Arizona Department of Homeland Security
TRIBAL CONSULTATION POLICY

Date: **June 28, 2010**

Tribal Liaison: **Fernando Reyes, Border/Tribal Liaison**

On behalf of: **Gilbert Orrantia, Director**

Phone: **(602) 542-7008**

PURPOSE
This policy establishes the basic concepts and principles governing the Arizona Department of Homeland Security (AZDOHS) relationships with Tribal governments in the State of Arizona.

INTRODUCTION
There are 22 Tribal governments within the State of Arizona that have jurisdiction over approximately 28% of the state's land mass. The State of Arizona recognizes and respects the unique sovereign government-to-sovereign government relationship between the State of Arizona and the Tribal Nations within the borders of the State of Arizona. The State of Arizona recognizes the need for cooperative relations to achieve the goals of the State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS).

To ensure that all stakeholders, including Tribes, have a defined role, voice, and vote, ARS: 41-4258 establishes the Arizona Department of Homeland Security and the Regional Advisory Councils (RAC). This state statute mandates that RAC membership consist of representation from local government, first responder agencies (police, fire and medical) and Tribal Nations. In coordination with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security, the RACs develop regional homeland security strategies and assist in the implementation of Arizona's comprehensive statewide risk assessment. The RACs also develop a list of recommendations for state homeland security grant program monies to AZDOHS.

AZDOHS recognizes the significant contributions Arizona's Tribal Nations play in achieving the SHSS which provides strategic direction for enhancing regional capability and capacity to: prevent terrorist attacks within Arizona; reduce Arizona's vulnerability to terrorism and all other critical hazards; minimize the damage and recover from terrorism and all other critical hazards that affect the safety, well-being, and economic security of the citizens and residents of Arizona. In AZDOHS's role as the State Administrative Agency for the distribution of U.S. Department of Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) funds in Arizona, we recognize the importance of working with our Tribal partners to leverage these funds for our collective homeland security goals. These funds provide support to further enhance Arizona's emergency preparedness capabilities.

POLICY
AZDOHS will encourage collaboration with Tribal Nations to bolster statewide capabilities to prevent, protect, respond and recover from all hazards.

OBJECTIVES

1. AZDOHS will encourage Tribal representation on the RACs pursuant to State statute ARS: 41-4258.

2. AZDOHS will designate a Tribal liaison.

3. AZDOHS will not conduct any activities within Tribal land without first receiving an invitation from the appropriate Tribal official.

5. AZDOHS will work cooperatively with Arizona Tribes to decrease the vulnerability of the State and all residents of the State and Tribal Nations.

6. AZDOHS will provide early notification to Tribes about decisions that may affect them. AZDOHS requests reciprocity by Tribes.

7. AZDOHS will provide notification of training programs to Tribal officials and Tribal staff whenever possible.

8. AZDOHS will share appropriate technical information and data with Tribes. AZDOHS requests that Tribes share appropriate technical data with AZDOHS as well.

9. AZDOHS Strategic Planners and the Tribal Liaison will foster coordination and collaboration among the Tribes and local and state jurisdictions to increase emergency preparedness and response capabilities.
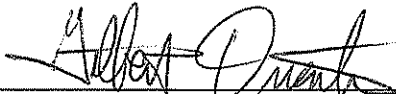
RESPONSIBILITY
In good faith, the Director of AZDOHS, in his/her official capacity, or through his/her designee(s), shall endeavor to implement the terms of this policy.

Responsibility for the enforcement of this policy lies with the assistant directors, managers, and the Director.

APPROVED BY:
Arizona Department of Homeland Security:

Gilbert Orrantia, Director
Originally Issued: 3/30/06

Updated: 6/2010