APPENDIX A:
PUBLIC LAW 280 JURISDICTION

In 1953, largely as a way to save federal money (Goldberg and Champagne, 2007), Congress passed Public Law 280 (hereinafter PL 280). PL 280, or more accurately PL 83-280, dramatically changed criminal jurisdiction by shifting criminal jurisdiction over offenses involving Indians in Indian Country from the federal government to certain states. In six states, including California, the transfer was mandatory, unless a specific tribe in one of these states was excluded from the change. There were no tribes excluded in California. In other states, adoption of PL 280 was optional (Goldberg and Singleton, 2005).

Mandatory transfers of jurisdiction under PL 280 could not be opposed by the state and did not require the consent of the tribes until the enactment of amendments in 1968 (Goldberg and Champagne, 2007). No funding was provided for the additional duties transferred to local law enforcement (Goldberg and Singleton, 2005).

The enactment of PL 280 meant that the costs of enforcement of criminal laws fell to local government. Because reservation trust lands are exempt from state and local property taxes, and tribal members living and earning income on reservations are exempt from paying state income and sales taxes, these important sources of funding for local law enforcement and criminal justice on reservations have been unavailable (Goldberg and Champagne, 2007).

The history of law enforcement action under PL 280 has been criticized. A 1995 survey of California tribes indicated that the most prevalent concerns among the tribes surveyed were jurisdictional confusion and inadequate law enforcement responses to complaints (U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), 2005). There were also findings that officers did not act because of their “unfamiliarity with tribal communities.” (U.S. DOJ, 2005.) Inconsistency of response has led to complaints of “insensitive or discriminatory treatment” by state and local law enforcement and has fostered mistrust and hostility between state and tribal officials and communities.

PL 280 has created a number of legal complexities which may help explain why state responses have been inconsistent and at times, inadequate:

- Only statewide, not local, criminal laws are enforceable. PL 280 only authorizes enforcement of statewide criminal laws. Local and county ordinances and laws are not enforceable on tribal lands.

- PL 280 only authorizes enforcement of criminal (prohibitory) laws. Civil Regulatory laws are not enforceable. PL 280 and case law, including California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians (1987) 480 U.S. 202, 209, have drawn a distinction between
prohibitory crimes and those that are regulatory. State law enforcement is directed to act in response to prohibitory crimes but lacks jurisdiction to act if the conduct is regulatory. This has meant that California may not enforce its laws related to such matters as environmental control, land use, gambling, and licenses. The line between these categories can be unclear.

- PL 280 criminal jurisdiction cannot be used to alter the status of trust lands or to restrict federally protected hunting and fishing rights. PL 280 prohibited California from legislating about property held in trust by the United States and federally guaranteed hunting, trapping, and fishing rights. The state cannot tax on the reservations. These limitations have been especially problematic when there are state criminal laws relating to hunting and fishing, when excluding disruptive persons from tribal lands pursuant to a state court order, or enforcing bans on polluting trust lands through illegal dumping (Goldberg and Champagne, 2007).

- PL 280 did not change the tribe’s authority to create and maintain police departments with authority to enforce tribal laws. In addition, federal law enforcement agencies retain criminal jurisdiction over certain crimes, though their authority is greatly reduced under PL 280.

- The lack of funding, confusion over the authority conveyed to local (state-level) law enforcement—what can be enforced and what cannot, lack of training and relationships with tribal officials and police, and overlapping jurisdiction have all contributed to the inconsistent response to crimes on tribal lands. In addition, state and local agency practices have created additional barriers to response to crimes in Indian Country. For example, existing databases may not permit searches for elder abuse and other crimes. Until recently, tribal courts could not enter orders into state and federal protective order systems so state officers could not verify the orders in order to enforce them.

**California Indian Tribes and Territory**

California currently has approximately 110 federally recognized tribes,¹ with nearly 100 separate reservations or rancherias.² In addition there are currently 81 groups petitioning for federal recognition.³ In the 2010 census roughly 725,000 California citizens identified as American Indian or Alaska Native either alone or in combination with other ethnicities.⁴ This

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² Note that some tribes remain “landless” meaning they have no land in trust for their members, while other tribes may have more than one reservation or rancheria.
represents roughly 14% of the entire American Indian/Alaska Native population of the United States.

**General Rules (these rules apply in California unless modified by PL 280)**

Tribes are sovereign and have exclusive inherent jurisdiction over their territory and members, but not necessarily with jurisdiction over non-Indians even within tribal territory.

Tribes are under the exclusive and plenary jurisdiction of the federal Congress, which may restrict or abolish jurisdiction and sovereignty. The federal government has exercised this power a number of times to limit tribal jurisdiction, assume federal jurisdiction over a number of areas, and delegate that jurisdiction to some states. Congress has granted limited jurisdictional authority to the federal courts (under the General Crimes Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1153 and the Major Crimes Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1152) and to state courts (for example under Public Law 280). Congress has imposed limits on tribal courts through the Indian Civil Rights Act (ICRA, 25 U.S.C. § 1301–1303).

**Public Law 280**

The general jurisdictional scheme was altered in California by Public Law 280 enacted by Congress in 1953. PL 280 transferred federal criminal jurisdiction and conferred some civil jurisdiction on states and state courts in the six mandatory Public Law 280 states, which includes California. Public Law 280 is now codified in federal law as 28 U.S.C. § 1360 regarding civil jurisdiction and 18 U.S.C. § 1162 regarding criminal jurisdiction.  

Per the U.S. Supreme Court in *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians* (1987) 480 U.S. 202, Public Law 280 had the following effect on California’s civil and criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country:

In Pub.L. 280, Congress expressly granted six States, including California, jurisdiction over specified areas of Indian country within the States and provided for the assumption of jurisdiction by other States. In § 2 [i.e. 18 U.S.C. § 1162], California was granted broad criminal jurisdiction over offenses committed by or against Indians within all Indian country within the State. Section 4’s [i.e. 28 U.S.C. § 1360’s] grant of civil jurisdiction was more limited. In *Bryan v. Itasca County*, 426 U.S. 373 (1976), we interpreted § 4 to grant States jurisdiction over private civil litigation involving reservation Indians in state court, but not to grant general civil regulatory authority. *Id.*, at 385, 388–390. Accordingly, when a State seeks to enforce a law within an Indian reservation under the authority of Pub.L. 280 it must be determined whether the law is criminal in nature, and thus fully applicable to the

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5 See included statutes.
reservation under § 2, or civil in nature, and applicable only as it may be relevant to private civil litigation in state court.

(Id. at pp. 207–208.)

The “criminal/prohibitory” versus “civil/regulatory” distinction was set out by the Court in *Cabazon* as follows:

[If the intent of a state law is generally to prohibit certain conduct, it falls within Pub.L. 280’s grant of criminal jurisdiction, but if the state law generally permits the conduct at issue, subject to regulation, it must be classified as civil/regulatory and Pub.L. 280 does not authorize its enforcement on an Indian reservation.

(Id. at p. 209.)

So, in terms of civil jurisdiction, the effect of PL 280 was merely to grant Indians access to state court forums to resolve disputes. It did not give the state jurisdiction to impose civil/regulatory laws on the tribes or tribal territory. Note that the fact that there are misdemeanor criminal penalties for infraction of a law is not sufficient in and of itself to convert it from civil/regulatory into criminal/prohibitory for the purposes of PL 280. Further, PL 280 applies only to STATE laws of general application; local ordinances do not apply.

The term “Indian Country” is defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1151:

Except as otherwise provided in sections 1154 and 1156 of this title, the term “Indian country”, as used in this chapter, means (a) all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and, including rights-of-way running through the reservation, (b) all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States whether within or without the limits of a state, and (c) all Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights-of-way running through the same.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offender</th>
<th>Victim</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-Indian</td>
<td>Non-Indian</td>
<td>State jurisdiction is exclusive of federal and tribal jurisdiction unless certain specific federal laws apply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Indian</td>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>Generally, state has jurisdiction exclusive of federal and tribal jurisdiction. (However, under VAWA(^6) can have concurrent tribal, and federal if interstate provisions (18 U.S.C. §§ 2261, 2261A, 2262 or 922(g)(8) or (9)) apply.) Under VAWA tribes may opt to exercise some jurisdiction over non-Indians for offenses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>Non-Indian</td>
<td>State has jurisdiction exclusive of federal government (unless federal government has reassumed jurisdiction under the Tribal Law and Order Act) but tribe may exercise concurrent jurisdiction. Federal for certain federal offenses including interstate DV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>Generally, state has jurisdiction exclusive of federal government (unless federal government has reassumed jurisdiction under the Tribal Law and Order Act, or unless specific federal crimes involved) but tribe may exercise concurrent jurisdiction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Indian</td>
<td>Victimless</td>
<td>State jurisdiction is exclusive unless federal jurisdiction has been reassumed under Tribal Law and Order Act.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>Victimless</td>
<td>There may be concurrent state, tribal, and federal jurisdiction on reassertion under Tribal Law and Order Act. There is no regulatory jurisdiction.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Full Faith and Credit**

While tribes are recognized as sovereign, they are not “states” for the purposes of the full faith and credit requirements of article IV of the U.S. Constitution. There is general consensus (but no Supreme Court authority on point) that tribes are not encompassed by the

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\(^6\) Violence Against Women Act (federal).
federal full faith and credit statute (28 U.S.C. § 1738). There are, however, a number of relevant federal and state provisions that mandate full faith and credit for and between tribal courts:

- Violence Against Women Act (18 U.S.C. § 2265)
- Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (Cal. Fam. Code, § 3404)

Where there is no specific statutory mandate for full faith and credit, the general rule is that tribal court orders are entitled to comity.

**Effect on Dependency and Delinquency Jurisdiction**

Under the jurisdictional regime of PL 280, state courts in California generally have jurisdiction over dependency and delinquency cases involving Indians and Indian children, even if the events occur in Indian Country. However, this jurisdiction is affected by the requirements of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the fact that tribes may also exercise jurisdiction over these matters. Pursuant to ICWA (25 U.S.C. § 1911) even in PL 280 states, tribal jurisdiction is exclusive where a child is already the ward of a tribal court. Further, ICWA recognizes presumptive tribal jurisdiction over cases involving Indian children who are not already wards of a tribal court.

**Effect on Jurisdiction in DV Cases and Ability to Enforce Protective Orders**

If events take place in Indian Country and either the victim or perpetrator or both are Indian, then a tribal court may exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the state court. (Note that there may also be federal jurisdiction over some federally defined crimes.) Tribal jurisdiction and remedies are subject to limitations under the Indian Civil Rights Act and Major Crimes Act.

Civil state protective or restraining orders may be considered civil/regulatory and therefore be unenforceable in Indian Country unless registered with the tribe/tribal court. Some county police departments take the position that they have no authority to enforce protective orders in Indian Country. Restraining orders issued in a criminal case should be enforced/enforceable on tribal lands.

Few California tribes have tribal courts or tribal police departments.
Laws Governing Federal Jurisdiction in Indian Country

General Crimes Act:


“Except as otherwise expressly provided by law, the general laws of the United States as to the punishment of offenses committed in any place within the sole and exclusive jurisdiction of the United States, except the District of Columbia, shall extend to the Indian country.

“This section shall not extend to offenses committed by one Indian against the person or property of another Indian, nor to any Indian committing any offense in the Indian country who has been punished by the local law of the tribe, or to any case where, by treaty stipulations, the exclusive jurisdiction over such offenses is or may be secured to the Indian tribes respectively.”

Major Crimes Act:

“18 U.S.C. § 1153. Offenses committed within Indian country

“(a) Any Indian who commits against the person or property of another Indian or other person any of the following offenses, namely, murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, maiming, a felony under chapter 109A, incest, a felony assault under section 113, an assault against an individual who has not attained the age of 16 years, felony child abuse or neglect, arson, burglary, robbery, and a felony under section 661 of this title within the Indian country, shall be subject to the same law and penalties as all other persons committing any of the above offenses, within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States.

“(b) Any offense referred to in subsection (a) of this section that is not defined and punished by Federal law in force within the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States shall be defined and punished in accordance with the laws of the State in which such offense was committed as are in force at the time of such offense.”

Embezzlement:

“18 U.S.C. § 1163. Embezzlement and theft from Indian tribal organizations

“Whoever embezzles, steals, knowingly converts to his use or the use of another, willfully misapplies, or willfully permits to be misapplied, any of the moneys, funds, credits, goods, assets, or other property belonging to any Indian tribal organization or intrusted to the custody or care of any officer, employee, or agent of an Indian tribal organization; or
“Whoever, knowing any such moneys, funds, credits, goods, assets, or other property to have been so embezzled, stolen, converted, misapplied or permitted to be misapplied, receives, conceals, or retains the same with intent to convert it to his use or the use of another—

“Shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than five years, or both; but if the value of such property does not exceed the sum of $1,000, he shall be fined under this title, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

“As used in this section, the term “Indian tribal organization” means any tribe, band, or community of Indians which is subject to the laws of the United States relating to Indian affairs or any corporation, association, or group which is organized under any of such laws.”

Public Law 280

Public Law 280 (Criminal Provision):

“18 U.S.C. § 1162. State jurisdiction over offenses committed by or against Indians in the Indian country

“(a) Each of the States or Territories listed in the following table shall have jurisdiction over offenses committed by or against Indians in the areas of Indian country listed opposite the name of the State or Territory to the same extent that such State or Territory has jurisdiction over offenses committed elsewhere within the State or Territory, and the criminal laws of such State or Territory shall have the same force and effect within such Indian country as they have elsewhere within the State or Territory:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State or Territory of</th>
<th>Indian country affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Indian country within the State, except that on Annette Islands, the Metlakatla Indian community may exercise jurisdiction over offenses committed by Indians in the same manner in which such jurisdiction may be exercised by Indian tribes in Indian country over which State jurisdiction has not been extended</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Indian country within the State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Indian country within the State, except the Red Lake Reservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>Indian country within the State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Indian country within the State, except the Warm Springs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reservation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wisconsin</th>
<th>Indian country within the State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

“(b) Nothing in this section shall authorize the alienation, encumbrance, or taxation of any real or personal property, including water rights, belonging to any Indian or any Indian tribe, band, or community that is held in trust by the United States or is subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States; or shall authorize regulation of the use of such property in a manner inconsistent with any Federal treaty, agreement, or statute or with any regulation made pursuant thereto; or shall deprive any Indian or any Indian tribe, band, or community of any right, privilege, or immunity afforded under Federal treaty, agreement, or statute with respect to hunting, trapping, or fishing or the control, licensing, or regulation thereof.

“(c) The provisions of sections 1152 and 1153 of this chapter shall not be applicable within the areas of Indian country listed in subsection (a) of this section as areas over which the several States have exclusive jurisdiction.

“(d) Notwithstanding subsection (c), at the request of an Indian tribe, and after consultation with and consent by the Attorney General--

“(1) sections 1152 and 1153 shall apply in the areas of the Indian country of the Indian tribe; and

“(2) jurisdiction over those areas shall be concurrent among the Federal Government, State governments, and, where applicable, tribal governments.”

Public Law 280 (Civil Provisions):

“28 U.S.C. § 1360. State civil jurisdiction in actions to which Indians are parties

“(a) Each of the States listed in the following table shall have jurisdiction over civil causes of action between Indians or to which Indians are parties which arise in the areas of Indian country listed opposite the name of the State to the same extent that such State has jurisdiction over other civil causes of action, and those civil laws of such State that are of general application to private persons or private property shall have the same force and effect within such Indian country as they have elsewhere within the State:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State of</th>
<th>Indian country affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Indian country within the State</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
California | Indian country within the State  
Minnesota | Indian country within the State, except the Red Lake Reservation  
Nebraska | Indian country within the State  
Oregon | Indian country within the State, except the Warm Springs Reservation  
Wisconsin | Indian country within the State

“(b) Nothing in this section shall authorize the alienation, encumbrance, or taxation of any real or personal property, including water rights, belonging to any Indian or any Indian tribe, band, or community that is held in trust by the United States or is subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States; or shall authorize regulation of the use of such property in a manner inconsistent with any Federal treaty, agreement, or statute or with any regulation made pursuant thereto; or shall confer jurisdiction upon the State to adjudicate, in probate proceedings or otherwise, the ownership or right to possession of such property or any interest therein.

“(c) Any tribal ordinance or custom heretofore or hereafter adopted by an Indian tribe, band, or community in the exercise of any authority which it may possess shall, if not inconsistent with any applicable civil law of the State, be given full force and effect in the determination of civil causes of action pursuant to this section.”

Federal Laws Requiring Full Faith and Credit

“18 U.S.C. § 2265. Full faith and credit given to protection orders

“(a) Full faith and credit.—Any protection order issued that is consistent with subsection (b) of this section by the court of one State, Indian tribe, or territory (the issuing State, Indian tribe, or territory) shall be accorded full faith and credit by the court of another State, Indian tribe, or territory (the enforcing State, Indian tribe, or territory) and enforced by the court and law enforcement personnel of the other State, Indian tribal government or Territory as if it were the order of the enforcing State or tribe.

“(b) Protection order.—A protection order issued by a State, tribal, or territorial court is consistent with this subsection if--
“(1) such court has jurisdiction over the parties and matter under the law of such State, Indian tribe, or territory; and

“(2) reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard is given to the person against whom the order is sought sufficient to protect that person’s right to due process. In the case of ex parte orders, notice and opportunity to be heard must be provided within the time required by State, tribal, or territorial law, and in any event within a reasonable time after the order is issued, sufficient to protect the respondent’s due process rights.

“(c) Cross or counter petition.—A protection order issued by a State, tribal, or territorial court against one who has petitioned, filed a complaint, or otherwise filed a written pleading for protection against abuse by a spouse or intimate partner is not entitled to full faith and credit if—

“(1) no cross or counter petition, complaint, or other written pleading was filed seeking such a protection order; or

“(2) a cross or counter petition has been filed and the court did not make specific findings that each party was entitled to such an order.

“(d) Notification and registration.—

“(1) Notification.—A State, Indian tribe, or territory according full faith and credit to an order by a court of another State, Indian tribe, or territory shall not notify or require notification of the party against whom a protection order has been issued that the protection order has been registered or filed in that enforcing State, tribal, or territorial jurisdiction unless requested to do so by the party protected under such order.

“(2) No prior registration or filing as prerequisite for enforcement.—Any protection order that is otherwise consistent with this section shall be accorded full faith and credit, notwithstanding failure to comply with any requirement that the order be registered or filed in the enforcing State, tribal, or territorial jurisdiction.

“(3) Limits on Internet publication of registration information.—A State, Indian tribe, or territory shall not make available publicly on the Internet any information regarding the registration, filing of a petition for, or issuance of a protection order, restraining order or injunction, restraining order, or injunction in either the issuing or enforcing State, tribal or territorial jurisdiction, if such publication would be likely to publicly reveal the identity or location of the party protected under such order. A State, Indian tribe, or territory may share court-generated and law enforcement-generated information contained in secure, governmental registries for protection order enforcement purposes.

“(e) Tribal court jurisdiction.—For purposes of this section, a court of an Indian tribe shall have full civil jurisdiction to issue and enforce protection orders involving any person,
including the authority to enforce any orders through civil contempt proceedings, to exclude violators from Indian land, and to use other appropriate mechanisms, in matters arising anywhere in the Indian country of the Indian tribe (as defined in section 1151) or otherwise within the authority of the Indian tribe.

“25 U.S.C. § 1911. Indian tribe jurisdiction over Indian child custody proceedings

“(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.

“§ 1738B. Full faith and credit for child support orders

“(a) General rule.—The appropriate authorities of each State—

“(1) shall enforce according to its terms a child support order made consistently with this section by a court of another State; and

“(2) shall not seek or make a modification of such an order except in accordance with subsections (e), (f), and (i).

“(b) Definitions.—In this section:

“child” means—

“(A) a person under 18 years of age; and

“(B) a person 18 or more years of age with respect to whom a child support order has been issued pursuant to the laws of a State.

“child’s State” means the State in which a child resides.

“child’s home State” means the State in which a child lived with a parent or a person acting as parent for at least 6 consecutive months immediately preceding the time of filing of a petition or comparable pleading for support and, if a child is less than 6 months old, the State in which the child lived from birth with any of them. A period of temporary absence of any of them is counted as part of the 6-month period.
“child support” means a payment of money, continuing support, or arrearages or the provision of a benefit (including payment of health insurance, child care, and educational expenses) for the support of a child.

“child support order”—

“(A) means a judgment, decree, or order of a court requiring the payment of child support in periodic amounts or in a lump sum; and

“(B) includes—

“(i) a permanent or temporary order; and

“(ii) an initial order or a modification of an order.

“contestant” means—

“(A) a person (including a parent) who--

“(i) claims a right to receive child support;

“(ii) is a party to a proceeding that may result in the issuance of a child support order; or

“(iii) is under a child support order; and

“(B) a State or political subdivision of a State to which the right to obtain child support has been assigned.

“court” means a court or administrative agency of a State that is authorized by State law to establish the amount of child support payable by a contestant or make a modification of a child support order.

“modification” means a change in a child support order that affects the amount, scope, or duration of the order and modifies, replaces, supersedes, or otherwise is made subsequent to the child support order.

“State” means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the territories and possessions of the United States, and Indian country (as defined in section 1151 of title 18).

“(c) Requirements of child support orders.--A child support order made by a court of a State is made consistently with this section if--

“(I) a court that makes the order, pursuant to the laws of the State in which the court is located and subsections (e), (f), and (g)—

“(A) has subject matter jurisdiction to hear the matter and enter such an order; and
“(B) has personal jurisdiction over the contestants; and

“(2) reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard is given to the contestants.

“(d) Continuing jurisdiction.—A court of a State that has made a child support order consistently with this section has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over the order if the State is the child's State or the residence of any individual contestant unless the court of another State, acting in accordance with subsections (e) and (f), has made a modification of the order.

“(e) Authority to modify orders.—A court of a State may modify a child support order issued by a court of another State if—

“(1) the court has jurisdiction to make such a child support order pursuant to subsection (i); and

“(2)(A) the court of the other State no longer has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction of the child support order because that State no longer is the child's State or the residence of any individual contestant; or

“(B) each individual contestant has filed written consent with the State of continuing, exclusive jurisdiction for a court of another State to modify the order and assume continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over the order.

“(f) Recognition of child support orders.—If 1 or more child support orders have been issued with regard to an obligor and a child, a court shall apply the following rules in determining which order to recognize for purposes of continuing, exclusive jurisdiction and enforcement:

“(1) If only 1 court has issued a child support order, the order of that court must be recognized.

“(2) If 2 or more courts have issued child support orders for the same obligor and child, and only 1 of the courts would have continuing, exclusive jurisdiction under this section, the order of that court must be recognized.

“(3) If 2 or more courts have issued child support orders for the same obligor and child, and more than 1 of the courts would have continuing, exclusive jurisdiction under this section, an order issued by a court in the current home State of the child must be recognized, but if an order has not been issued in the current home State of the child, the order most recently issued must be recognized.

“(4) If 2 or more courts have issued child support orders for the same obligor and child, and none of the courts would have continuing, exclusive jurisdiction under this section, a court having jurisdiction over the parties shall issue a child support order, which must be recognized.
“(5) The court that has issued an order recognized under this subsection is the court having continuing, exclusive jurisdiction under subsection (d).

“(g) Enforcement of modified orders.--A court of a State that no longer has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction of a child support order may enforce the order with respect to nonmodifiable obligations and unsatisfied obligations that accrued before the date on which a modification of the order is made under subsections (e) and (f).

“(h) Choice of law.--

“(1) In general.—In a proceeding to establish, modify, or enforce a child support order, the forum State's law shall apply except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3).

“(2) Law of State of issuance of order.—In interpreting a child support order including the duration of current payments and other obligations of support, a court shall apply the law of the State of the court that issued the order.

“(3) Period of limitation.—In an action to enforce arrears under a child support order, a court shall apply the statute of limitation of the forum State or the State of the court that issued the order, whichever statute provides the longer period of limitation.

“(i) Registration for modification.—If there is no individual contestant or child residing in the issuing State, the party or support enforcement agency seeking to modify, or to modify and enforce, a child support order issued in another State shall register that order in a State with jurisdiction over the nonmovant for the purpose of modification.”

California State Laws Concerning Recognition and Enforcement of Tribal Court Orders

Under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act:

“Family Code § 3404. Native American children

“(a) A child custody proceeding that pertains to an Indian child as defined in the Indian Child Welfare Act (25 U.S.C. Sec. 1901 et seq.) is not subject to this part to the extent that it is governed by the Indian Child Welfare Act.

“(b) A court of this state shall treat a tribe as if it were a state of the United States for the purpose of applying this chapter and Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 3421).
“(c) A child custody determination made by a tribe under factual circumstances in substantial conformity with the jurisdictional standards of this part must be recognized and enforced under Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 3441).”

**Under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act:**

**Family Code § 4901**

“The following definitions apply to this chapter:

“(s) “State” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The term “state” also includes both of the following:

(1) An Indian tribe”

**Under the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders:**

**Family Code § 6401**

“In this part:

“(1) “Foreign protection order” means a protection order issued by a tribunal of another state.

“(2) “Issuing state” means the state whose tribunal issues a protection order.

“(3) “Mutual foreign protection order” means a foreign protection order that includes provisions in favor of both the protected individual seeking enforcement of the order and the respondent.

“(4) “Protected individual” means an individual protected by a protection order.

“(5) “Protection order” means an injunction or other order, issued by a tribunal under the domestic violence, family violence, or antistalking laws of the issuing state, to prevent an individual from engaging in violent or threatening acts against, harassment of, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to, another individual.

“(6) “Respondent” means the individual against whom enforcement of a protection order is sought.

“(7) “State” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The term includes an Indian tribe or band, or any branch of the United States military, that has jurisdiction to issue protection orders.
“(8) “Tribunal” means a court, agency, or other entity authorized by law to issue or modify a protection order.”

Under the Foreign Country Money Judgments Act:

Code of Civil Procedure § 1714. Definitions

“As used in this chapter:

“(a) “Foreign country” means a government other than any of the following:

“(1) The United States.

“(2) A state, district, commonwealth, territory, or insular possession of the United States.

“(3) Any other government with regard to which the decision in this state as to whether to recognize a judgment of that government's courts is initially subject to determination under the Full Faith and Credit Clause of the United States Constitution.

“(b) “Foreign-country judgment” means a judgment of a court of a foreign country. “Foreign-country judgment” includes a judgment by any Indian tribe recognized by the government of the United States.”

Under the Interstate and International Depositions and Discovery Act

Code of Civil Procedure § 2029.200

“In this article:

“(a) “Foreign jurisdiction” means either of the following:

“(1) A state other than this state.

“(2) A foreign nation.

“(b) “Foreign subpoena” means a subpoena issued under authority of a court of record of a foreign jurisdiction.

“(c) “Person” means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government, or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.

“(d) “State” means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, a federally recognized Indian tribe, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.
“(e) “Subpoena” means a document, however denominated, issued under authority of a court of record requiring a person to do any of the following:

“(1) Attend and give testimony at a deposition.
“(2) Produce and permit inspection, copying, testing, or sampling of designated books, documents, records, electronically stored information, or tangible things in the possession, custody, or control of the person.
“(3) Permit inspection of premises under the control of the person.”

Indian Civil Rights Act


“For purposes of this subchapter, the term—

“(1) “Indian tribe” means any tribe, band, or other group of Indians subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and recognized as possessing powers of self-government;

“(2) “powers of self-government” means and includes all governmental powers possessed by an Indian tribe, executive, legislative, and judicial, and all offices, bodies, and tribunals by and through which they are executed, including courts of Indian offenses; and means the inherent power of Indian tribes, hereby recognized and affirmed, to exercise criminal jurisdiction over all Indians;

“(3) “Indian court” means any Indian tribal court or court of Indian offense; and

“(4) “Indian” means any person who would be subject to the jurisdiction of the United States as an Indian under section 1153, Title 18, if that person were to commit an offense listed in that section in Indian country to which that section applies.”


“(a) In general

“No Indian tribe in exercising powers of self-government shall—

“(1) make or enforce any law prohibiting the free exercise of religion, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition for a redress of grievances;
“(2) violate the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable search and seizures, nor issue warrants, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the person or thing to be seized;

“(3) subject any person for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy;

“(4) compel any person in any criminal case to be a witness against himself;

“(5) take any private property for a public use without just compensation;

“(6) deny to any person in a criminal proceeding the right to a speedy and public trial, to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and at his own expense to have the assistance of counsel for his defense (except as provided in subsection (b));

“(7)(A) require excessive bail, impose excessive fines, or inflict cruel and unusual punishments;

“(B) except as provided in subparagraph (C), impose for conviction of any 1 offense any penalty or punishment greater than imprisonment for a term of 1 year or a fine of $5,000, or both;

“(C) subject to subsection (b), impose for conviction of any 1 offense any penalty or punishment greater than imprisonment for a term of 3 years or a fine of $15,000, or both; or

“(D) impose on a person in a criminal proceeding a total penalty or punishment greater than imprisonment for a term of 9 years;

“(8) deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of its laws or deprive any person of liberty or property without due process of law;

“(9) pass any bill of attainder or ex post facto law; or

“(10) deny to any person accused of an offense punishable by imprisonment the right, upon request, to a trial by jury of not less than six persons.

“(b) Offenses subject to greater than 1-year imprisonment or a fine greater than $5,000

“A tribal court may subject a defendant to a term of imprisonment greater than 1 year but not to exceed 3 years for any 1 offense, or a fine greater than $5,000 but not to exceed $15,000, or both, if the defendant is a person accused of a criminal offense who--

“(1) has been previously convicted of the same or a comparable offense by any jurisdiction in the United States; or
“(2) is being prosecuted for an offense comparable to an offense that would be punishable by more than 1 year of imprisonment if prosecuted by the United States or any of the States.

“(c) Rights of defendants

“In a criminal proceeding in which an Indian tribe, in exercising powers of self-government, imposes a total term of imprisonment of more than 1 year on a defendant, the Indian tribe shall—

“(1) provide to the defendant the right to effective assistance of counsel at least equal to that guaranteed by the United States Constitution; and

“(2) at the expense of the tribal government, provide an indigent defendant the assistance of a defense attorney licensed to practice law by any jurisdiction in the United States that applies appropriate professional licensing standards and effectively ensures the competence and professional responsibility of its licensed attorneys;

“(3) require that the judge presiding over the criminal proceeding—

“(A) has sufficient legal training to preside over criminal proceedings; and

“(B) is licensed to practice law by any jurisdiction in the United States;

“(4) prior to charging the defendant, make publicly available the criminal laws (including regulations and interpretative documents), rules of evidence, and rules of criminal procedure (including rules governing the recusal of judges in appropriate circumstances) of the tribal government; and

“(5) maintain a record of the criminal proceeding, including an audio or other recording of the trial proceeding.

“(d) Sentences

“In the case of a defendant sentenced in accordance with subsections (b) and (c), a tribal court may require the defendant—

“(1) to serve the sentence—

“(A) in a tribal correctional center that has been approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for long-term incarceration, in accordance with guidelines to be developed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (in consultation with Indian tribes) not later than 180 days after July 29, 2010;

“(B) in the nearest appropriate Federal facility, at the expense of the United States pursuant to the Bureau of Prisons tribal prisoner pilot program described in section 304(c) of the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010;
“(C) in a State or local government-approved detention or correctional center pursuant to an agreement between the Indian tribe and the State or local government; or

“(D) in an alternative rehabilitation center of an Indian tribe; or

“(2) to serve another alternative form of punishment, as determined by the tribal court judge pursuant to tribal law.

“(e) Definition of offense

“In this section, the term “offense” means a violation of a criminal law.

“(f) Effect of section

“Nothing in this section affects the obligation of the United States, or any State government that has been delegated authority by the United States, to investigate and prosecute any criminal violation in Indian country.”


“The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall be available to any person, in a court of the United States, to test the legality of his detention by order of an Indian tribe.”

Legislation Affecting Jurisdiction Over Domestic Violence Cases


“(a) Definitions

“In this section:

“(1) Dating violence

“The term “dating violence” means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, as determined by the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

“(2) Domestic violence
“The term “domestic violence” means violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, or by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic- or family- violence laws of an Indian tribe that has jurisdiction over the Indian country where the violence occurs.

“(3) Indian country

“The term “Indian country” has the meaning given the term in section 1151 of Title 18.

“(4) Participating tribe

“The term “participating tribe” means an Indian tribe that elects to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over the Indian country of that Indian tribe.

“(5) Protection order

“The term “protection order”—

“(A) means any injunction, restraining order, or other order issued by a civil or criminal court for the purpose of preventing violent or threatening acts or harassment against, sexual violence against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to, another person; and

“(B) includes any temporary or final order issued by a civil or criminal court, whether obtained by filing an independent action or as a pendent lite order in another proceeding, if the civil or criminal order was issued in response to a complaint, petition, or motion filed by or on behalf of a person seeking protection.

“(6) Special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction

The term “special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction” means the criminal jurisdiction that a participating tribe may exercise under this section but could not otherwise exercise.

“(7) Spouse or intimate partner

“The term “spouse or intimate partner” has the meaning given the term in section 2266 of Title 18.

“(b) Nature of the criminal jurisdiction

“(1) In general

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in addition to all powers of self-government recognized and affirmed by sections 1301 and 1303 of this title, the powers of self-
government of a participating tribe include the inherent power of that tribe, which is hereby recognized and affirmed, to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over all persons.

“(2) Concurrent jurisdiction

“The exercise of special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction by a participating tribe shall be concurrent with the jurisdiction of the United States, of a State, or of both.

“(3) Applicability

“Nothing in this section—

“(A) creates or eliminates any Federal or State criminal jurisdiction over Indian country; or

“(B) affects the authority of the United States or any State government that has been delegated authority by the United States to investigate and prosecute a criminal violation in Indian country.

“(4) Exceptions

“(A) Victim and defendant are both non-Indians

“(i) In general

“A participating tribe may not exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over an alleged offense if neither the defendant nor the alleged victim is an Indian.

“(ii) Definition of victim

“In this subparagraph and with respect to a criminal proceeding in which a participating tribe exercises special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction based on a violation of a protection order, the term “victim” means a person specifically protected by a protection order that the defendant allegedly violated.

“(B) Defendant lacks ties to the Indian tribe

“A participating tribe may exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over a defendant only if the defendant—

“(i) resides in the Indian country of the participating tribe;

“(ii) is employed in the Indian country of the participating tribe; or

“(iii) is a spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner of—

“(I) a member of the participating tribe; or
“(II) an Indian who resides in the Indian country of the participating tribe.

“(c) Criminal conduct

“A participating tribe may exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over a defendant for criminal conduct that falls into one or more of the following categories:

“(1) Domestic violence and dating violence

“An act of domestic violence or dating violence that occurs in the Indian country of the participating tribe.

“(2) Violations of protection orders

“An act that—

“(A) occurs in the Indian country of the participating tribe; and

“(B) violates the portion of a protection order that—

“(i) prohibits or provides protection against violent or threatening acts or harassment against, sexual violence against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to, another person;

“(ii) was issued against the defendant;

“(iii) is enforceable by the participating tribe; and

“(iv) is consistent with section 2265(b) of Title 18.

“(d) Rights of defendants

“In a criminal proceeding in which a participating tribe exercises special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, the participating tribe shall provide to the defendant—

“(1) all applicable rights under this Act;

“(2) if a term of imprisonment of any length may be imposed, all rights described in section 1302(c) of this title;

“(3) the right to a trial by an impartial jury that is drawn from sources that—

“(A) reflect a fair cross section of the community; and

“(B) do not systematically exclude any distinctive group in the community, including non-Indians; and
“(4) all other rights whose protection is necessary under the Constitution of the United States in order for Congress to recognize and affirm the inherent power of the participating tribe to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over the defendant.

“(e) Petitions to stay detention

“(1) In general

“A person who has filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in a court of the United States under section 1303 of this title may petition that court to stay further detention of that person by the participating tribe.

“(2) Grant of stay

“A court shall grant a stay described in paragraph (1) if the court—

“(A) finds that there is a substantial likelihood that the habeas corpus petition will be granted; and

“(B) after giving each alleged victim in the matter an opportunity to be heard, finds by clear and convincing evidence that under conditions imposed by the court, the petitioner is not likely to flee or pose a danger to any person or the community if released.

“(3) Notice

“An Indian tribe that has ordered the detention of any person has a duty to timely notify such person of his rights and privileges under this subsection and under section 1303 of this title.

“(f) Grants to tribal governments

“The Attorney General may award grants to the governments of Indian tribes (or to authorized designees of those governments)—

“(1) to strengthen tribal criminal justice systems to assist Indian tribes in exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, including—

“(A) law enforcement (including the capacity of law enforcement or court personnel to enter information into and obtain information from national crime information databases);

“(B) prosecution;

“(C) trial and appellate courts;

“(D) probation systems;

“(E) detention and correctional facilities;
“(F) alternative rehabilitation centers;
“(G) culturally appropriate services and assistance for victims and their families; and
“(H) criminal codes and rules of criminal procedure, appellate procedure, and evidence;
“(2) to provide indigent criminal defendants with the effective assistance of licensed defense counsel, at no cost to the defendant, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe prosecutes a crime of domestic violence or dating violence or a criminal violation of a protection order;
“(3) to ensure that, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe exercises special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, jurors are summoned, selected, and instructed in a manner consistent with all applicable requirements; and
“(4) to accord victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and violations of protection orders rights that are similar to the rights of a crime victim described in section 3771(a) of Title 18, consistent with tribal law and custom.
“(g) Supplement, not supplant
“Amounts made available under this section shall supplement and not supplant any other Federal, State, tribal, or local government amounts made available to carry out activities described in this section.
“(h) Authorization of appropriations
“There are authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018 to carry out subsection (f) and to provide training, technical assistance, data collection, and evaluation of the criminal justice systems of participating tribes.”

“(a) Offenses.--
“(1) Travel or conduct of offender.—A person who travels in interstate or foreign commerce or enters or leaves Indian country or is present within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate a spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner, and who, in the course of or as a result of such travel or presence, commits or attempts to commit a crime of violence against that spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).
“(2) Causing travel of victim.—A person who causes a spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner to travel in interstate or foreign commerce or to enter or leave Indian country by force, coercion, duress, or fraud, and who, in the course of, as a result of, or to facilitate such
conduct or travel, commits or attempts to commit a crime of violence against that spouse, intimate partner, or dating partner, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).

“(b) Penalties.—A person who violates this section or section 2261A shall be fined under this title, imprisoned—

“(1) for life or any term of years, if death of the victim results;
“(2) for not more than 20 years if permanent disfigurement or life threatening bodily injury to the victim results;
“(3) for not more than 10 years, if serious bodily injury to the victim results or if the offender uses a dangerous weapon during the offense;
“(4) as provided for the applicable conduct under chapter 109A if the offense would constitute an offense under chapter 109A (without regard to whether the offense was committed in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison); and
“(5) for not more than 5 years, in any other case, or both fined and imprisoned.

“(6) Whoever commits the crime of stalking in violation of a temporary or permanent civil or criminal injunction, restraining order, no-contact order, or other order described in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code, shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 1 year.”

18 U.S.C. § 2261A. Stalking

“Whoever—

“(1) travels in interstate or foreign commerce or is present within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, or enters or leaves Indian country, with the intent to kill, injure, harass, intimidate, or place under surveillance with intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person, and in the course of, or as a result of, such travel or presence engages in conduct that—

“(A) places that person in reasonable fear of the death of, or serious bodily injury to—
“(i) that person;
“(ii) an immediate family member (as defined in section 115) of that person; or
“(iii) a spouse or intimate partner of that person; or
“(B) causes, attempts to cause, or would be reasonably expected to cause substantial emotional distress to a person described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (A); or

“(2) with the intent to kill, injure, harass, intimidate, or place under surveillance with intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person, uses the mail, any interactive computer service or electronic communication service or electronic communication system of interstate commerce, or any other facility of interstate or foreign commerce to engage in a course of conduct that—

“(A) places that person in reasonable fear of the death of or serious bodily injury to a person described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of paragraph (1)(A); or

“(B) causes, attempts to cause, or would be reasonably expected to cause substantial emotional distress to a person described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of paragraph (1)(A),

“shall be punished as provided in section 2261(b) of this title.”


“(a) Offenses.—

“(1) Travel or conduct of offender.—A person who travels in interstate or foreign commerce, or enters or leaves Indian country or is present within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States, with the intent to engage in conduct that violates the portion of a protection order that prohibits or provides protection against violence, threats, or harassment against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to, another person, or that would violate such a portion of a protection order in the jurisdiction in which the order was issued, and subsequently engages in such conduct, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).

“(2) Causing travel of victim.—A person who causes another person to travel in interstate or foreign commerce or to enter or leave Indian country by force, coercion, duress, or fraud, and in the course of, as a result of, or to facilitate such conduct or travel engages in conduct that violates the portion of a protection order that prohibits or provides protection against violence, threats, or harassment against, contact or communication with, or physical proximity to, another person, or that would violate such a portion of a protection order in the jurisdiction in which the order was issued, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).

“(b) Penalties.—A person who violates this section shall be fined under this title, imprisoned—

“(1) for life or any term of years, if death of the victim results;
“(2) for not more than 20 years if permanent disfigurement or life threatening bodily injury to the victim results;

“(3) for not more than 10 years, if serious bodily injury to the victim results or if the offender uses a dangerous weapon during the offense;

“(4) as provided for the applicable conduct under chapter 109A if the offense would constitute an offense under chapter 109A (without regard to whether the offense was committed in the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States or in a Federal prison); and

“(5) for not more than 5 years, in any other case,

“or both fined and imprisoned.”


***

“(g) It shall be unlawful for any person—

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“(8) who is subject to a court order that—

“(A) was issued after a hearing of which such person received actual notice, and at which such person had an opportunity to participate;

“(B) restrains such person from harassing, stalking, or threatening an intimate partner of such person or child of such intimate partner or person, or engaging in other conduct that would place an intimate partner in reasonable fear of bodily injury to the partner or child; and

“(C)(i) includes a finding that such person represents a credible threat to the physical safety of such intimate partner or child; or

“(ii) by its terms explicitly prohibits the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against such intimate partner or child that would reasonably be expected to cause bodily injury; or

“(9) who has been convicted in any court of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence,

“to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce, or possess in or affecting commerce, any firearm or ammunition; or to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.”
The AI/AN Population

The AI/AN population is growing. Between the 2000 Census and 2010 Census the AI/AN population increased by 1.1 million persons, an increase of 26.7% (compared with the overall population growth of 9.7%). (U.S. Census Bureau, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2010a.)

As of the 2010 Census, the nation’s population of American Indians and Alaska Natives, including those of more than one race, numbered 5.2 million. They made up 1.7 percent of the total population. Of this total, 2.9 million were American Indian and Alaska Native only, and 2.3 million were American Indian and Alaska Native in combination with one or more other races. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010a; Centers for Disease Control, 2012). The AI/AN population is projected to increase to 8.6 million, or approximately 2% of the U.S. population by 2050. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012).

California has the largest number of American Indian residents (about 1% of the total population of those reporting one race; and 2% of those reporting two or more races. (U.S. Department of Justice, 2004). In 2010 the California AI/AN in California numbered 723,225; followed by Oklahoma (482,760) and Arizona (353,386). (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010b.)

Of the more than 4.3 million individuals who identified themselves as either partly or solely American Indian or Alaska Native in the 2000 U.S. Census, 61% do not live on reservations or Native lands. While many live in rural western states, most live in metropolitan areas. The decision to live in cities may be based on educational and employment opportunities, access to services other than health care, or forced relocation related to past government policies. Many have lived in metropolitan areas for generations and may move back and forth between cities and reservations to use local Indian Health Service or tribal health care. (American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, 2012 and 2013). “Compared with those living in rural reservation areas who may share common tribal origins, American Indian and Alaska Native populations living in cities tend to be heterogeneous. There is no standard definition of an urban American Indian or Alaska Native. Individuals may self-identify as an urban American Indian or Alaska Native based on ancestry, shared culture, appearance, or participation in events organized by a local American Indian or Alaska Native community.” (Id., at p. 2).

The AI/AN Elderly Population

Nearly 37.9 million Americans were aged 65 and over in 2007; some 60% are women. Over the next 40 years, the number of people aged 65 and older is expected to double and the number of people aged 85 and older is expected to triple. Consistent with trends for
America’s population, the American Indian and Alaskan Native population is living longer. (Administration on Aging, 2008.) The AI/AN older population, which in 2009 numbered 232,042, is projected to grow to almost 918,000 by 2050. In 2009, American Indian and Native Alaskan older persons made up 0.6 percent of the population. By 2050 that percentage will increase to 1% of the older population. (Ibid.)

The AI/AN population age 55 and over is projected to increase from 13% of the total U.S. AI/AN population in 2000 to 26% in 2050 (Satter et al., 2010). In 2009, 50% of American Indian and Alaskan Native elderly lived in just six states: California (14.0%), Oklahoma (10.7%), Arizona (9.2%), New Mexico (6.2%), Texas (6.0%), and North Carolina (4.3%) (Administration on Aging, 2008).
APPENDIX C:
DEFINITIONS OF ELDER ABUSE IN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

There is no single definition across tribal communities for abuse of older adults. Some tribes and their members identify elder abuse behaviors differently from state and federal statutes and from one another. Because of the diversity of AI/AN tribes and communities, there will be “differences in perceptions of elder abuse among persons of the same race in different areas of the state who may have different cultural backgrounds and values. This finding is a reminder of the heterogeneity of persons who are seemingly of the same race and that race does not equal culture.” (Hudson et al., 1998, at p. 548.)

While there are differences in what constitutes elder abuse across tribes, there are some commonalities. Hudson and Carlson (1999) studied perceptions of elder abuse in AI, African American, and Caucasian populations. AI older adults’ perceptions of what constitutes elder abuse differed from African Americans and Caucasians. AI responders ranked more items as abusive and 22 items at a higher level of abuse severity than did African Americans and Caucasians responders. In comparison to African Americans and Caucasians, Native Americans felt more strongly that “verbally forcing” (term used in the survey) an elder is elder abuse and that some elder abuse is committed by relatives. They were also more likely to disagree that yelling and swearing at an elder needs to occur more than once to constitute elder abuse, and the use of “verbal force,” including yelling, swearing or belittling an elder, is not a form of elder abuse. AI study participants were less likely than other groups to agree that elders are at risk for elder abuse because they are seen as physically weaker than when they were younger; healthy elders can be abused; and elder abuse is mistreatment because the behavior harms the elderly adult. (Hudson and Carlson, 1999, at pp. 197–199; Hudson et al., 1998.)

Some widely held cultural views shape whether certain conduct is considered abusive. For example, sharing of hospital food or medications is common within clan groups and extended families. (Hendrix, n.d.) so a person’s use of an older tribal member’s prescribed medication may not be considered elder abuse by the tribal group even if it is detrimental to the older member’s health.

Defining what constitutes financial exploitation can be equally confounding. For example, in an effort to determine if they had been exploited, elderly Navajo tribal members were asked if their money had gone to someone else. Of those who admitted that it had, all explained that it had been a matter of elderly person voluntarily sharing their money with needy family members. They were not being exploited, but were themselves living up to an important cultural value (Brown, 1998). Members of 17 different tribes had similar explanations for how and why their money was used to benefit others (Manataka American Indian Council, 2000).
The interplay of cultural values and elder abuse are not just evident in financial exploitation. Exploitative childcare may be difficult to distinguish from culturally normative and esteemed childcare (Jervis 2013). Close grandparent-grandchild relationships that include childcare (and where children may provide eldercare) are common among AIs/ANs (Schweitzer, 1999; Jervis et al., 2010), as are cultural values that emphasize familial (and financial) interdependence (Red Horse, 1983). “Yet, in situations of pervasive poverty, dislocation, diminished health, and overcrowded tribal housing, traditional values and norms may be altered in such a way that they act to the detriment of elders….‖ (Jervis, 2013, at p. 77.)

Older tribal members who are asked about abuse are likely to characterize it in terms of being treated well or poorly by family. The term “family” has cultural significance and often includes individuals who are not biological relatives. In the Shielding American Indian Elders (SAIE) project, older tribal members were asked about their beliefs. Good treatment included being taken care of, having one’s needs met, and being respected. In contrast, poor treatment included financial exploitation, neglect, and lack of respect (Jervis 2013). Respect was a crucial component of what it meant to be treated well, while disrespect was largely equated with abuse (Ibid., at p. 76).

Tribal members may include within elder abuse forcing an elder to care for small children against his or her wishes or making excessive use of the older adult as a babysitter, having little time for older family members, treating older adults as though they no longer matter, and not listening when the older person speaks (White, 2004).

Tribal members have identified certain conduct as “ritual abuse” in which the older adult is denied access to traditional activities such as attendance at the powwow, not permitted to join in community ceremonies, not provided or allowed to eat traditional foods associated with certain observances, and other actions that are defined by the tribe’s culture and tradition (National Indian Council on Aging, 2012).

Elders and tribal judges include in their view of neglect and financial abuse family members using an elder’s money, car, gasoline, food, and medications. Financial abuse may include the extended family’s use of the elder’s social security check, even to the personal detriment of the elder, as well as their per capita distribution and non-gaming funds distribution in California. (White, 2004, at p. 3; Personal communication, Raquelle Myers, attorney with the National Indian Justice Center.) Neglect may include denying tribal elders access to sufficient food or clothing, ignoring their difficulties in sustaining their homes and finances, and preventing them from obtaining needed medical or social services (National Indian Council on Aging, 2012).
Older tribal adults also include as abuse the failure to report abuse and having little time to care for elders. (White, 2004; Jackson, 2010.)

While AI/AN communities and members may agree that elder abuse occurs and have a shared view of the forms it may take, they may not conceptualize abuse of the elderly and the response to it in the same way as the dominant culture. Across the United States there has been a clear trend toward criminalizing the conduct (Heisler, 2000; 2013). Some tribal communities have criticized the creation of elder abuse laws because such laws imply that wrongful acts take place in which some are perpetrators and certain others are victims (Manataka American Indian Council, 2000). Such statutes are criticized for not addressing the enormous problems related to informal caregiving (ibid). Relatively few tribes have developed elder abuse codes (NIEJI, 2013) though the numbers of tribes with or who are developing elder abuse codes is increasing. In California, for example, the Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians has enacted a Tribal Elder Code as part of its Judicial Code (see http://drycreekrancheria.com/judicial-code). The Bishop Tribe has a Tribal Adult Guardianship Ordinance, available at www.bishoppaiutetribe.com/assets/ordinances/Tribal%20Adult%20Guardianship%20Ordinance.pdf, as does the Yurok Tribe, available at www.narf.org/nill/Codes/yurokcode/elder_vulnerable_adult_protection.html.

Sacred and Cultural Objects

Some AI/AN elders have extremely valuable and culturally significant or sacred artifacts, including traditional regalia, baskets, and beadwork, which are highly sought after by collectors. These assets may be taken and sold by family members or others with access to the homes of elderly tribal members. The loss is both financial and spiritual as tribal members often do not believe these items should be sold to outsiders. (Baldridge et al., 2004.) In addition, selling/misappropriation of sacred objects assumes that someone “owns” these objects. In many AI/AN communities sacred objects are not “owned” by any individual and cannot be sold or encumbered by the person who possesses them. They are considered sacred rather than mere property.

It may also be worth noting that their possession, sale, and transfer to others may violate various federal laws including the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA); the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA); and to a lesser extent, the American Antiquities Act. Feathers and animal parts may also be covered by such laws as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act; the Marine Mammal Protection Act; and the Endangered Species Act. A fuller discussion of these laws is located at the Antique Tribal Art Dealers Association website, www.atada.org/Art_and_the_Law.html#intro.
APPENDIX D:
PREVALENCE AND INCIDENCE OF ELDER ABUSE IN THE GENERAL POPULATION AND AI/AN COMMUNITIES

Elder abuse studies historically have suffered from a variety of weaknesses including: lack of common definitions and research methodologies, and adequate funding. The result has been an inconsistent and widely varied understanding of the extent of elder abuse. Quantifying elder abuse in tribal communities has suffered from these same limitations with even fewer studies undertaken.

National Studies of the Elderly Population

More recently newer studies of elder abuse have begun to clarify the picture. Some leading findings include:

- Acierno and colleagues conducted a telephonic survey of 5,777 persons over age 60 in the continental United States who were all cognitively capable and found a prevalence rate of 11.4% percent in the year prior to the study. Types and rates of abuse are: physical abuse 1.6%; verbal abuse 4.6%; sexual abuse 0.6%; neglect 5.1%; and financial abuse committed by a family members 5.2%. (Acierno et al., 2010; Acierno et al., 2009.)

- The National Social Life, Health and Aging Project (NSHAP) conducted by Laumann et al. (2008) sampled 3,005 persons aged 57 to 85 and found rates of: verbal abuse, 9% (defined differently from Acierno’s verbal abuse); financial abuse 3.5%; and physical abuse 0.2%. These were the only forms studied.

- A statewide study of 4,156 New York residents aged 60 and older living in the community and a survey of programs serving victims of elder abuse and older victims of domestic violence in New York’s 62 counties. The study found a one-year incidence rate of 7.6% per thousand older residents for any form of elder abuse, and a significant gap between the rate of elder abuse reported by older persons and that referred to agencies with the capacity and/or responsibility to assist older victims of abuse. For every case of elder abuse that is reported, 23 to 24 remain unreported and undetected. (Lachs and Berman, 2011.)

- A study of 1,795 elderly residents of Chicago at least 60 years of age for whom crime victimization data was available found prevalence rates for: physical abuse 0.5%; financial abuse 2.2%; emotional abuse 4.51%; and neglect 1.33% (Amendola et al., 2010).
AI/AN Studies

There are few studies or surveys of the prevalence or incidence of elder abuse in AI/AN communities. There are no national studies and only a few tribal-specific studies. (Jackson and Sappier, 2005, at p. 2.)

Tribal leadership, service providers, and older members are aware of the issue of elder abuse. A 1998 survey of the attitudes of Native American elders from 17 different tribes revealed that elderly American Indians themselves are aware and knowledgeable about elder abuse on tribal lands. Most of those who had directly observed actual abuse cases were especially sensitive to the problems that caregivers encountered in their duties (Brown, 1998). A survey of 152 service providers on the Navajo Indian Reservation (including those in social services, health care, law enforcement, volunteer work, and tribal officials) found that over 90% of those service providers were aware of the seriousness of elder abuse and had encountered clients who had been mistreated. How seriously they judged each type of elder abuse on the reservation closely matched the findings from the survey of Navajo elders. (Brown et al., 1990.)

Surveys and studies have demonstrated a higher prevalence of interpersonal violence against AI/AN members than in the general U.S. population. Incidence rates are unknown due to a lack of longitudinal studies. (Sapra et al., 2014, at p. 1.) The few studies that have been conducted yielded widely variable prevalence rates. Drawing on diverse studies of AI/AN populations, Buchwald et al. (2000) found prevalence estimates of abuse ranging from 2% to 46% among AI/AN populations (ibid., at pp. 5, 8).

A study of abuse in the Navajo Nation, the Dineh Elder Protection Program, reported about 800 cases of elder abuse were referred to their agency in 2003; about half the cases were substantiated. (Nez, 2004, referenced in Jackson and Sappier, 2005.) The only study researching abuse of AI/AN in urban settings was conducted by Buchwald et al. (2000). The retrospective study of 550 medical charts of urban Native Americans and Native Alaskans served by the Seattle Indian Health Board examined rates of physical abuse. The study found that in 10% of files there was definite abuse. This was similar to rates of physical abuse found in other studies of AI/AN elders: 11% of Alaska Natives (Minton and Soule, 1990), 16% of Navajos (Brown, 1989), and 19% of Northern Cheyenne (cited in Buchwald et al., 2000).

Hudson et al. (1998) conducted a cross-cultural study of the occurrence of elder abuse among seven different cultural groups and also compared two AI tribal groups living in different locations in North Carolina. One finding is that 4% of AI/AN who were surveyed reported...
abuse occurring after age 65. This rate was lower than for other racial groups, although the experience of abuse over the lifetime was highest for AI/AN (26%). (Sapra et al., 2014.)

While all forms of elder abuse found in other populations also occur in AI/AN populations, data reported by National Indian Council on Aging indicate that neglect is the most common form reported among Native American elders, accounting for nearly half of reported cases. Material exploitation and psychological abuse are the next most common types, occurring with about equal frequency. (Hall and Weiss, 2010.)

In a survey conducted by the Office of Aging Americans of Tribal Title VI directors, 48% perceived that elder neglect occurred often and 39% that psychological or verbal abuse occurred often. This abuse was perceived to occur most often at the hand of spouses/partners and other family members (Jackson and Sappier, 2005).

These studies also show that elder abuse in AI/AN populations is underreported. Buchwald et al. (2000) found that only 31% of definite cases of abuse of elderly AI/AN were reported to authorities.

In California, there are no known studies of abuse and neglect within California—AI tribes or urban communities. A comprehensive state-specific study is needed to study California tribes and non-California Indians living in this state. It should incorporate data from tribal law enforcement and tribal and federal Indian health services, both of which may have data not reflected in state data sources.
APPENDIX E:
RISK FACTORS FOR ABUSE AND NEGLECT IN AI/AN COMMUNITIES

Risk factors associated with abuse of older AI/AN members can be categorized as social, health, economic, and historical conditions. These categories often overlap.

Social risk factors include loosening of family ties, changing role and status of older adults with resultant loss of status, intergenerational conflict and transmission of violent family patterns, and social and geographical isolation.

Other risk factors include: poverty, the weakening of kinship systems, acculturation stress, financial dependency of adult children on their elderly parents, the poor health of many Native American elders, the negative effects of technology and progress, a value switch from the wisdom of elders to the abilities and ambitions of youth, young people’s lack of interest in elder adults, and a change in tribal leadership from elders to younger adults.” (Carson, 1995, cited in Hudson et al., 1998.)

Health factors include older adult and abuser poor health practices, presence of multiple health problems that place unexpected and unplanned stressors on the family caregiver and family, the older adult’s underutilization of social services, and the presence of abuser mental health and substance abuse problems. (Ibid.)

Economic factors include poverty, high levels of unemployment and lack of employment opportunities, an economic dependency relationship between the older adult and abuser, and reliance on adult children for information about services and transportation. A study of risk factors among two different groups of Plains Indians found that higher levels of abuse were found on the more isolated and impoverished reservations. (Maxwell and Maxwell, 1992.) A study of elder abuse on the Navajo Nation identified poverty, unemployment, and family caretakers who feel overwhelmed by their responsibilities as primary causes (Brown et al., 1990). Although it is not yet clear how economic conditions and elder mistreatment intersect, the poverty within many Native communities may increase risk by fostering economic dependency of the young on the relatively stable elderly. (Brown, 1989; Jervis, 2013.)

Even when younger tribal members are not impoverished, the use of drugs and alcohol may drain their resources causing them to look for other sources of money. Family members who may be physically frail or confused may be selected for abuse because of the likelihood the abuse will not be recognized, or if it is, will not be reported. Having any kind of income is a risk factor for physical and psychological abuse, as are shared caregiving arrangements and mental confusion. (Brown, 1989.)

Historical factors are related to the imposition of rules and regulations from outside the tribe, the effects of historical trauma, and family members’ acculturation stress.

For a discussion of the role of history and historical trauma please see section Part 2 VIIc.
## Risk Factors by Type of Abuse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of Abuse</th>
<th>Associated Risk Factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Neglect</strong></td>
<td>(1) The number of hours of care per day that families provide their older members;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) The mental conditions (confusion) of the older care recipient;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3) How suddenly the elderly person became dependent and in need of care;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(4) Families trying to share the caregiver responsibilities;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(5) Extent that having to provide care created a family crisis; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6) Older adult’s level of income.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Manataka American Indian Council, 2000.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emotional/Psychological Abuse</strong></td>
<td>(1) Extent of family crisis due to caregiver responsibilities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) Mental condition of the elder; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3) Suddenness of the elder becoming dependent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Manataka American Indian Council, 2000.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical Abuse</strong></td>
<td>(1) Most strongly associated with mental condition of the elder; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) Less strongly associated with families trying to share the caregiver responsibilities (Manataka American Indian Council, 2000).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3) Marital conflict/domestic violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(4) Dependence on others for food, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(5) Fewer caregivers at home (Buchwald et al., 2000).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financial Exploitation</strong></td>
<td>(1) Families trying to share the caregiver responsibilities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(2) Suddenness of the elder becoming dependent;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(3) Number of hours of care per day that the elder said they needed; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(4) Number of hours of care per day that families were providing (Manataka American Indian Council, 2000).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX F:
CULTURAL VIEWS OF DEMENTIA AND DEATH

There is no single universal tribal view of dementia, depression, and death. Tribes may define these conditions in terms of cultural beliefs rather than illnesses or “problems.” For example, in describing dementia, members of the Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico believe that each person is put on the earth for a purpose. When that purpose is accomplished the person is ready to leave this world. Death and illness are not caused by others, and prolonged grieving prevents the spirit from crossing over to the next world where there is no pain, but peacefulness. (Hendrix, n.d.)

Cherokee tradition describes dementia as part of the Creator’s plan for that person’s ultimate learning and something that may not require intervention or help-seeking while Navajo tradition teaches that dementia may be caused by the breaking of a cultural taboo by the person with dementia or a family member. Treatment may require the services of traditional Indian medicine and not necessarily Western medicine. (Hendrix, n.d.)

Oklahoma Choctaw tribal members believe that dementia is a condition of the body in which the person’s spirit has already crossed over into the next world but the body remains behind as it prepares to leave. The caregiver’s job is to take care of the body until it is ready to leave, and this is sacred work. The person is communicating in the spirit world, which is why language and behavior appear to us as if overhearing one side of a telephone conversation. In some Indian communities this is a mark of an elevated spiritual status for the family. (Ibid.)

Urban Lakota Sioux tribal members believe there is a connection between dementia and history. They believe that dementia is caused by the stress and conflict resulting from living in two worlds at one time; the rigid Christian belief system of traditionally reservation-raised elderly and the stress over time of urban Indian living and family life. The lack of a collective consciousness in traditional Indian spiritual beliefs dilutes the power of the Indian spiritual community and allows stress to develop into illness, of which dementia is one form. (Ibid.)

Courts should also be aware that some AI/AN cultures do not speak of death, dying, or negative consequences because these cultures believe that thought and speech can cause the negative outcome to occur. Some believe that dementia and illness are caused by an imbalance in the patient’s spiritual, emotional, and social environment. Speaking of negative consequences (prognosis) of an illness can bring those events to pass as thought and language have the power to shape reality.

Most tribal traditions teach there will be a joining with the ancestors and that death is a natural part of the life cycle.

In some traditions, speaking the name of the deceased person may hold that person’s spirit in limbo and delay their journey to the next world. As an example, in one tribe therapy groups had to address grief from the loss of a number of young people in a single accident. Within this tribe, the names of the deceased were not to be spoken because it would have pulled the individuals back from the spirit world and would not have let the individuals move forward in their journey. (Gray and Rose, 2012; Hendrix, n.d.)
APPENDIX G

HISTORY AND HISTORICAL TRAUMA

The history of AI/AN tribes and the government is a lengthy and sad one marked by policies and practices designed to destroy tribal communities, assimilate members into the European-American culture, “civilize” tribal members, and end cultural practices and tribal identification (Trusty et al., 2002). Even as tribal members died, Native people were not allowed to practice traditional rituals of mourning and healing, which included phases of grief that would have provided adjustment to cultural and other losses, ceremonial and ritual mourning, and family and community support. Brave Heart and DeBruyn (1998) stated that “Disenfranchised grief results in an intensification of normative emotional reactions such as anger, guilt, sadness, and helplessness.” This unresolved grief is a result of historical trauma that is transmitted down through each Native generation and is cumulative and compounded as more traumatic events occur. (Bassett et al., 2012.)

AI/AN who lived through the centuries of such practices suffered a variety of traumatic consequences often labeled as “historical trauma” in which the trauma is transferred to subsequent generations through biological, psychological, environmental, and social means, resulting in a cross-generational cycle of trauma (Brown-Rice, 2013).

Not all historical trauma experienced by AI/AN members is the same. Each tribe has its own history with the federal government that may influence how the government policy of assimilation has affected historical trauma and cultural identity within the specific tribe. (Gray and Rose, 2012.)

Judge Abby Abinanti, Chief Judge of the Yurok Tribe speaks of “historical trauma” as wounds passed wordlessly through generations with an accumulating grief and the urge to salve it with alcohol and drugs. It is what Yurok Tribal Chairman Thomas O’Rourke calls “the sickness of this land.” (Romney, 2014.)

The AI/AN historical trauma experience has played out in several stages. Initially, the dominant culture and government committed mass traumas on the AI/AN populations, resulting in cultural, familial, societal, and economic devastation resulting in losses of members, land, family, and culture. These traumas resulted in symptoms related to social-environmental and psychological functioning that persist today. (Whitbeck et al., 2004; Brown-Rice, 2013.)

An example of historical trauma with enormous consequences is the boarding school experience that disrupted family structure, destroyed personal identity, and devastated the AI tribal communities. Government and church-run boarding schools removed AI children from their families at the age of 4 or 5 and prohibited all contact with their relatives and tribe for a minimum of 8 years. (Brave Heart and DeBruyn, 1998; Garrett and Pichette, 2000.) Siblings often were sent to different schools so that children never saw their siblings again or did not see them for years or decades. Children had their hair cut and were dressed like European American children. Sacred items were taken away. They were forbidden from speaking their
Native language or practicing traditional rituals and religions (Brave Heart and DeBruyn, 1998; Garrett and Pichette, 2000.) Children who were physically and sexually abused often developed problematic coping strategies such as learned helplessness, manipulation, compulsive gambling, alcohol and drug use, suicide, and denial. (Brave Heart and DeBruyn, 1998; Garrett and Pichette, 2000.) The result was that many did not engage in traditional ways and religious practices and so lost their ethnic identity (Garrett and Pichette, 2000). The boarding school experience is viewed as a crucial precursor to many of the existing problems some AI continue to face. (Brave Heart and DeBruyn, 1998; Duran and Duran, 1995.)

“Traumatic experiences cause traumatic stress, which disrupts homeostasis” in the body (Solomon and Heide, 2005, p. 52). People who have experienced traumatic events have higher rates than the general population for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, and gastrointestinal disorders (Kendall-Tackett, 2009), and can their neurological functioning can be affected (Brown-Rice, 2013).

The historical events led to a systematic transmission of trauma to subsequent generations (Brave Heart et al., 2011; Whitbeck et al., 2004). The destruction of family, tribes, and culture means that for many AI/AN traditional cultural practices and family and tribal support systems are not available (BigFoot and Braden, 2007).

Historical trauma is not the passage of the trauma per se to the next generation but rather the passage of the psychological responses to the trauma to subsequent generations. For example, the children forced into boarding schools lost the ability to learn cultural practices, including child rearing within the context of their community. If they returned to their tribal community, they brought back with them new habits and concepts that were forced into daily practices, many of which were contrary to the traditional community practices and teachings. The traditional and “taught” practices resulted in “dichotomies” that were passed to children in their care and to those close to them. As generations passed, the practices did as well without awareness of the psychological impact of the different practices. With subsequent generations that had not experienced the original trauma directly or through parents or grandparents, the younger members have begun to question and challenge tribal language, cultural practices, and the authority of and respect for elders who survived the traumatic events. (Raquelle Myers, Attorney with the National Indian Justice Center.)

Historical trauma has resulted in social-environmental, psychological, and physiological disparities. Examples include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Stressor</th>
<th>Manifestations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social-environmental</td>
<td>• Domestic violence, physical and sexual assault rates 3.5 times higher than national average and may be higher due to under-reporting (Sue and Sue, 2012).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Higher poverty rates (U.S. Census Bureau, 2006; Denny, Holtzman, Goins, and Croft, 2005; Brown-Rice, 2013).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o 28.4% of American Indians and Alaska</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Natives lived in poverty in 2010 (compared to 15.3% of the nation as a whole) (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010c).

- AI/AN elders age 55 and over are nearly three times more likely (49% vs. 17%) to be poor or near poor (less than 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL)), than non-Latino whites (Satter et al., 2010).
- Native American individuals are reported as having the lowest income, least education, and highest poverty level of any group in the U.S. (Denny, Holtzman, Goins, and Croft, 2005; Brown-Rice, 2013).
- Higher unemployment rates than rest of U.S. population (U.S. Census Bureau, 2006)

| Psychological | • Highest weekly rate of alcohol consumption of any ethnic group (Chartier and Caetano, 2010; Myhra, 2011)
  | • High rates of mood disorders and PTSD (CDC, 2007; Dickerson and Johnson, 2012)
  | • Suicide rates among Native Americans are 3.2 times higher than the national average (CDC, 2007)
  | • Compared with all other racial groups, non-Hispanic Native American adults are at greater risk of experiencing feelings of psychological distress and more likely to have poorer overall physical and mental health and unmet medical and psychological needs (Barnes, Adams, and Powell-Griner, 2010; Brown-Rice, 2013). |

| Physiological | • The life expectancy at birth for the Native American population is 2.4 years less than that of all U.S. populations combined (CDC, 2010).
  | • The lowest life expectancy of any population group in the United States (CDC, 2010)
  | • Higher rates of heart disease, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases, and injuries (Barnes et al., 2010). Diabetes prevalence is significantly higher than any other racial or ethnic group in the United States (Barnes et al., 2010). |

These grim statistics may be symptomatic of a “legacy of chronic trauma and unresolved grief across generations” that has resulted from a history of domination and mistreatment perpetrated on AI/AN by the dominant culture (Brave Heart and DeBruyn, 1998, p. 60).
Historical trauma has led to changes in tribal beliefs and culture. Today, some tribal cultures are philosophically very close to their traditional past and are referred to as “traditional.” Others are closer to the dominant Western culture and are referred to as “acculturated.” Individual tribal members may be anywhere along the continuum between traditional and acculturated; some are bicultural, or “walk in two worlds,” while others may not identify with either culture. (Gray and Rose, 2012, p. 82.)
Increasingly, tribes are creating their own police agencies and reporting crime data. In 2014 in response to mandates of the 2010 Tribal Law and Order Act, the Bureau of Justice Statistics reported that the number of tribal law enforcement agencies reporting crime data to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program increased from 143 in 2010 to 158 in 2012. Tribes across the U.S. received $350,609 through Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants (JAG). One tribe in California receives funding though the amount was less than $25,000. (Perry, 2014.)

In California, while there are a number of tribal police agencies, their powers vary. Some only exercise their powers at casinos and have no law enforcement status. Some have been cross-deputized by California law enforcement agencies and are authorized to enforce tribal and California laws. Others are certified by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as Special Law Enforcement Commissioned (SLEC) officers who can enforce tribal and federal laws. Some are tribal employees; others are federal employees. (Goldberg and Singleton, 2005.) Some tribes have well-trained and staffed law enforcement departments while others have no tribal police officers at all. Some tribal agencies have officers who have received little or no formal law enforcement training.

As new funding streams become available to AI/AN communities through the Tribal Law and Order and the Violence Against Women acts, state and federal governments and tribes will join together and collaborate in order to improve relationships, develop needed services, develop or enhance tribal policing agencies, improve data collection, create or expand tribal court systems, and create elder abuse codes.

For more information on tribal justice systems please see “Native American Research Series: Tribal Justice Systems” CFCC Research Update (June 2012), available at www.courts.ca.gov/documents/TribalJusticeSystemRU.pdf.
Courts can assist elderly witnesses, including victims, to feel less intimidated and frightened in court by permitting them to be accompanied or supported by support persons and advocates. Elder abuse victims have the right the presence of support persons and advocates at criminal and restraining order proceedings.

Relevant statutes include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Authority</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Testify before a grand jury</td>
<td>Cal. Pen. Code, § 939.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testify in court, including juvenile court</td>
<td>Cal. Pen. Code, § 868.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Law enforcement, prosecution, and defense interviews| Sex Crimes: Cal. Pen. Code § 679.04, 264.02  
                                         Domestic Violence: Cal. Pen. Code, § 679.05 |
| Elder Abuse Restraining Order                       | Cal. Welf. & Inst. Code, § 15657.03(j) |
| Non-Harassment Order with a credible threat of violence or allegation of unlawful violence | Cal. Code Civ. Proc., § 527.6(l) |
| Family Law Order                                    | Cal. Fam. Code, § 6303(b)        |
APPENDIX J
ACCOMMODATIONS AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES FOR ELDERLY WITNESSES AND PARTIES

California has been a leader in developing specialized courts to handle elder abuse matters. The first such court was established in Alameda County and a second was established in Contra Costa County. Other courts have established an elder abuse restraining order calendar.

These courts share a commitment to creating courts that consider the special needs of older litigants. Examples of their practices include:

- Scheduling cases in the late morning or early afternoon.
- Reducing waiting time by having only such cases on calendar.
- Hearing criminal and restraining order matters in the same courtroom with the same judge, often allowing for a more comprehensive and coordinated handling of all aspects of a case.
- Conducting a telephonic hearing in civil matters if a party cannot get to court without extraordinary effort due to physical, mobility, or geographic reasons.
- Engaging community agencies in assisting parties through various means, including using a case manager connected to many different community services, allowing trained peer counselors to support and provide information to parties, and establishing a relationship with the local bar association to provide pro bono or legal service at reduced cost to unrepresented litigants.
- Making assistive devices such as amplification systems readily available. (For more information about these and other elder abuse court innovations, please see Judicial Council of California (2008) and Cram, 2014.)

While these court initiatives do not specifically address cases in which a tribal member is the victim of elder abuse, many of ideas and approaches could be further adapted to serve tribal members. For example, state courts could:

- Use telephonic hearings for court order matters when the tribal member is unable to travel to state court.
- Explore establishing a cooperative agreement with a tribal court to take the testimony at the tribal court or via teleconference or Skype-type technology from the tribal court offices.
- Set hearings at convenient times to accommodate tribal members who traveled from remote locations.
- Hear several kinds of cases involving the same parties at the same time to reduce the number of court appearances and to attempt to resolve the case and all its actions.
- Invite representatives from tribal services to address the court on programs that could assist defendants.
- Work with tribal court officials in monitoring compliance with state court orders and probation terms.

All of these efforts would make the state courts more accessible and less hostile to tribal members.