and OCS maintain a respectful government-to-government relationship. The exception is child safety related decisions which will continue to be managed through the court process.

**Process:** This process should begin at the regional level and, if necessary, be escalated up through the chain of command to the Regional Manager and Statewide ICWA Coordinator, and the Deputy Director.

**When does it apply:** If through the course of working a case a PSS, PSS IV, Regional ICWA Specialist (RICWAS), Regional Permanency Specialist (RPS) or AAG identify a matter regarding placement or transfer of jurisdiction that has the potential to become litigated:

1. The PSS IV will schedule an **initial staffing** with the applicable OCS staff (RICWAS participation mandatory) as soon as possible, but no later than 7 days.
  - a. The PSS IV or RICWAS will document the staffing in ORCA.
2. If the matter is not able to be resolved, the RICWAS will schedule an **ICWA Due Diligence meeting** to include the PSS, PSSIV, PSML, AAG and RPS if applicable.
  - a) The meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible, but no later than 7 days following the initial staffing.
  - b) The PSM II and Statewide ICWA Coordinator will be invited as optional attendees so that they are aware of the matter and may participate if desired.
  - c) The meeting should consist of addressing the following questions:
    - What is the Tribe's position?
    - What steps has OCS taken to resolve the matter?
    - What are the barriers to reaching consensus?
    - Are there any concerns for child safety?
    - Is there a way to resolve this situation without going to court?
    - What is the AAG's legal recommendation?
    - What is OCS' collective position?
    - Who should be present at the ICWA Collaboration meeting?
  - d) The PSS IV or RICWAS will document the staffing in ORCA as an "AAG Consult" note.

3. If after an *ICWA Due Diligence meeting*, OCS' position still differs from the Tribe's, the RICWAS will convene an **ICWA Collaboration meeting** to include the Tribe, PSS, PSS IV, RICWAS, PSM and any other key participants
  - e) The meeting will be scheduled as soon as possible, but no later than 7 days from the ICWA Due Diligence meeting.
  - f) The goal of this meeting is to come open-minded and have a transparent discussion in hopes of reaching consensus.
  - g) The PSM II and Statewide ICWA Coordinator will be invited as optional attendees so that they are aware of the matter and may participate if deemed necessary.
  - h) The PSS IV or RICWAS will document the staffing in ORCA as an "Collaboration with Tribe" note.
  
4. Following the *ICWA Collaboration meeting*, the PSM I or RICWAS will promptly notify the PSM II and Statewide ICWA Coordinator of the outcome if they were not present.
  - i) If the team was unable to reach consensus, the PSM I and/or RICWAS will send a clear and concise **written summary** to the PSM II and Statewide ICWA Coordinator regarding the case.
    - i. The summary should include the presenting issue, a timeline of significant events, what efforts OCS has made to achieve resolution and the existing barriers in reaching consensus.
    - ii. The summary should be sent as soon as possible, but no later than 7 days following the ICWA Collaboration meeting.
  - j) The PSM II and Statewide ICWA Coordinator will review the summary to determine if there are any additional recommendations to reach consensus or present it to the Deputy Director for review.
  
5. **Staffing with Deputy Director** will be scheduled by the PSM II or Statewide ICWA Coordinator within 48 hours of receiving the summary. This staffing will include the Deputy Director, the PSM II, Statewide ICWA Coordinator, the assigned AAG and a senior AAG if indicated. The Deputy Director has the final decision on the matter.
  - k) The Deputy Director's final decision should be documented in ORCA as an "AAG Consult" note.
  - l) Notification of the Division's position should be sent to the Tribe in writing.

# ICWA Due Diligence and Collaboration Process

**Purpose:** An ICWA Due Diligence meeting shall be requested when there are differing positions between the State and the Tribe regarding placement or transfer of jurisdiction of a child in State custody. The goal is to resolve the matter through a series of focused staffing's, and to ensure Tribes and OCS maintain a respectful government-to-government relationship. The exception is child safety related decisions which will continue to be managed through the court process.

**Process:** This process should begin at the regional level and, if necessary, be escalated up through the chain of command to the Regional Manager and Statewide ICWA Coordinator, and the Deputy Director.

**When does it apply:** If through the course of working a case a PSS, PSS IV, Regional ICWA Specialist (RICWAS), Regional Permanency Specialist (RPS) or AAG identify a matter regarding placement or transfer of jurisdiction that has the potential to become litigated.

**Initial staffing** will be scheduled by the PSS IV as soon as possible (no later than 7 days after identifying the matter) with applicable OCS staff (RICWAS participation is mandatory)  
PSS IV or RICWAS will document the staffing in ORCA

Not Resolved

**ICWA Due Diligence Meeting** will be scheduled by RICWAS within 7 days following the initial staffing

Not Resolved

**ICWA Collaboration Meeting** will be scheduled by RICWAS within 7 days from the ICWA Due Diligence Meeting

Not Resolved

**Written summary** will be prepared by the PSM I and/or RICWAS and sent within 7 days following the ICWA Collaboration Meeting to the PSM II and Statewide ICWA Coordinator

**Staffing with Deputy Director** will be scheduled by the PSM II or Statewide ICWA Coordinator within 48 hours of receiving the summary

Final OCS Decision

### ICWA Due Diligence Meeting

**Parties Involved:** PSS, PSS IV, PSM I, AAG, and RPS if applicable (PSM II and ICWA Coordinator will be invited as optional members).

**Purpose:** The following questions will be answered

- What is the Tribe's position?
- What steps has OCS taken to resolve the matter?
- What are the barriers to reaching consensus?
- Are there any concerns for child safety?
- Is there a way to resolve this situation without going to court?
- What is the AAG's legal recommendation?
- What is OCS' collective position?
- Who should be present at the ICWA Collaboration meeting?

**Documentation:** PSS IV or RICWAS will document in an AAG Consult note.

### ICWA Collaboration Meeting

**Parties Involved:** Tribe, PSS, PSS IV, PSM I, AAG, and RPS if applicable (PSM II and ICWA Coordinator will be invited as optional members).

**Purpose:** The goal of this meeting is to come open-minded and have a transparent discussion in hopes of reaching consensus.

**Documentation:** PSS IV or RICWAS will document in a Collaboration with Tribe note.

### Staffing with Deputy Director

**Prior to Staffing:** PSM I and/or RICWAS will send clear and concise summary to the PSM II and Statewide ICWA Coordinator. The summary will include:

- Presenting Issues
- Timeline of significant events
- Efforts OCS has made to achieve resolution and
- Existing barriers in reaching a consensus

**Parties Involved:** Deputy Director, PSM II, Statewide ICWA Coordinator, the assigned AAG and a senior AAG if indicated.

**Purpose:** To make a final decision on the matter. Deputy Director has final decision.

**Documentation:** Notification of the Division's position is sent to the Tribe in writing and documented in an ORCA "AAG Consult" note.

# ORCA How To's

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ORCA Training Site <https://go.dhss.ak.local/ocs/home/orcainsite/default.aspx>

**Relatives** – Interactive Training on how to correctly document Relatives

- Select the Cases expando
- Select the case name hyperlink
- The Relatives tab is based on the Parent Relatives and populates to all case participants, ensure the child's client info tab has the mother and father entered.
- On the Relatives tab, select the expando next to the parent to view their relatives.
- Select the Edit Relative link to add a relative to a parent's Person Management page.
- Select Insert.
- Enter the relatives name in the Search Criteria and select Search, if the correct Persons Returned is found, hit the select hyperlink.
- Enter the Relation to Parent then Save and Close.

Relatives can also be entered from the Participant tab.

- Select the parent's hyperlink
- Select the Relatives tab on the parents Person Management Page
- Select Insert.
- Enter the relatives name in the Search Criteria and select Search, if the correct Persons Returned is found, hit the select hyperlink.
- Enter the Relation to Parent then Save and Close.

**Notice of Right to Request a Placement** – Interactive Training on how to create the Notice of Right to Request a Placement

Ensure parents are designated on the Child's person record (Client Info tab), each parent and relative must have a mailing or primary residence address documented

- Ensure all relatives are added to the Relatives tab so the notice can be sent correctly
- Create Casework
  - Placement/Services
  - Notice of Right to Request Placement
  - Select Case
  - Click Create
- The Notice of Right to Request Placement page opens, all children in out-of-home placement and all entered relatives of those children are listed here
- You will be unable to select a relative if that relative has an invalid address, a red slash will appear on the contact icon, to update the address, click on the relatives name hyperlink
  - Click the Address tab
  - Click the Edit link
  - Update the information
  - Click Save and Close to return to the Notice of Right to Request Placement page

## ORCA How To's

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- You can also add any legal guardians or parents of the child's siblings in the Other group box
- Once all the relatives have been added to the Notice of Right to Request Placement page you can check the boxes for the relatives the notice will be sent to
- The Send Notice button is enabled when at least one check box is selected
- In order to send the notices to the print shop click Send Notice, if correct, click Yes
- The page will show the date the notice was sent to the printers, click on the date link to launch and print the template
- Click Close to return to the ORCA desktop
- Past notices sent can also be found by
  - Utilities
  - Notifications Search
  - Notification Type
  - Notice of Right to Request Placement
  - Child ID
  - Click on the Notification ID to view and print the template

### **Request for Placement** – Interactive Training on how to document a Request for Placement of a child

- Several steps need to be completed prior to beginning the documentation of a Request for placement in ORCA
  - Names of relatives and their addresses need to be up to date and entered correctly and completely
  - Legal Status documented
  - Placements documented
- Click on the case file icon to expand the case to ensure the above are completed
- Click Case Work
- Under Create Case Items, click on the Placement/Services drop down menu and select Placement Request
- Select the case, hit create
- Click the Insert Relative(s) button to begin documenting a request made by a relative
- Once the Case Relatives page has opened you can review the contact information for any relative by clicking on the contact icon to ensure they have a complete address
- Select the relative that made the placement request, hit continue
- Click the Edit hyperlink to choose which child you are documenting the Placement Request for
- Select the child, hit continue
- It is also possible to add any Non-Relatives that may have requested placement on this page. By clicking the Insert Non-Relatives button you will be able to search for any individuals that may already have a person record in ORCA. Entering Search Criteria information, hit search, select the correct individual, hit continue
  - Click the Edit hyperlink to choose which child you are documenting the Placement Request for

## ORCA How To's

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- Select the child, hit continue
- In the Request Date field enter the date that OCS received the request
- The Disposition field will appear as Pending
- A decision regarding the placement request is required to be completed within 45 days of receiving the request for placement, Disposition options are Denied, Placed, or Withdrawn.
- Enter the Disposition Date once a decision is made.
- If a decision cannot be made prior to the 45<sup>th</sup> day:
  - Enter a decision of 'Denied', and enter a denial reason explaining that they are still being considered, but a decision could not be made within 45 days
  - Notify the person by phone, letter, or email that they are still being considered, but a decision could not be made within 45 days
- If the decision is to place, but the placement cannot be made within 45 days:
  - Enter a decision of 'Denied', and enter a denial reason explaining that the intent is to place, but the placement could not be made within 45 days
  - Notify the person by phone, letter, or email that the intent is to place, but the placement could not be made within 45 days
- Multiple Relatives in the Household:
  - In most situations only one Placement Request is created per household.
    - When only one person is a blood relative (i.e., aunt and uncle, or cousin and spouse), create the Placement Request for the blood relative
    - When both are blood relatives (i.e., grandparents), create the Placement Request for the person that will be the primary caretaker.
  - The exception to this rule is when multiple relatives that are not partners request placement. Examples of these households: a grandparent and an aunt, or two cousins. In these situations, one Placement Request is created for each person that requests placement.
  - You only have to create one Placement Request for each relative that actually requests placement. For example, if a grandmother lives with an aunt, but only the grandmother requests placement, do not create a Placement Request for the aunt just because she lives in the same household.
- ICPC:
  - Do not create Placement Requests until the ICPC homestudy is received
  - Use the date OCS receives the homestudy as the Request date
  - Notify the relative of the placement decision within 45 days

### **ICWA Tab** – Interactive Training on how to correctly document the ICWA information

- Locate the case on your desktop and click the Case Name hyperlink
- Select the participant name hyperlink for the child
- Click on the ICWA tab of the Person Management page for the child
- Click the Status drop down under Child's Tribal Membership, select Yes to document that the child is a member of a Tribe and the status can be verified
- Click on the Verification drop down and select Written Confirmation or Verbal Confirmation

## ORCA How To's

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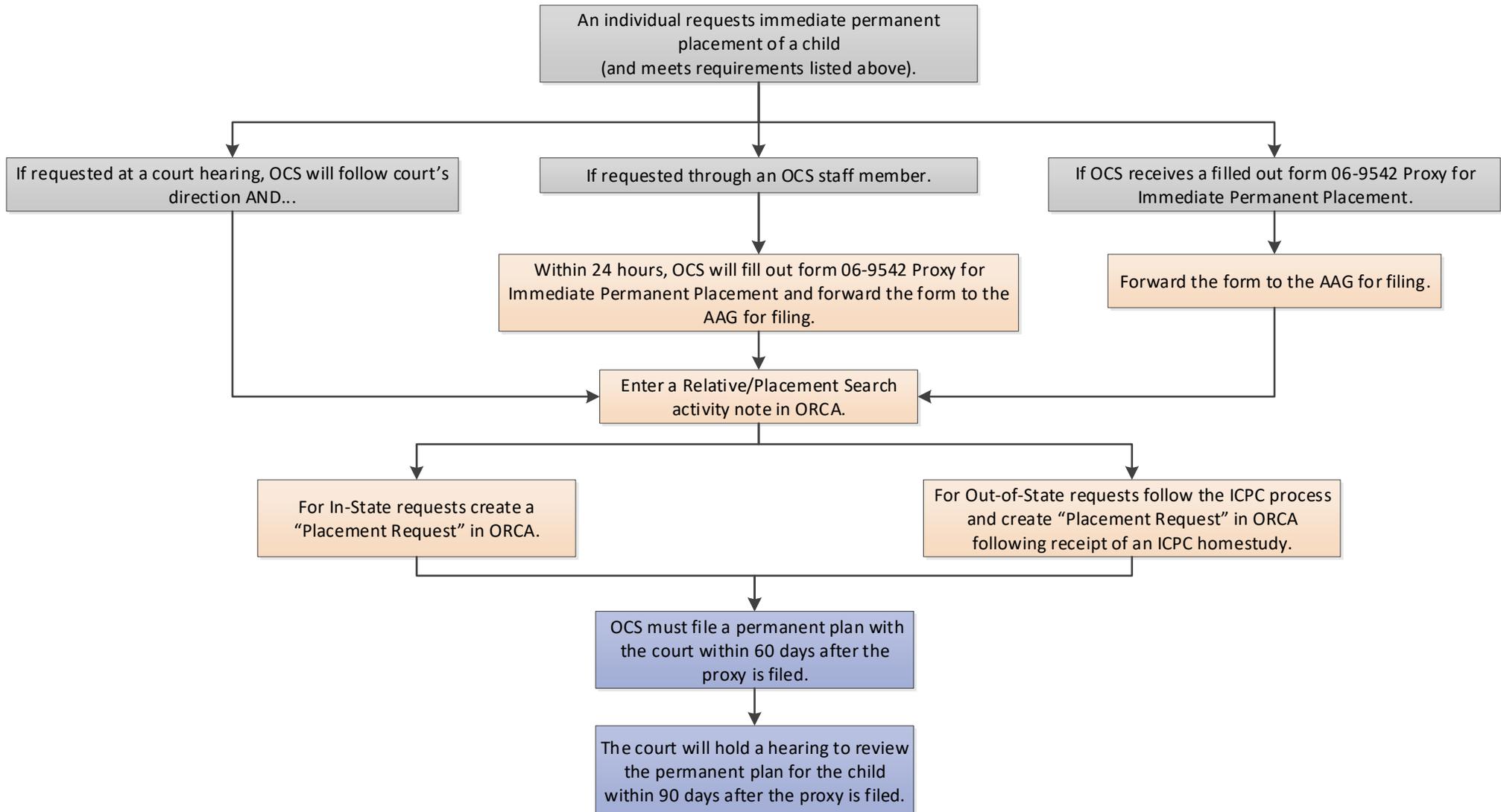
- Fill in the Status boxes under Mother's Tribal Membership by answering if the child's Mother is a member of a Tribe and if so how that was verified
- Fill in the Status box to answer Per the Tribe, is the child eligible based on Mother's membership?
- Fill in the Status boxes under Father's Tribal Membership by answering if the child's Father is a member of a Tribe and if so how that was verified
- Fill in the Status box to answer Per the Tribe, is the child eligible based on Father's membership?
- If this child is a member or eligible for membership in a Tribe, document that in the Alaska Tribal Affiliation box
  - Click the Insert button
  - To find the Tribe that the child is affiliated with click the Tribe drop down menu, search and select the Tribe
  - Click on the Status drop down menu, enter the Status of the Tribe in correlation to the individual child, the options include: Intervened, Notified and declined intervention, Notified and no response, Noticed and denied affiliation, Unknown
  - The Notice Date and Intervention Date fields become enabled based on what is selected in the Status field
  - Once a date has been entered in a date field click Save
- If multiple Tribes are entered, the Tribe who has intervened will sort to the top
- In order to enter Tribal Corporation that the child may be involved with, click on the Expand next to Tribal Corporation
  - If a child has been identified as a shareholder it will be documented here
  - Click Insert
  - Click on the Search hyperlink
  - Enter the Provider Name and click Search
  - Click on the radio button next to the correct Corporation
  - Click Continue

	WHAT HAPPENS	ICWA'S ROLE
<b>INVESTIGATION</b> ↓	OCS and other State of Alaska Agencies required to provide active efforts	Investigate, support family preservation
<b>TEMPORARY CUSTODY (probable cause) HEARING</b>  <i>WITHIN 48 HOURS</i> ↓	OCS files Petition for Emergency Custody or Adjudication Unless parents stipulate, judge holds contested hearing and decides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if OCS has proven child is in need of aid</li> <li>• if OCS has proven active efforts to prevent removal</li> <li>• if OCS has proven that either <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ removal necessary to prevent imminent physical harm or</li> <li>○ (w/QEW) that child likely to suffer serious emotional/physical harm if home</li> </ul> </li> <li>• has OCS followed placement preferences or proven good cause not to</li> </ul>	Intervene May call witnesses in court Advocate for/against <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return of Child to Home or</li> <li>• Placement with Relatives without OCS custody</li> </ul> Consider transfer to tribal court
<b>ADJUDICATION HEARING</b>  <i>WITHIN 120 DAYS</i> ↓	Unless parents stipulate, judge holds contested hearing and decides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if OCS has proven that child is in need of aid</li> <li>• if OCS has proven removal is needed to prevent imminent physical damage or harm <i>OR</i> (with QEW) that child likely to suffer serious emotional/physical harm if returned home</li> <li>• has OCS followed placement preferences or proven good cause not to</li> </ul>	Advocate position on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether child is in need of aid</li> <li>• whether removal is necessary</li> <li>• whether court should order OCS to file visitation plan</li> </ul> May call witnesses
<b>DISPOSITION HEARING</b> ↓	OCS and GAL file Disposition Reports 15/10 days prior Unless parents stipulate, judge holds contested hearing and decides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if OCS has proven (with QEW) that child likely to suffer serious emotional/physical harm if returned home</li> <li>• if OCS has proven active efforts and unsuccessful result</li> <li>• has OCS followed placement preferences or proven good cause not to</li> <li>• how long child should be in custody</li> </ul>	May file Disposition Report May call witnesses Advocate for/against removal, length of state Custody
<b>PERMANENCY HEARING</b>  <i>WITHIN 12 MONTHS</i> ↓	OCS files Permanency Report 10 days prior Unless parents stipulate, judge holds contested hearing and decides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether to approve OCS proposed permanency plan</li> <li>• if OCS has proven active efforts and unsuccessful result</li> <li>• has OCS followed placement preferences or proven good cause not to</li> </ul>	May call witnesses Advocate for a permanency goal
<b>TERMINATION HEARING</b>  <i>WITHIN 180 DAYS OF PETITION TO TERMINATE</i>	OCS files Petition to Terminate Parental Rights Unless parents relinquish rights, judge holds contested hearing and decides <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if OCS has proven it provided active efforts and unsuccessful result</li> <li>• if OCS has proven <i>beyond a reasonable doubt</i> (with QEW) that custody with parent would likely result in serious emotional/physical harm to child</li> <li>• is termination in the child's best interests</li> <li>• has OCS followed placement preferences or proven good cause not to</li> </ul>	May call witnesses Advocate for/against termination
<b>PLACEMENT REVIEW</b>	Any party or anyone who requested placement can ask for a hearing at any time Judge decides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has OCS proven the proposed placement is "unsuitable"</li> <li>• If so, is the proposed placement a higher preference under ICWA [Note: all relatives are equal preference unless Tribe resolves otherwise]</li> <li>• If the proposed placement a NOT a higher preference, is there <i>some</i> good reason for OCS to deny it</li> <li>• If the proposed placement IS a higher preference, can OCS prove good cause to deny it (not bonding/attachment)</li> </ul>	May call witnesses Advocate for/against a placement
<b>MEDIATION</b>	Can be requested by any party at any time to resolve entire case or single issues — everyone must agree to mediate	

# Proxy for Immediate Permanent Placement Flow Chart

**What is a proxy:** A proxy is a verbal or written request for immediate permanent placement of a child in OCS custody for adoption or guardianship. The proxy serves to preserve and apply the placement preferences to the individual seeking placement. A proxy does not pertain to an individual who has current placement.

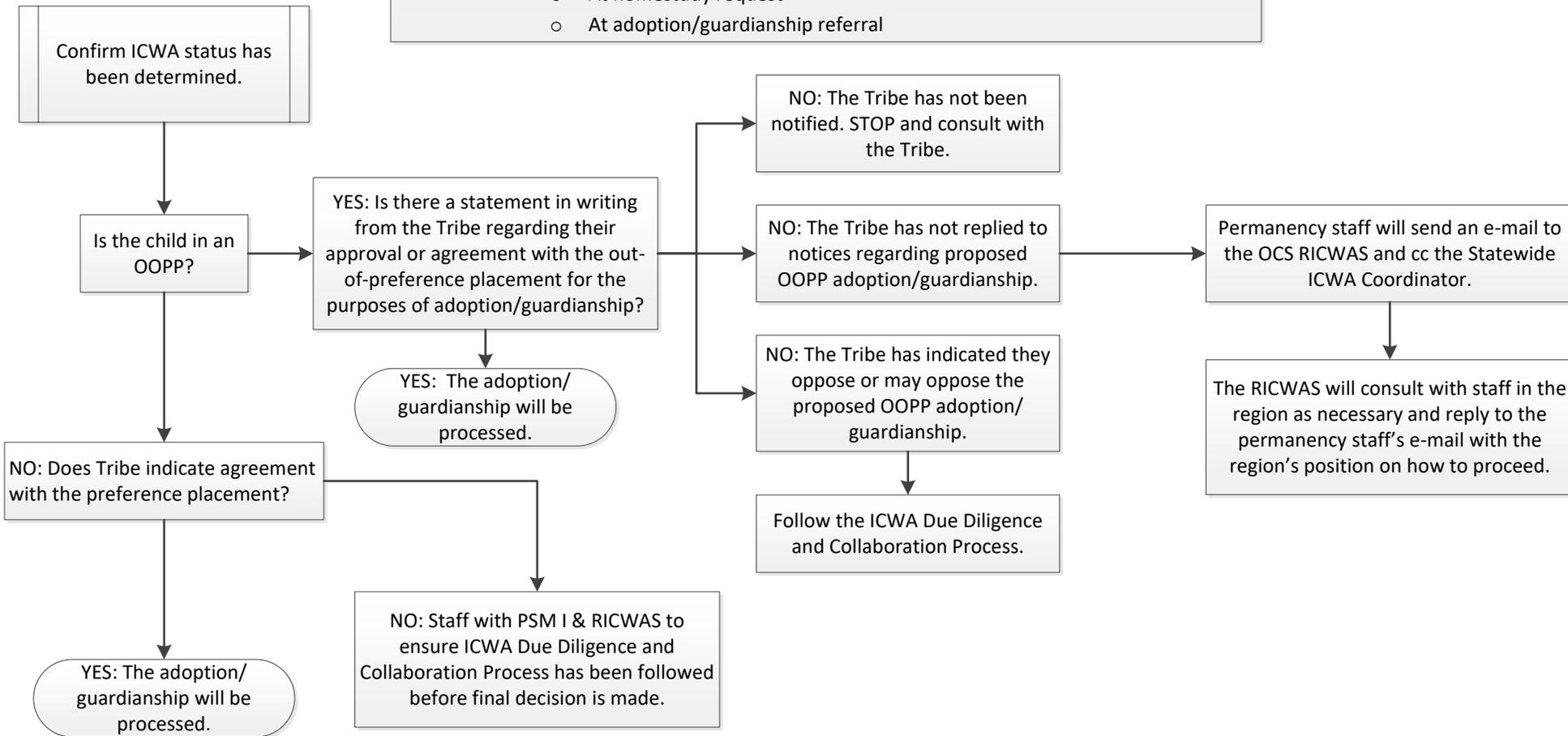
**Who can request and when:** Any extended family member, members of an Indian child's Tribe, or other Indian families can request or file a proxy for any child that is in OCS custody. This can be done at any point in the CINA case, regardless of the child's placement or permanency goal.



# Decision Tree for ICWA Adoptions and Guardianships

To be reviewed at key decision points

- OOPP Meetings
- Termination of Parental Rights
- At change of permanency goal to adoption/guardianship
- At homestudy request
- At adoption/guardianship referral



## Has OCS done its due diligence to collaborate with the Tribe and comply with ICWA?

Was a diligent search conducted to identify an ICWA preference placement (see second page of document)? Yes  No

Is there a copy of a court order showing good cause to depart from ICWA placement preferences for adoption? Yes  No

## Diligent ICWA Preference Placement Search Check-List

When it is necessary to place a child in an out-of-home placement, an on-going diligent search to identify preference placements must occur. The child must be placed in the least-restrictive setting that a) most approximates a family, taking into consideration sibling attachment; b) allows the child's special needs (if any) to be met; and c) is in reasonable proximity to the child's home, extended family, or siblings. When the child's Tribe has not established a different order of preference, preference must be given, in descending order as listed below, to placement with:

(Foster Care)

1. A member of the Indian child's extended family\*;
2. A foster home that is licensed, approved, or specified by the Indian child's Tribe;
3. An Indian foster home licensed or approved by an authorized non-Indian licensing authority; or
4. An institution for children approved by an Indian Tribe or operated by an Indian organization which has a program suitable to meet the Indian child's needs.

(Adoption)

1. A member of the Indian child's extended family\*;
2. Other members of the Indian child's Tribe; or
3. Other Indian families.

### A diligent search includes the following:

1.	Ask the parents, guardians, and child for information about extended family and family friends. Ask whether the family friends are members of an Indian Tribe.
2.	Contact <b>all</b> known extended family*, whether they are members of an Indian Tribe or not. Ask if they are interested in being a placement or if they can provide other support, or names of other family.
3.	Contact the child's Tribe (and regional Tribal partner when applicable) at the beginning of the IA and within two working days of the removal of an Indian child for assistance in identifying placements.
4.	If the child is affiliated with an Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact Co-Signer, ensure referral is made.
5.	Contact family friends that the parents identified as possible placement options, ask if they are interested in being a placement, or if they can provide other support, or provide other names of friends or family that may consider being placement (explain the licensing process).
6.	Search Prober and ORCA for possible extended family members for the child (this should be done to determine Tribal membership status, identify placement options, and supports).
7.	Document all extended family members on the "Relatives tab" on the <u>parent's</u> Person Management Page. Ensure the child's client info tab has the mother and father entered. The Relatives tab is based on the parent's relatives, and populates to the child's person management page).
8.	Send all extended family members the Notice of Right to Request Placement letter.
9.	Enter all placement requests within two working days and a decision within 45 days.
10.	When an extended family member, a member of the child's Tribe, or other Indian families expresses immediate permanent placement of a child in state custody (at any time during the life of a case) the PS Specialist will fill out the <i>Proxy for Immediate and Permanent Placement</i> form and file with the AAG office within 24 hours of the request.
11.	Monitor and search for available licensed Indian foster homes throughout the State.
12.	Conduct diligent follow-up with all potential placements and thoroughly document all efforts.
13.	Conduct an electronic engine search.
14.	When the permanency plan has been changed to adoption or guardianship, send all extended family members the Notice of Right to Request <i>Permanent</i> Placement letter.
15.	These efforts are to continue throughout the life of the case and will be discussed during OOPP meetings and monthly supervision.
16.	All of the above efforts will be documented in a Relative/Placement Search Activity Note in ORCA (OOPP meetings are documented in <i>Out of Hm Plcmt Rev</i> Activity Note).

\* *Extended family member* is defined by the law or custom of the Indian child's Tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, is a person who has reached age 18 and who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent"

# ICWA

## Active

## Efforts



**1** *Comprehensive Assessment*  
Utilize the Strengthening Families approach to identify the family's protective factors that will help them retain or regain custody of their children.

**2** *Appropriate Services*  
Identify appropriate services and actively assist the child's parents to obtain the services. (i.e. secure funding for services, make appointments, arrange transportation/travel, etc. See item 5 and 10.)

**3** *Identify, Notify & Invite the Tribe*  
Partner with the Tribe prior to contacting the family and throughout the case, starting with inviting the Tribe to participate in the Initial Assessment.

**4** *Diligent Search*  
An initial diligent search for relatives and Notice of Right to Request Placement must be completed within 30 days of removal. The search for extended family is ongoing and if the goal is changed to adoption/guardianship the Notice of Right to Request Permanent Placement letters must be sent to all identified relatives.

**5** *Reference Cultural Resources Guide*  
Work with the child's parents, Tribe, and extended family to identify culturally appropriate services. Reference Culture Resources for Alaska Families Traditional Health and Wellness Guide: <http://alaska.gov/go/3TYU>

**6** *Siblings*  
Siblings are to be placed together whenever possible. When in separate placements, continue connections through frequent contact. Ensure they have each other's contact information and identify ways (in-person visits, phone, email, social media, etc.) for the siblings to maintain family bond as diligent search continues.

**7** *Frequent Family Contact.*  
Work with resource parents to include the child's parents and extended family in the child's medical appointments, school events, and extracurricular activities whenever possible. Contact is to occur in the most natural setting possible.

**8** *Community Resources*  
Identify community resources (housing, financial, transportation, mental health, substance abuse, and peer support) and actively assist the child's parents or, when appropriate, the child's family, in utilizing and accessing those resources. When a family is able to be served closer to home they will have better outcomes.

**9** *Actively Monitor*  
Frequently communicate with the family's team of supports to assess behavior changes so reunification can occur as soon as it is safely possible.

**10** *Alternative Services*  
Consider alternative ways to address the needs of the child's parents and, where appropriate, the family, if "formal services" are not available. Consult the Tribal ICWA worker for culturally relevant services that will best support the child and family. See item 2 and 5.

**11** *Post-Reunification*  
Identify and provide post-reunification services and supports. Continue to assess and assist in strengthening the family's support system and resource network.



## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

**Here is a list of common acronyms and abbreviations that workers need to know.**

**ACRF Alaska Center for Resource Families** provides training, referral services, individual support and information to Alaska's resource families (foster, adoptive, relative caretakers, and guardianship families).

**ACS Alaska Children's Services** is a psychiatric residential treatment center for children and adolescents with moderate to severe emotional and behavioral disorders. Other services include aftercare case management, recruitment of therapeutic foster homes, intensive day treatment, and activity therapy.

**ADJ Adjudication** generally refers to processes of decision making that involve a neutral third party with the authority to determine a binding resolution through some form of judgment or award. [1] Adjudication is carried out in various forms, but most commonly occurs in the court system.

**AG Attorney General** is the chief law officer of the government.

**AJR Adult and Juvenile Representative**

**ANCSA Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act** of 1971

**ANTHC Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium**

**API Alaska Psychiatric Institute** provides inpatient psychiatric care to individuals from all regions of the state.

**APIA Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association**, A non-profit Tribal organization of the Aleut people in Alaska providing services including cultural heritage, health, education, social, psychological, employment, vocational training, environment, natural resources and public safety services.

**ARCA Arc of Anchorage** assists individuals who experience disabilities with an opportunity to choose and realize their goals or where and how they learn, live, work and play.

**ARCH Adolescent Rehab Center for Health**

**ASFA Adoption and Safe Family Act** is a federal act that establishes timelines and standards for child protection in an effort to move children more quickly out of foster care and into permanency.

**ASNA Arctic Slope Native Association** A non-profit Tribal health and social services organizations that serves the northernmost region of Alaska.

**AHFC Alaska Housing Finance Corporation** (formerly referred to as ASHA or Alaska State Housing Authority) a state funded agency that assists with low income housing

**AVCP Association of Village Council Presidents** is the regional Tribal non-profit organization that serves the 56 member Tribes in the southwestern area of Alaska.

**AWAIC Alaska Women's Aid in Crisis** is a safe temporary shelter for women and children impacted by domestic violence.

**AWRC Alaska Women's Resource Center** offers a continuum of substance abuse treatment services.

**AYPF Alaska Youth & Parent Foundation** provides information to youth and families on Alaska juvenile law, short-term counseling and community education.

**BIA Bureau of Indian Affairs** is the principal bureau, within the federal government, responsible for administration of federal programs for federally recognized Indian Tribes.

**BBNA Bristol Bay Native Association** is the regional Tribal non-profit organization that serves 31 Tribes in the Bristol Bay region.

**CAC Child Advocacy Center** is a center specialized in conducting forensic interviews on child victims of physical or sexual abuse.

**CASA Court Appointed Special Advocate** is a volunteer, trained by the Office of Public Advocacy (OPA) Alaska CASA Program, to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children in court.

**CCTHITA Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska** is the Tribal government representing Tlingit and Haida Indians from Alaska's southeast region.

**CINA Child in Need of Aid** a person who is under the age of 18 and is determined by the court to receive help from the State of Alaska because the child is not receiving proper care or is in a bad situation.

**CITC Cook Inlet Tribal Council** is the Tribal organization that services services for Alaska Native families in Anchorage and Southcentral.

**CRNA Copper River Native Association** a non-profit Tribal organization that provides health, community and social services to communities of the Ahtna Region.

**CSED Child Support Enforcement Division**

**DA District Attorney** in the legal system of the United States, the public prosecuting officer within a defined district.

**DBH Division of Behavioral Health**

**DD Developmentally Disabled**

**DDP Developmental Disabilities Program**

**DJJ Department of Juvenile Justice** holds juvenile offenders accountable for their behavior. Promotes the safety and restoration of victims and communities and assist offenders and their families in developing skills to prevent crime.

**DISPO Disposition** is held after the court has adjudicated the child as a child in need of aid. Its purpose is to determine the best plan for the child.

**DV Domestic Violence** physically or emotionally harmful acts between husbands and wives or between other individuals in intimate relationships.

**ECAC Eklutna Child Advocacy Center** provides court intervention and social services to improve enforcement of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

**ETC Ernie Turner Center** provides prevention and treatment services which include residential care, day treatment, outpatient care and a family strengthening project. The ETC is one of a handful of residential treatment programs in the US designed specifically for the elderly.

**FAI First Alaskans Institute**

**FCC Family CARE Court (CARE: Community Assisted Recovery Effort)** is a special court for Child in Need of Aid cases (CINA) where a child has been removed from their home as a result of the parent's) alcohol and/or drug abuse.

**GAL Guardian Ad Litem** acts to advocate for a child's best interests and rights throughout the child's involvement in the court process.

**HIPAA Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act OF 1996**

**Hx History of** a chronological record of events, as of the life of development or a people or institution, often including an explanation of or commentary on those events: a history of the Vikings; An established record or pattern of behavior: an inmate with a history of substance abuse.

**ICC Interim Case Conference** a second type of pre-adjudication review occurs only in Anchorage. The Anchorage children's court requires parties to meet outside the courtroom 30 days after probable cause has been established to believe that the child is in need of aid. The purpose of the review is to bring the parties together to review the case status and plan for the future.

**ICPC Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children** is a statutory law in all 52 member jurisdictions and a binding contract between member jurisdictions. The ICPC established uniform legal and administrative procedures governing the interstate placement of children.

**ICWA Indian Child Welfare Act** is a federal law that was passed in 1978. ICWA applies to child custody cases where an Indian Child is being taken away from a parent or Indian custodian, or where parental rights are being "terminated" (ended).

**IEP Individual Education Program** is a written plan developed by the parents and the schools special education team that specifies the student's academic goals and the method to obtain these goals.

**ILP Infant Learning Program** provides services to communities throughout Northern Southeast Alaska. The infant learning program can help in assisting children in developing, access resources, and encourage your child's natural curiosity and desire to learn.

**JPO Juvenile Probation Officer** monitors, assists, and guides a juvenile and the juvenile's family towards successful completion of court ordered probation

**LD Learning Disabilities** are hidden disabilities that affect many individuals who usually have average or above average intelligence, but are unable to achieve at their potential.

**MYC McLaughlin Youth Center** is a place that offers specialized programs for sex offenders, girls, older teens, those who have participated in gangs, and youth posing significant risk to themselves and others.

**OCS Office of Children's Services** works in partnership with families and communities to support the well-being of Alaska's children. Their services attempt to enhance a family's capacity to give their children a healthy start, to provide them with safe, permanent homes, and to maintain cultural connections so that all may realize their potential.

**OPA Office of Public Advocacy** provides legal advocacy and guardianship services to vulnerable Alaskans.

**PC Probable Cause** is a reasonable belief that a person has committed a crime. The test the court of appeals employs to determine whether probable cause existed for purpose of arrest is whether facts and circumstances within the officer's knowledge are sufficient to warrant a prudent person to believe a suspect has committed, is committing, or is about to commit a crime.

**PFA Protective Factors Assessment**

**PD Public Defender** a lawyer who works for a state or local agency representing clients accused of a crime who cannot afford to pay.

**PIC Programs for Infants and Children** provides evaluation and intervention services for children, birth to age three, with special needs and their families.

**PL Public Law**

**PO Probation Officer** provides protection and services through the enforcement of court orders and the investigations, supervision and monitoring of offenders. Probation officers provide up-to-date information and recommendation to the courts.

**RTC Residential Treatment Center** a facility that provides Level 1 services licensed per 9 A.A.C. 20 to provide services to persons under the age of 21.

**SCCC Southcentral Counseling Center** assists by providing state of the art behavioral healthcare; provides comprehensive behavioral healthcare services that enhances the lives of people in the Anchorage community.

**SCF Southcentral Foundation** is an Alaska Native non-profit health corporation formed under the Tribal authority of Cook Inlet Region, Incorporated (CIRI).

**SED Severe Emotional Disturbance** describes the presence or psychological trauma or dysfunction. Some children from this group are far more predisposed toward terrorist behaviors, such as the highly publicized school shooting incidents happening across the country. These students often manifest highly observable behavioral symptoms of their mental anguish.

**STIP Stipulation** is a legal agreement signed by all the parties (or attorneys on their behalf when dealing with procedural issues.)

**SW Social Worker**

**TCC Tanana Chief's Conference** is the traditional Tribal consortium of the 42 villages of Interior Alaska, it is based on belief in Tribal self-determination and the need for regional Native unity.

**TFYS Tribal Family Youth Specialist** is the name of the Tribal Child Welfare workers of the Fairbanks (TCC) region.

**TPR Termination of Parental Rights** results in the complete legal severance of the parent-child relationship unless a right of visitation is retained through relinquishment.

**VOA Volunteers of America** provide prevention services offering several components, including Camp Hope—summer prevention camp for children of alcoholics; Classroom Prevention Exploration, No Empty Nest Support Groups; and All Stars Prevention Services in the middle schools

**IV-E Review - OCS Review Meeting/Process** is a meeting held to make sure OCS is compliant with the federal regulations.

## Diligent ICWA Preference Placement Search Check-List

When it is necessary to place a child in an out-of-home placement, an on-going diligent search to identify preference placements must occur. The child must be placed in the least-restrictive setting that a) most approximates a family, taking into consideration sibling attachment; b) allows the child's special needs (if any) to be met; and c) is in reasonable proximity to the child's home, extended family, or siblings. When the child's Tribe has not established a different order of preference, preference must be given, in descending order as listed below, to placement with:

(Foster Care)

1. A member of the Indian child's extended family\*;
2. A foster home that is licensed, approved, or specified by the Indian child's Tribe;
3. An Indian foster home licensed or approved by an authorized non-Indian licensing authority; or
4. An institution for children approved by an Indian Tribe or operated by an Indian organization which has a program suitable to meet the Indian child's needs.

(Adoption)

1. A member of the Indian child's extended family\*;
2. Other members of the Indian child's Tribe; or
3. Other Indian families.

### A diligent search includes the following:

	1. Ask the parents, guardians, and child for information about extended family and family friends. Ask whether the family friends are members of an Indian Tribe.
	2. Contact <b>all</b> known extended family*, whether they are members of an Indian Tribe or not. Ask if they are interested in being a placement or if they can provide other support, or names of other family.
	3. Contact the child's Tribe (and regional Tribal partner when applicable) at the beginning of the IA and within two working days of the removal of an Indian child for assistance in identifying placements.
	4. Contact family friends that the parents identified as possible placement options, ask if they are interested in being a placement, or if they can provide other support, or provide other names of friends or family that may consider being placement (explain the licensing process).
	5. Search Prober and ORCA for possible extended family members for the child (this should be done to determine Tribal membership status, identify placement options, and supports).
	6. Document all extended family members on the "Relatives tab" on the <u>parent's</u> Person Management Page. Ensure the child's client info tab has the mother and father entered. The Relatives tab is based on the parent's relatives, and populates to the child's person management page).
	7. When an extended family member's address or location is unknown, assistance from the Child Support Services Division (CSSD) will be requested to access information available through the federal and state parent locator services.
	8. Send all extended family members the Notice of Right to Request Placement letter.
	9. Enter all placement requests within two working days and a decision within 45 days.
	10. When an extended family member, a member of the child's Tribe, or other Indian families expresses immediate permanent placement of a child in state custody (at any time during the life of a case) the PS Specialist will fill out the <i>Proxy for a Formal Petition for Adoption or Legal Guardianship</i> form and file with the AAG office within 24 hours of the request.
	11. Monitor and search for available licensed Indian foster homes throughout the State.
	12. Conduct diligent follow-up with all potential placements and thoroughly document all efforts.
	13. Conduct an electronic engine search such as EIS, PFD, and <a href="http://www.familytreenow.com/">http://www.familytreenow.com/</a> , Family Finding/Seneca, or Accurant.
	14. When the permanency plan has been changed to adoption or guardianship, send all extended family members the Notice of Right to Request <i>Permanent</i> Placement letter.
	15. These efforts are to continue throughout the life of the case and will be discussed during OOPP meetings and monthly supervision.
	16. All of the above efforts will be documented in a Relative/Placement Search Activity Note in ORCA (OOPP meetings are documented in <i>Out of Hm Plcmt Rev</i> Activity Note).

\* *Extended family member* is defined by the law or custom of the Indian child's Tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, is a person who has reached age 18 and who is the Indian child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or stepparent"

## EXTENDED FAMILY AND FAMILY FRIEND INFORMATION FORM

**Instructions:** This form may be completed immediately after a child has been removed from their home, or anytime an extended family member or family friend tells a Tribal worker they want placement of a child in State custody.

- Give one copy to the primary OCS worker (email, fax, or delivered by hand)
- Give one copy to the OCS Regional ICWA Specialist (email, fax, or delivered by hand)

<b>Tribe:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Person submitting form:</b>	
<b>Date submitted:</b>	

### Parent and Child Information

Mother: \_\_\_\_\_ Father: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children: \_\_\_\_\_

### Extended Family or Family Friends Requesting Placement

The extended family members and/or family friends below have been in contact with the Tribe and are willing and able to take immediate placement of the above children.

Name	Birth Date (if known)	Relationship to Child (if not related, enter family friend)	Mailing Address and E-Mail Address	Phone

If needed, list additional names and contact information on another piece of paper and attach. Please specify if the individual is requesting immediate and permanent placement so a proxy form can be completed and filed.





THE STATE  
*of* ALASKA

**Department of Family  
and Community Services**

*Mike Dunleavy*, GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Date: 01/14/2025

Dear: Abby A. Avacado

Subject: Notice of Right to Request Placement

Re: Molly M. Mango

This notice is to inform you that the Office of Children's Services has found it necessary to temporarily move the child(ren) named above from their home to ensure their safety. We would like to explore potential placement and support options among relatives until we can reunite the children with their parents.

Keeping children connected to their family, whether through placement or continued involvement, is the best way to support them when they need to be away from their home.

If you are unable, or unsure, of being a placement option but would like to support the child(ren) in other ways, there are multiple ways to help:

- o Assist with identifying other relatives who may be interested in placement or staying connected.
- o Assist in preserving their family and cultural ties.
- o Offer support with transportation for visits with their parents, school, or other activities.
- o Share details about their likes, medical history, school preferences, and any specific needs they may have.
- o Assist in supporting and encouraging the parent(s).

If you are interested in being a placement option, whether now, or later, or be a support to the child(ren), please contact the caseworker or reach out to your Tribe for further guidance and information. You can also send an email to [fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov](mailto:fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov) for additional information. You'll find more detailed insights about your rights, the process, and various options on the next page.

Caseworker Name: Blake M. Galvin

Phone: (907)465-7658

Email: [orcatetest@alaska.gov](mailto:orcatetest@alaska.gov)

**Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you soon.**

## Information regarding your rights, process, and options to request placement

When a child is removed from their home, the Office of Children's Services works to reunify the child with their parents as quickly and safely as possible.

This letter is to inform you of your right to request placement of the children with you while the child(ren) are in out of home care. If you are interested in having the above-named child(ren) placed with you or if you know of other extended family who might be interested in caring for child(ren), please contact the OCS worker as soon as possible. **Relatives have the right to request placement at any time while the child(ren) are in out of home care.**

If you request placement of the above-named child(ren) you will be required to participate in an assessment of your home including background checks on all members of your household age 16 and older. An assessment includes fingerprint-based criminal checks, child protection history checks, home safety checks and other requirements.

OCS will make every effort to make a decision about your request for placement within 45 days of receiving your request. If your request is denied, you will receive a letter from OCS that explains why your request was denied and what rights you have to appeal the decision.

If you are approved for placement, the following are options that can assist you with covering the costs of caring for the child(ren):

1. Approved licensed foster parents receive foster care payments to help with the cost of caring for children placed in their home. Additional services may be provided including childcare, counseling, and transportation.
2. Unlicensed relative care providers may apply for the Alaska Temporary Assistance Program through the Division of Public Assistance, or the Tribal Temporary Assistance Program through a Tribal organization.
3. Most children who are in the custody of the Office of Children's Services are eligible for Medicaid coverage.
4. In some instances, children may not be able to return to the care of a parent and an alternative permanency plan, such as Adoption or Guardianship, is necessary. Approved adoption or guardianship placements may be eligible for a subsidy.

The Office of Children's Services looks forward to hearing from you. Please contact the worker or send an email to [fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov](mailto:fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov) as noted on the first page if you have any questions regarding this process.



Date: 01/14/2025

Dear: Abby A. Avacado

Subject: Notice of Right to Request Placement Due to a Change of the Permanency Plan to Adoption/Guardianship

Re: Molly M. Mango

This notice is to inform you of an important change for the child(ren) mentioned above. After careful consideration, OCS has re-evaluated the situation and believes that reunification with their legal parents may no longer be possible. As a result, we have adjusted the permanency plan/goal from reunification to either adoption or guardianship. We understand that these decisions are significant and can be emotional. Our primary focus, however, is the well-being of the children.

We firmly believe that when returning to their legal parents is not feasible, it is in the best interest of the children to be in the care of relatives or other individuals they are familiar with and who care for them. OCS is committed to ensuring a smooth transition for the children to provide them with the love and support they need during this time.

If you are unable to be, or unsure about being, a permanent placement option but would like to support the child(ren) in other ways, there are multiple ways to help:

- o Assist with identifying other relatives who may be interested in permanent placement or staying connected.
- o Assist in preserving their extended family and cultural ties.

If you are interested in being a permanent placement option, or a support to the child(ren), please contact the caseworker or reach out to your Tribe for further guidance and information. You can also send an email to [fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov](mailto:fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov) for additional information. You'll find more detailed insights about your rights, the process, and various options on the next page.

Caseworker Name: Blake M. Galvin

Phone: (907)465-7658

Email: [orcaatest@alaska.gov](mailto:orcaatest@alaska.gov)

**Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you soon.**

## Information regarding your rights, process, and options to request placement

When a child is removed from their home, the Office of Children's Services works to reunify the child with their parents as quickly and safely as possible. When children are not able to return to their parent(s), a different permanent home is needed. If you are interested in having the child(ren) placed permanently with you, please contact the OCS worker listed above.

This letter is to inform you of your right to request permanent placement of the children for the purposes of adoption or guardianship. If you are interested in having the above-named child(ren) permanently placed with you or if you know of other extended family who might be interested in permanently caring for child(ren), please contact the OCS worker as soon as possible. **Relatives have the right to request placement at any time while the child(ren) are in out of home care.**

If you request placement of the above-named child(ren) you will be required to participate in an assessment of your home including background checks on all members of your household age 16 and older. An assessment includes fingerprint-based criminal checks, child protection history checks, home safety checks and other requirements.

OCS will make every effort to make a decision about your request for placement within 45 days of receiving your request. If your request is denied, you will receive a letter from OCS that explains why your request was denied and what rights you have to appeal the decision.

If you are approved for adoption or guardianship, the following are options that can assist you with covering the costs of caring for the child(ren):

1. An individually negotiated cash payment based on the cost of caring for the special needs of the youth.
2. Reimbursement of up to \$2,000 in non-recurring costs associated with finalizing the adoption or guardianship, usually allocated to paying for an adoption or guardianship attorney.
3. Some guardianship subsidies and most adoption subsidies include Medicaid until the youth turns 18.

The Office of Children's Services looks forward to hearing from you. Please contact the worker or send an email to [fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov](mailto:fcs.ocs.PSSU@alaska.gov) as noted on the first page if you have any questions regarding this process.

## Proxy for Immediate Permanent Placement

This form will be completed within 24 hours of an individual's request for immediate permanent placement and filed with the court thereafter. This proxy serves to preserve and apply the adoptive placement preferences at 25 U.S.C. 1915 (a) to the individual seeking placement. A proxy does not pertain to an individual that has current placement of a child.

A proxy filed under AS 47.10.112 does not initiate proceedings for adoption or legal guardianship. A person seeking to adopt a child in state custody must file a petition for adoption as required under AS 25.23. A person seeking to be appointed as a legal guardian of a child in state custody must file a petition for appointment as required under AS 13.26.030 – 13.26.085.

Date:

Name of person requesting placement:

Relationship to child:

Requester is a(n):  Extended family member,  
 Member of Indian child's Tribe, or  
 An individual who is a member of another Tribe.

### Child/Children individual is requesting permanent placement of:

CHILD NAME:	<input type="text"/>	DOB:	<input type="text"/>	CINA CASE #:	<input type="text"/>
CHILD NAME:	<input type="text"/>	DOB:	<input type="text"/>	CINA CASE #:	<input type="text"/>
CHILD NAME:	<input type="text"/>	DOB:	<input type="text"/>	CINA CASE #:	<input type="text"/>
CHILD NAME:	<input type="text"/>	DOB:	<input type="text"/>	CINA CASE #:	<input type="text"/>

### Contact information for the individual requesting immediate permanent placement of child:

Phone #:  Email address:

Mailing address:

Physical address:

Submitted to court on this date:  Court Location:

By:   
(Printed)

(Signature)

Title:

### The following timeframes apply:

- Within 60 days after the proxy is filed, OCS shall submit a report regarding the child's permanent placement to the court.
- Within 90 days after the proxy is filed, the court shall hold a hearing to review the permanent plan for the child under AS 47.100.080(l).



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of  
Health and Social Services

OFFICE OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
Director's Office

P.O. Box 110630  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0630  
Main: 907.465.3170  
Fax: 907.465.3397

(enter date)

[Mr. or Mrs. First Name and Last Name]  
(Corporation name)  
[Address]  
[City, State Zip]

RE: (enter youth's name, DOB)

This letter is to notify you that, (enter youth's name)

- Is currently in the custody of the State of Alaska. Custody began on (enter date) and the youth is still presently in state custody.

Please confirm that this child is a shareholder of this corporation and therefore entitled to receive dividends or other distributions resulting from the ownership of stock or a membership in this corporation. Under AS 47.12, the corporation paying the dividends or making the other distributions shall retain the dividends and other distributions in an interest bearing account for the benefit of the child or minor during the state custody.

Please list any distribution that this shareholder received from ..... (*the first of the month that custody began*) and the date and amount of distribution.

- Was in state custody but is not currently. The date custody began was (enter date) and the release date was (enter release date).
- Is not and has not been in custody of the state of Alaska with the Office of Children's Services.

Sincerely,

[First and Last Name]  
[Title]  
[Address]  
[City, State Zip]

**TRIBAL AGREEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY  
(PRIOR TO FILING A CHILD IN NEED OF AID CASE)**

Prior to filing a Child-in-Need-of-Aid (“CINA”) case in state court, the Office of Children’s Services (“OCS”) may provide information to Alaska tribes regarding child protection investigations that involve their tribal children. This information sharing may occur for any of the following reasons: so that a Tribe may work collaboratively with OCS to investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect; so that a Tribe can aid in providing services or placing a child if releasing the information is in the child’s best interest; or a Tribe has requested the information from OCS and indicates the request is for a purpose related to child protection, including investigating the allegations in the Protective Services Reports (“PSR”). In addition to the PSR, information sharing at this stage may include reports of harm, ORCA notes, safety plans, police reports, and other investigative reports.

The information that is provided by the OCS to a Tribe is sensitive and confidential. Maintaining the confidentiality of this information is vital to protecting both the safety of the children and the privacy of the family. The information provided by the OCS to the Tribe must therefore not be disclosed to any person or entity except that information which is necessary to carry out the investigation process, initiate a tribal child protection proceeding, and/or provide immediate assistance and intervention services to the family.

By signing below, the Tribe acknowledges that it has reviewed, understood and agrees to keep child protection information confidential as set forth above. The Tribe also confirms that it has a written policy regarding protection of confidential information, and that tribal representatives receiving confidential information have received a copy of the policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Tribal Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Tribe: \_\_\_\_\_