



Resolution Supporting Increased Funding for Tribal Justice Systems

WHEREAS, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1983, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

WHEREAS, the member organizations of the CBAC are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

WHEREAS, American Indian and Alaska Native Nations constitute a third sovereign within the American system of justice; and

WHEREAS, today, the vast majority of the more than 350 current tribal justice systems function in isolated rural communities. These tribal justice systems face many of the same difficulties faced by other isolated rural communities, but these problems are greatly magnified by the many other complex problems that are unique to Indian country; and

WHEREAS, tribal justice systems are faced with a lack of jurisdiction over non-Indians, complex jurisdictional relationships with federal and state criminal justice systems, inadequate law enforcement, lack of detention staff and facilities, lack of sentencing or disposition alternatives, lack of access to advanced technology, lack of educational opportunities in detention facilities, and lack of substance abuse testing and treatment options; and

WHEREAS, in recent decades, tribal communities have faced significant problems in addressing public safety issues. Violent crime rates are more than 2.5 times the national rate; some reservations face more than 20 times the national rate of violence; and

WHEREAS, violence against Native women has reached epidemic proportions. Thirty-four percent of Native women will be raped in their lifetimes and 39 percent will be the victim of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, basic law enforcement protection and services are severely inadequate for most of Indian Country. This problem affects more than 1.4 million people who depend on the federal government for these services. Simply put, many American citizens living on Indian reservations do not receive even the minimum level of law enforcement services taken for granted in non-Indian communities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the CBAC calls upon federal authorities to make available the necessary funding and resources to tribal governments to develop and maintain tribal justice systems, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CBAC authorizes the communication of the content of this resolution to members of the U.S. Senate, members of the U.S. House of Representatives, the press, and to others the CBAC deems appropriate to receive the information; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the legislative priority of the CBAC until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

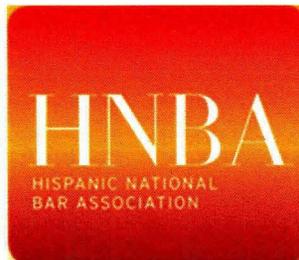
We, the duly elected leadership of the Hispanic National Bar Association, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and the National Native American Bar Association, hereby certify that this resolution was duly enacted by the CBAC at its annual meeting on the 16th of May 2012.



National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

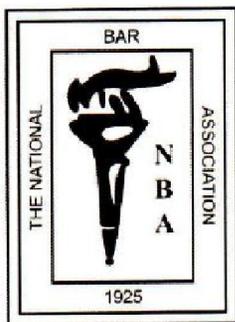
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Wendy C. Shiba'.

Wendy Shiba
President-Elect, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Peter M. Reyes, Jr.'.

Peter M. Reyes, Jr.
President-Elect, Hispanic National Bar Association



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Daryl Parks'.

Daryl Parks
President, National Bar Association



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Patty Ferguson-Bohnee'.

Patty Ferguson-Bohnee
President, National Native American Bar Association