



2017 Annual Convention Spokane, Washington

RESOLUTION #17 - 41

“SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESERVATION SAFETY COALITION”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Governments, seeking to address the safety needs of their communities, develop stable economies and provide for basic needs of community members, recognize that communication and cooperation amongst tribes is vital in the promotion of community health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Tribal services and systems are best situated, and most capable of addressing the needs of our tribal communities and public safety and will be dramatically improved when Native nations actively communicate and cooperate to address shared crises; and

WHEREAS, state and federal court systems have historically not been responsive to the needs of tribal communities and may work counter to the goals and culture of tribal people; and

WHEREAS, in its report to Congress and the President, the Tribal Law and Order Commission recommended stronger coordination among Federal, State and tribal justice systems to make Native nations safer and close the public safety gap with similarly situated communities; and

WHEREAS, collaboration between Tribes is a key strategy to leveraging limited resources, building relationships and bridging jurisdictional gaps to improve safety and justice in Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, intertribal coalitions lead to increased communication and relationship building across jurisdictions, thereby decreasing jurisdictional misunderstandings and increasing collaboration, as appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Reservation Safety Coalition is to operate in the spirit of mutual respect and cooperation, and to take the lead in promoting intertribal healing to wellness coordination, address safety threats, and resolve civil and criminal jurisdictional issues between tribal jurisdictions; and

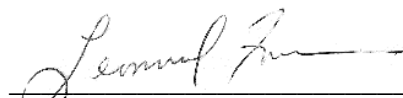
WHEREAS, the key values of the Reservation Safety Coalition include equal representation, cooperation, sharing, improving access to justice, and working cooperatively to find mutually acceptable solutions to shared challenges and responsibilities; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI strongly supports the development of the Reservation Safety Coalition; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI encourages tribal governments to support the efforts of the Reservation Safety Coalition.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Davenport Grand Hotel, Spokane, Washington on September 18-21, 2017, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary