

2020 Government to Government Agency Report

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

KEY CONTACTS: Eriks Gabliks, Director Theresa Janda, 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 41,000 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. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, 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 also provided on an on-going basis.

During 2020, DPSST worked with tribal law enforcement agencies to maintain the relationship established within 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. SB 343 was introduced, and approved, during the 2015 legislative session repealing SB 412's sunset provision related to tribal police officers making this important legislation permanent.

The impact of SB 412 should not be taken for granted. SB 412 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.

We are pleased to report that in 2020 each Oregon tribe with a law enforcement agency continues to comply with SB 412/SB 343. 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*

Over the past year, DPSST has worked with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians who are forming their first ever law enforcement agency. The tribe has hired their first police chief to develop and lead the organization and DPSST staff is working the tribe as they desire to achieve SB 412 compliance.

After several months of work with the United States Department of Justice (USDOJ) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), in 2020 DPSST has received recognition that our 16-week Basic Police Course, provided to newly-hired tribal law enforcement officers offered at the Oregon Public Safety Academy, and mandatory Police Field Training Manual completed after the Academy, meets and exceeds USDOJ/BIA standards and is recognized as equivalent training by the USDOJ/BIA.

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). Training classes range from active shooter, implicit bias, dealing with people in crisis, stress first aid, leadership, investigative techniques, and many others. These training opportunities were provided free of charge at the Oregon Public Safety Academy in Salem and at locations around Oregon through DPSST's regional training network. All of Oregon's tribal police agencies actively participate in DPSST training opportunities.

DPSST continues to include tribal law enforcement representatives on work groups that it has in place to assist with development of programs. Tribal law enforcement personnel are always included in work groups updating curriculum and certification standards. A tribal police chief currently serves on the Advisory Group for the Center for Policing Excellence (CPE) located at DPSST and another tribal police chief serves on the Certification Revocation and Denial Work Group. DPSST has an active work group which is assisting our staff update the State's 16-week Basic Police course and a tribal law enforcement representative is included on the work group.

While much of this report has focused on DPSST's law enforcement training mission, the agency (DPSST) also works with tribal fire-rescue agencies and public safety 9-1-1 communications centers on an on-going basis to provide training and certification programs free of charge.

DPSST also shares information with tribal fire-rescue agencies on federal grants provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) which provide funds, on a competitive basis, to fire agencies around the nation, including tribal structural firefighting agencies, for equipment, apparatus, training, safety gear, staffing, prevention, and several other areas.

During 2020, the historic wildfire season in Oregon required that the Oregon Department of Forestry request Governor Kate Brown to activate citizen-soldiers and citizen-airmen of the Oregon National Guard (Guard) under a standing agreement known as *Operation Plan Smokey* to assist with the state's wildfire suppression efforts. Under *Op Plan Smokey*, DPSST provided more than 40 hours of wildland firefighter training to members of the Guard activated for duty. This training, often known as "red card" training, is required of all public and private wildland firefighters. More than 375 wildfire trained members of the Guard were activated, and an additional 375 were trained and ready but not deployed. The training our state's citizen-soldiers and citizen-airmen received from DPSST included protecting historic and cultural sites during wildland fire incidents as part of the curriculum.

DPSST also serves as the host agency for the Oregon High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Program. The HIDTA Program was established by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) in June of 1999. In 2015 the program expanded into Idaho and was renamed the Oregon-Idaho HIDTA. The Oregon-Idaho HIDTA consists of 14 counties and the Warm Springs and Umatilla Indian Reservations. Counties in the HIDTA include Oregon's Clackamas, Deschutes, Douglas, Jackson, Lane, Linn, Malheur, Marion, Multnomah, Umatilla and Washington counties, and Idaho's Ada, Bannock and Canyon counties. In Oregon, both the Umatilla Tribal Police Department, and the Warm Springs Police Department, participate in HIDTA.

DPSST has a created a great partnership with the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) to ensure that the men and women who have worn the uniform of our nation's armed forces take advantage of the education benefits they have earned as a result of their military service. Military service (VA) education benefits can be applied by the veteran to on-the-job training (field training) DPSST and local public safety agencies offer. This includes law enforcement, corrections, parole and probation, fire, and public safety communications. ODVA has created a brochure that our staff shares with each agency that employs a veteran. The brochure explains the benefits that are available and how they can be utilized. The brochure includes contact information in case agencies have additional questions. We are glad to share that ODVA has a Campus Coordinator at the Oregon Public Safety Academy the third Wednesday of every month to help the veterans that have been hired, and are attending basic training, access their benefits and assist with information on other programs and services that they are entitled to. We know that Oregon's tribes employ many public safety officers who have also served our nation and we are honored to participate in this program.

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, including our tribal partners, 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 2021 and beyond.