

## Serving Victims of Crime

Indigenous populations face higher rates of crime victimization than any other minority group in the country (Department of Justice). In order to address this growing epidemic, services are now being offered for victims and survivors.

This Program serves survivors of domestic violence living in the service areas of Elwha Klallam, Port Gamble Klallam, Jamestown Klallam, Hoh, Quileute, Makah and Suquamish Tribes, both on and off reservation.



## Washington State Native American Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

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## Our Mission

Our mission is to promote tribal sovereignty by eliminating violence against Native women and promoting the well being of Native families and communities

## Your Life Is Precious to Us

Envisioning a nation where Native women are treated with honor and respect, where she is protected under the law and her personal sovereignty is never compromised



**CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES**

**Supporting Indigenous Survivors of Crime in Washington State**

## Our Services

If the client is accepted into the program, they are assigned Attorney will represent and provide legal advocacy for clients :

- Review case histories and educate on case status and potential case outcomes.
- Accompany clients in interviews by law enforcement, prosecutors, child welfare agencies or other agencies.
- Preparation, filing and arguing motions and orders necessary for clients legal matters.
- Assist with completion of legal paperwork and other documentation.
- Consumer issues and credit restoration guidance.
- Family matters including child support, child custody and parenting plans.
- Protection order filings and hearings
- Housing and landlord/tenant matters.
- Guardian Ad Litem and/ or court Appointed Special Advocate for Children. Other legal services the promote independence and empowerment after experiencing violence, as deemed appropriate.

## Referrals

Referrals for legal assistance may come from individual victims, Victim Services program, law enforcement and tribal court personnel: a tribal court administrator, clerk, legal advocate or tribal Domestic Violence Advocate.

Referrals will be screened and referred to the appropriate Attorney. The Program Coordinator will conduct an Intake to determine the clients immediate needs and if the program is an appropriate resource.



## Program Objectives & Outcomes

- Promote expansion of accessible, understandable, consistent and culturally relevant information and guidance related to legal services.
- Address cross and inter-jurisdictional coordination and dispute resolution through representation in all courts, as appropriate.
- Promote the development and dissemination of self-advocacy resources and tools for Domestic Violence survivors seeking help.
- The Program Coordinator will assist with informing victims of their rights.
- Improve access to and just treatment of survivors in tribal and state protection order systems.
- Provide or enhance collaboration, training and partnership with tribal, local, state and federal law enforcement entities.

## Victims Rights

The core rights for victims of crime include:

- The right to be treated with fairness, dignity, sensitivity, and respect;
- The right to attend and be present at criminal justice proceedings;
- The right to be heard in the criminal justice process, including the right to confer with the prosecutor and submit a victim impact statement at sentencing, parole, and other similar proceedings;
- The right to be informed of proceedings and events in the criminal justice process, including the release or escape of the offender, legal rights and remedies, and available benefits and services, and access to records, referrals, and other information;
- The right to protection from intimidation and harassment;
- The right to restitution from the offender;
- The right to privacy;
- The right to apply for crime victim compensation;
- The right to restitution from the offender;
- The right to the expeditious return of personal property seized as evidence whenever possible;
- The right to a speedy trial and other proceedings free from unreasonable delay;
- The right to enforcement of these rights and access to other available remedies.

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