

## **TRIBAL CONSULTATION POLICY**

**Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control**  
**Leesa Berens Morrison, Director**  
**(602) 542-9020**  
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### **PURPOSE**

This policy establishes the basic principles governing the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control's (DLLC) relations with Tribal governments in the State of Arizona.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The mission statement of Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control is to protect the health, safety and welfare of Arizona citizens by licensing the liquor industry and assuring compliance with state liquor laws through enforcement, training and adjudication.

These laws are defined in Arizona Revised Statutes Title 4. The laws were enacted to preserve, protect and enhance the quality of life for all Arizona citizens. There are 22 Tribal governments within Arizona that have jurisdiction over approximately 28% of the land base. The State of Arizona and Tribes recognize that the regulation of spirituous liquor is mutually beneficial to the public health, safety and welfare of Arizona's citizens.

The Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control has jurisdiction over the manufacture, sale and purchase of alcohol on tribal lands wherein such facilities, such as casinos, are licensed to sell spirituous liquor by the State. The Department also regulates the wholesalers and retailers who sell the alcohol that, at times, is illegally transported onto tribal lands. Illegal use and abuse of alcohol is a statewide concern, thus we should encourage cooperation between Department and the Tribes to address those issues.

### **POLICY**

DLLC recognizes the sovereignty of Tribal governments and their jurisdiction over lands within Indian Country as defined by federal law. (The definition in federal law includes all lands within reservation boundaries [18 U.S.C.A. §1151].) DLLC will not assert authority over Indian Country.

DLLC recognizes that the Tribes and the federal government have the primary responsibility for regulating and enforcing liquor laws on Tribal property except that the casinos remain licensed to sell spirituous liquor by the State of Arizona. DLLC supports the strengthening of cooperation with the Tribes to help reduce alcohol abuse on tribal

property. DLLC's support to Tribes will be provided in the interest of the State and will not be used as the basis for assertion of State authority within Indian Country.

DLLC is committed to developing cooperative relationships with Tribes and will respect the concerns of Tribes. DLLC requests that Tribes show similar respect for the efforts of DLLC to control and regulate the purchase and use of alcohol outside of tribal lands and on state-regulated entities located on tribal lands.

### **RESPONSIBILITY**

Responsibility for the enforcement of this policy lies with the Director of the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

### **PROCEDURES**

1. DLLC will assist Tribal governments to develop programs to reduce abuse of alcohol by providing technical assistance, sharing data, conducting joint Tribal-State enforcement, and cooperatively resolving alcohol issues to the extent resources allow.
2. DLLC will enter into Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA) or Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) when considered mutually appropriate by DLLC and an interested Tribal Government.
3. DLLC will conduct liquor law training, when appropriate and as resources allow to encourage and improve Departmental/Tribal understanding and communication.
4. DLLC will open its training programs to Tribal officials and Tribal staff whenever possible.
5. DLLC will share appropriate technical information and data with Tribes. DLLC requests that Tribes share appropriate technical data with DLLC as well.

### **APPROVED BY:**

Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control:



Leesa Berens Morrison, Director

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