

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**  
**Administrative Policies**

**Tribal Consultation Policy**

**PURPOSE**

Pursuant to A.R.S. §41-2051, all state agencies shall develop and implement tribal consultation policies to guide their work and interaction with the Tribal Nations of Arizona (“Tribes”). This policy establishes the basic principles governing the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions’ (“AZDFI”) relations with Tribal governments in the State of Arizona.

**INTRODUCTION**

AZDFI’s mission is “to license, examine, and supervise Financial Institutions and Enterprises, in compliance with State law, to ensure safety for the Arizona consumer and soundness for the Arizona business.”

The State of Arizona and Tribes share mutually beneficial interests in cooperative relationships.

**POLICY**

AZDFI 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).] Further, AZDFI recognizes that the federal government has the primary responsibility for assisting Tribes on issues within Indian Country. AZDFI is committed to developing cooperative relationships with the Tribes.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

Responsibility for the enforcement of this policy lies with the Office of the Superintendent. AZDFI’s designated contact person is Stephen Briggs, Legislative Liaison, 2910 N. 44<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 310, Phoenix, AZ 85018. (602) 771-2778, [sbriggs@azdfi.gov](mailto:sbriggs@azdfi.gov)

**PROCEDURES**

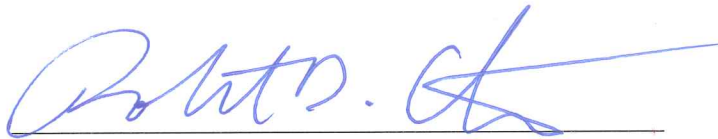
1. AZDFI will not conduct any activities within Indian Country without first receiving an invitation from the appropriate Tribal official.
2. AZDFI will enter into Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA) or Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) when considered mutually beneficial by AZDFI and an interested Tribal government.
3. AZDFI will conduct training, when appropriate and as resources allow, encourage and improve Departmental/Tribal understanding and communication. AZDFI will open its training programs to Tribal officials and Tribal staff whenever appropriate.
4. AZDFI will provide early notification to Tribes about decisions that may affect them. AZDFI requests reciprocity by Tribes.

5. AZDFI staff will relay Tribal communications of issues and concerns, including requests from Tribes for technical assistance, to the appropriate staff as soon as possible.

6. AZDFI staff will obtain approval from their Legislative Liaison before initiating contacts with Tribes. This does not apply to referral of complaints to the Tribes or contact on ongoing issues previously approved by the Legislative Liaison.

**APPROVED BY:**

Arizona Department of Financial Institutions:



Robert D. Charlton, Superintendent

Date: February 3, 2017  
Supersedes: June 20, 2008  
Chapter: AP 51.0