



Solicitation for Legal Consultant Services

Drafting Tribal Law and Order Code to Establish Tribal Law Enforcement

Issuing Organization

Wilton Rancheria
Sacramento County, California

Project Background

Wilton Rancheria is a federally recognized Tribe located in Sacramento County and a recipient of funding through the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) Grant Program, Cohort 2, (<https://www.bscc.ca.gov/missing-and-murdered-indigenous-people-grant-program>) administered by the California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). The grant period spans **August 1, 2024 through June 1, 2028**. As part of its long-term strategy to prevent MMIP, strengthen public safety, and enhance Tribal sovereignty, Wilton Rancheria is undertaking foundational work to establish a **Tribal Law Enforcement Department**.

A core element of this effort is the development of a **Code to support the enforcement of Tribal law**, which will provide the legal and operational framework necessary to support Tribal policing, coordination with local law enforcement partners, and the future recruitment and deployment of Tribal Peace Officers.

Purpose of Solicitation

Wilton Rancheria seeks to contract with a qualified consultant (California JD or California Licensed Attorney) with expertise in Tribal law, Tribal justice systems, and law enforcement development to draft and finalize a comprehensive **Tribal Code of Enforcement**. This code will support the establishment of a Tribal Law Enforcement Department and be suitable for formal consideration by Tribal Council and Tribal Court.

Scope of Work

Task 1: Review and Assessment

The consultant shall conduct an initial review and assessment to inform development of the Tribal Code of Enforcement. This includes:

- Reviewing relevant Tribal governing documents, policies, ordinances, and existing agreements, including memoranda of understanding or agreement with local law enforcement agencies.
- Assessing the Tribe's current and planned law enforcement structure, including anticipated roles for Tribal Peace Officers and coordination with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department.
- Reviewing applicable federal, state, and Tribal legal considerations that impact Tribal law enforcement authority, jurisdiction, and enforcement mechanisms.

- Coordinating with Tribal leadership, Attorney General, and designated staff to ensure alignment with Tribal values, sovereignty, and governance priorities.

Deliverable:

- Brief assessment memo summarizing key considerations, legal frameworks, and recommendations to guide code development.

Task 2: Drafting the Tribal Code of Enforcement and Any Supporting Codes or Revisions to Other Laws

Based on the assessment and consultation with Wilton Rancheria, the consultant shall draft a comprehensive **Code of Enforcement of Tribal Law**, which may include, but is not limited to:

- Statement of Tribal sovereignty and legal authority.
- Jurisdictional provisions addressing enforcement authority within applicable Tribal, federal, and state frameworks.
- Roles, powers, and responsibilities of the Tribal Law Enforcement Department and Tribal Peace Officers.
- Enforcement procedures, including citations, investigations, arrests (as applicable), and coordination with external law enforcement agencies.
- Due process protections and alignment with Tribal Court procedures.
- Provisions supporting intergovernmental cooperation, including deputation or cross-deputization considerations.
- Accountability, oversight, and standards of conduct for Tribal law enforcement personnel.
- Transitional provisions supporting phased implementation as the Tribal Law Enforcement Department is established.

The code shall be drafted in clear, legally sound language and structured to allow for future expansion as the Tribe's law enforcement capacity grows.

Deliverable:

- Draft Tribal Code of Enforcement for Tribal review and feedback.

Task 3: Review, Revision, and Finalization

The consultant shall:

- Facilitate review sessions with Tribal leadership, Attorney General, and designated staff to receive feedback on the draft code.
- Revise the draft based on Tribal input to ensure cultural appropriateness, legal sufficiency, and operational feasibility.
- Prepare a **finalized Code of Enforcement** suitable for presentation to Tribal Council and Tribal Court for formal consideration and adoption.
- Provide a plain-language summary or briefing materials, if requested, to support decision-making by Tribal leadership.

Deliverables:

- Revised draft(s) incorporating Tribal feedback
- Finalized Code of Enforcement of Tribal Law
- Briefing materials or executive summary

Consultant Qualifications

Qualified consultants will demonstrate:

- California JD or California licensed Attorney
- Extensive experience in Tribal law, Tribal justice systems, and/or Tribal law enforcement development.
- Demonstrated understanding of Tribal sovereignty, jurisdictional complexities, and intergovernmental law enforcement relationships.
- Experience drafting Tribal codes, ordinances, or enforcement frameworks adopted by Tribal governing bodies.
- Ability to work collaboratively and respectfully with Tribal leadership, legal counsel, and staff.
- Familiarity with MMIP prevention efforts, public safety in Indian Country, or culturally responsive justice systems (preferred).

Timeline

The scope of work is expected to be completed by **February 28, 2027** (preferably before the end of 2026) in coordination with other foundational law enforcement planning activities.

Proposal Submission Requirements (not to exceed 5 pages at 1.5 spacing)

Interested consultants should submit:

- Statement of qualifications and relevant experience
- Description of proposed approach and methodology
- Proposed timeline and work plan
- Budget and cost proposal
- References from similar Tribal law or justice system projects

Please submit proposals to Carol Maytum at cmaytum@wiltonrancheria-nsn.gov no later than **February 19th, 2026**.

Funding

Qualified individuals should submit a budget **not to exceed \$40,000**.