

## **2014 Government to Government Agency Report**

**AGENCY NAME:** Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST)

**KEY CONTACTS:** Eriks Gabliks, Director      Tammera Hinshaw, Executive Assistant

The Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) is responsible for training and certifying police, corrections, parole and probation officers; 9-1-1 telecommunicators and emergency medical dispatchers; career and volunteer fire-rescue personnel. It is also responsible for licensing of private security officers and managers and private investigators. DPSST serves more than 35,000 public safety professionals around the state.

Director Eriks Gabliks serves as the primary agency representative on the Government-to-Government Public Safety and Enforcement Cluster Group. Over the last year, DPSST regularly participated as a member of the Government-to-Government Public Safety and Enforcement Cluster Group and hosted Cluster meetings as needed at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem. DPSST regularly provided information on its legislative concepts to members of the group in an effort to inform them of statutory changes that could impact members of the public safety community, including tribal law enforcement, corrections, and fire service agencies. Information from national associations and federal public safety agencies that is of potential interest to cluster group participants is provided on an on-going basis.

During 2014, DPSST continued to work with tribal law enforcement agencies to implement Senate Bill 412. SB 412, proclaimed by many as landmark legislation, was approved during the 2011 legislative session and gave participating tribal law enforcement officers the same police powers as city, county, and state law enforcement officers. Since passage of this legislation, DPSST has held a number of meetings with tribal police chiefs and tribal legal counsel to implement the new program.

The impact of this legislation was recognized in 2013 by the Indian Law and Order Commission (ILOC) in its report "*A Roadmap for Making Native America Safer*," detailing recommendations for law enforcement in Indian Country. This recognition was made after DPSST, along with other partners of the Government to Government Public Safety Cluster, were invited to give testimony to the Indian Law and Order Commission (ILOC) when it held a regional hearing in Portland on November 2, 2012. ILOC recognized Oregon for its work on SB 412 and mentioned the challenges that were taking place in other states on this important issue.

Over the past year, DPSST staff has worked with various stakeholder groups including the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police, the Oregon State Sheriff's Association, the Council of Police Associations, the United States Attorney's Office (Oregon), and the Oregon Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (BPSST), and its Police Policy Committee, regarding the status of tribal law enforcement agencies and their compliance with SB 412.

We are pleased to report that as of November 25, 2013, each Oregon tribe with a law enforcement agency complies with SB 412. To date, there are more than 70 police officers employed by these tribal police departments who are subjected to the same certification maintenance requirements, to include maintaining minimum moral fitness standards as defined

by Oregon Administrative Rule. Below is a list of each tribal police agency in compliance with SB 412 and the date they achieved recognition.

- Coos, Lower Umpqua, Siuslaw Tribal PD - December 21, 2011
- Umatilla Tribal PD - January 6, 2012
- Warm Springs Tribal PD - April 9, 2012
- Grande Ronde Tribal PD - May 30, 2012
- Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission PD - September 21, 2012
- Coquille Indian Tribal PD - December 21, 2012
- Burns Paiute Tribal PD – November 25, 2013

DPSST currently requires tribal law enforcement units employing authorized tribal police officers submit a notarized affidavit reporting any convictions occurring in tribal jurisdictions. With the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2013, this requirement has been reexamined and determined to be redundant and is in the process of being repealed.

On September 18, 2014, The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians in partnership with DPSST co-sponsored a SB 412 Implementation Conference at Spirit Mountain Casino in Grand Ronde. This conference was well attended by city, county, state and tribal law enforcement leaders; tribal leaders, and elected officials. The conference would serve as the spring board for the 2015 legislation session at which time the sunset provision within SB 412 would need to be addressed. The unanimous concuss was that SB 412 has worked and that there have been no issues. At the request of the tribes, Senator Prozanski agreed to introduce legislation to remove the sunset during the 2015 Oregon legislative session.

In addition to the above efforts, DPSST continues to provide information on training opportunities for tribal public safety agencies including leadership training for managers and executives. DPSST hosted a variety of training sessions for public safety executives and field training officers (including tribal public safety agencies). DPSST also offered a number of National Incident Management System (NIMS) classes to help local, county, state, and tribal public safety agencies meet the requirements of the United States Department of Homeland Security. These training opportunities were provided free of charge at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem and at locations through the state.

DPSST continues to include tribal law enforcement representatives on work groups that it has in place to assist with development of training programs. Tribal law enforcement personnel are currently active in a review of DPSST's 16-week Basic Police Course (Job Task Analysis) and also serve on the Advisory Group for the Center for Policing Excellence located at DPSST.

DPSST continues its commitment to provide the best training possible and search for innovative and progressive ways to carry out its mission. DPSST realizes that support from its constituents is critical to this endeavor and understands that only by working together can the ever-changing needs of Oregon's residents be addressed. DPSST remains committed to the Government to Government process and looks forward to continuing its efforts in 2015.