



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

INTERNAL MANAGEMENT POLICY 07-001

SUBJECT: Tribal Consultation Policy

EFFECTIVE DATE: 02/13/2019

This policy does not create a contract for employment between any ADVS employee and the Department. Nothing in this policy changes the fact that all uncovered employees of the Department are at-will employees and serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the Assistant Deputy Director - Veterans Services Division (VSD) or designee.

POLICY

1.0 the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) is committed to consulting with federally-recognized tribes in Arizona prior to undertaking any action or policy that will, or is reasonably believed to, have the potential to affect a tribal community or its members. To the fullest extent possible, ADVS will integrate input generated from tribal consultation into their decision-making processes to achieve mutually acceptable solutions.

AUTHORITY

2.0 Executive order 2006-14 is superseded by Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 41-2051 Section C, governor's office on tribal relations; director; responsibilities of state agencies; report

RESPONSIBILITY

3.0 The Assistant Deputy Director of the ADVS -VSD is designated as (1) the central point of contact for tribal government contacts; (2) implementing policies regarding the provision of service to eligible state citizens residing in Arizona tribal communities; (3) reviewing such policies annually; and (4) submitting an annual report to the Governor and Legislature outlining actions taken as a result of the policies.

DEFINITIONS

4.0 "Consultation" means the direct and indirect involvement of Arizona tribes in the development of policies on matters that have tribal implications. Consultation is the active, affirmative and collaborative process of (1) identifying and seeking input from appropriate Native American governing bodies, community groups and individuals; and (2) considering their interest as a necessary and integral part of the agency's decision-making process. The goal of notification is to provide an opportunity for comment; however, with consultation procedures, the burden is on the federal agency to show that it has made a good faith effort to elicit feedback.

PROCEDURES

5.0 Procedures

5.1 As the agency develops strategic plans or makes management decisions, the Assistant Deputy Director - VSD determines if there is potential impact on Arizona Native American veterans.

5.2 When a management decision has the potential for impact on Arizona Native American veterans, the Assistant Deputy Director - VSD is responsible for:

5.2.1 Traveling to tribal governments to meet with representatives and requesting their input.

5.2.2 Working with the Native American Tribal Council established by the agency to request feedback on specific issues.

5.2.3 Contacting tribal representatives by telephone or other means to obtain their input.

5.2.4 Consider opinions and concerns expressed by the tribes as management before decisions are finalized.

5.3 The Assistant Deputy Director - VSD or designee will participate in outreach events that are sponsored by tribal governments, ensuring that the agency is available to provide services to veterans and families.

5.4 The Assistant Deputy Director - VSD or designee will partner with the US department of Veterans Affairs to conduct outreach to Arizona Native American veterans.

IMPLEMENTATION

6.0 Executive Order 2006-14 is superseded by the Arizona Revised Statute (ARS) 41-2051 Section C, Governor's office on tribal relations; director; responsibilities of state agencies; report.

Ink/Image:

Digital: **Wanda Wright** Digitally signed by Wanda Wright
Date: 2019.02.13 09:44:16 -07'00'

Wanda A. Wright, Director

Comments/Attachments