

CAL DOJ ICWA Compliance Task Force

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**BEYOND THE BENCH
ANAHEIM, CA
DECEMBER 3, 2015**

Task Force Background

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- Establishment of the Attorney General's new Bureau of Children's Justice (BCJ).
- The new BCJ and it's goals highlighted at the annual ICWA conf in June 2015.
- Following the annual ICWA event AG's BCJ and ONAA asked tribal leaders for comment and ongoing information related to laws being violated and patterns of non-compliance with the Act.

Establishment of the Task Force

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- ICWA advocates and Tribal Leaders requested additional meetings with Cal DOJ.
- Meeting notices were sent to all of California's federally recognized tribes.
- All tribes across US have been noticed of TF.
- Need for ICWA Compliance Task Force was established on September 8 and October 27, 2015.
- Task Force is independent of Cal DOJ.
- Task Force is autonomous and operates under the direction of Tribal leadership.

Mission of the Task Force

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- To generate recommendations for Cal DOJ's review of systemic failures impacting Indian children and their families.
- In order to present an accurate assessment of the tribal perspective on the ICWA laws being violated, the Task Force has established three dates for listening session calls.
- Soft deadline for report informing BCJ of laws violated and recommendations for best practices to improve ICWA compliance by February 1, 2016.

ICWA TF Report and Recommendations

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My personal hope is the report and recommendations will be a compelling vision of compliance for the future of ICWA in California.

Contact Information

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