



## U. S. Department of Justice

### Office of the Associate Attorney General

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The Associate Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

December 14, 2009

Dear Tribal Leader,

As the Attorney General made clear at the Listening Session in October, the Department of Justice is committed to a sustained partnership with Tribal governments to improve public safety in Tribal communities, to ensure the security of Native women, and to build a better future for young people who are the future of each of your communities. At the Listening Session, senior Justice Department officials listened closely as you articulated the needs of Tribal governments to achieve these goals.

In these meetings, many Tribal leaders expressed a need to improve the Justice Department's grant-making process. One of the requests was for the Department to simplify its grant application process.

We heard you. As we begin the grant award process for Fiscal Year 2010 (October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010), we are giving consideration to combining all of the Department's Tribal specific grant programs into a single solicitation and application. This is just a first step in improving the grant-making process and addressing the concerns you raised at the Listening Session and in your written comments.

To implement these improvements in Fiscal Year 2010, we will need to operate on a very tight schedule, and expedite our consultation with you. Given the choice between delaying our response to your concerns until Fiscal Year 2011, or taking the step of designing an expedited consultation, we chose to ask you to work with us to implement changes in Fiscal Year 2010.

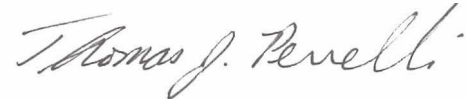
We would like to seek your input in conference calls to be held on December 18, 2009, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on December 23, 2009, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The conference number for the call on December 18, 2009 is: Dial-in # 202-353-0877, Pass code # 1553.

The conference number for the call on December 23, 2009 is: Dial-in # 202-353-0878,  
Pass code # 9595.

We hope that you will join us and share your thoughts on this proposal. We look forward to continued consultation in the future to develop a more flexible grant funding model.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Perrelli".

Thomas J. Perrelli