

**MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TASK FORCE
GENERAL MEETING**

Virtual link:

<https://zoom.us/j/92303065301?pwd=K0bbftPFbhvslkT371zTbYf7hkBGNP.1>

Friday, December 6, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Call to Order – Chair Padilla called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Public comment began at 9:24 a.m. and ended at 9:56 a.m. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.
- B. Land Acknowledgement and Moment of Silence – Chair Padilla.
- C. Roll Call – Secretary Gonzales conducted a roll call, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Roll Call

Present

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1) Sen. Shannon Pinto | NO |
| 2) Sen. Linda Lopez | YES – Virtual |
| <i>Logged off at 10:40 a.m.</i> | |
| 3) Rep. Charlotte Little | YES – Virtual |
| <i>Joined at 10:27 a.m.</i> | |
| 4) Gabe Aguilar | NO |
| 5) Birga Alden | YES – Virtual |
| 6) Jamie Allbach | YES – Virtual |
| 7) Police Chief Adrian Armijo | YES – Virtual |
| 8) Yolanda Azua | YES – Virtual |
| <i>Joined at approx. 10:00 a.m.</i> | |
| 9) Shelly Begay | YES – Virtual |
| 10) Bernadine Beyale | YES – Virtual |
| 11) Reycita Billie | YES – Virtual |
| 12) Kevin Burns | YES – Virtual |
| 13) DeeJay Chino | YES – Virtual |
| 14) Amber Kanazbah Crotty | YES – Virtual |
| 15) Jesse Griggs obo Kyle Dowdy | YES – Virtual |
| 16) Kyle Hartsock | NO |
| 17) Police Chief Paul Joye | YES – Virtual |
| 18) Dinah Lee | NO |
| 19) Cina Littlebird | YES – Virtual |
| 20) Sheriff James Maiorano III | YES – Virtual |
| 21) Eliot Neal | YES – Virtual |
| 22) Kristina Padilla | NO |
| 23) Deiandra Reid | YES – Virtual |
| 24) Police Chief Victor Rodriguez | YES – Virtual |
| 25) Joycelyn Shroulote | NO |
| <i>Resigned from Task Force on 12/3/2024</i> | |
| 26) Glenn St. Onge | YES – Virtual |
| 27) Sarah Tafoya | YES – Virtual |
| 28) Audrey Tolth | YES – Virtual |

29) Octavian Valencia	YES – Virtual
30) Tonita Vigil	YES – Virtual
31) Meskee Yanabah Yatsayte	YES – Virtual
32) Stephanie Padilla	YES – Virtual

Non-Voting Consultants	Present
1) Alyssa Begay	YES – Virtual
2) Genevieve Chavez	NO
3) Lacey Guinn	NO

D. Approval of Agenda
 Member Glenn St. Onge made a **MOTION** to approve the agenda as written. Member Birga Alden **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.
VOTE: 23 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

E. Approval of October 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes
 Member Cina Littlebird made a **MOTION** to approve the October 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes as written. Member Police Chief Adrian Armijo **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.
VOTE: 22 in favor, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions. **MOTION** carries.

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 II.

TASK FORCE OVERVIEW

- A. Overview of Legislatively Sanctioned Tasks:
 - i. Update 2022 State Response Plan
 - ii. Provide Ongoing Legislative Suggestions

Chair Padilla provided an overview of the origin of the NMDOJ MMIP Task Force (TF), referring to the 2024 legislation, Senate Joint Memorial 2 (SJM2). Chair Padilla clarified that IAD’S MMIWR Task Force was disbanded in 2023, following the successful completion of its sanctioned goals.

- B. Funding Available to Task Force

Chair Padilla provided an overview of the funding appropriated to the TF, clarifying that that current TF members are not compensated for their participation on the TF, other than for legislatively sanctioned per diem. She mentioned that NMDOJ staff is currently finalizing a formal process for dispersing per diem to members.

- C. Task Force Member Nominations via the MMIP ‘Contact Us’ Form or through contacting Michael Kiehne, Indian Affairs

- i. Submissions due no later than December 11, 2024

Chair Padilla announced that the TF will be accepting nominations from the community and TF members for Community Representatives and Professional Experts to serve on the TF. She clarified that the deadline for nominations would be 12 p.m. noon on December 11, 2024, and encouraged the community to submit nominations for new TF members.

- D. Request for Recommendations on Achieving Sanctioned Tasks

Chair Padilla requested that those utilizing the public comment session of the meeting to share their recommendations for achieving the legislatively sanctioned tasks outlined in SJM2 and welcomed the community to share any other pertinent thoughts and/or feedback with the TF. She also provided an overview of the in-person outreach conducted by the NMDOJ Indian Affairs team to inform tribal communities of TF meetings and drive community participation and welcomed community members to make suggestions regarding outreach during public comment.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

The first hour of this meeting will take place in open session and the floor will open to members of the public for public comment following the Task Force Overview. We recommend that members of the public utilize the public comment time to present goals they would like the Task Force to consider, as the Task Force will discuss specific goals and subcommittees following the public comment portion of this meeting. We ask that members of the public limit their remarks to a maximum of two minutes as we are striving to hear from all community members who wish to comment. Comments may be taken under advisement with a response being issued at a later time or may be placed on the agenda of a future public meeting for further discussion.

Chair Padilla opened the floor to public comment, which commenced at 9:24 a.m. Below is a brief summary of the comments received by the Task Force:

Kimberly Wahpepah – Advocate and survivor. Described a recent event on Navajo Nation and expressed disappointment that many individuals/groups doing MMIP work were not in attendance. Expressed that the community is not given ample time to provide comment or contribute to the conversation. Mentioned that the TF exists to help center their stories.

Darlene Gomez – MMIP advocate and attorney. Raised the fact that certain cases and photos appear to be missing from the MMIP Portal and questioned how the community and law enforcement are supposed to search for these individuals when this information is not widely available. Made a number of recommendations. Encouraged TF members to connect directly to individuals making public comment.

Vangie Randall-Shorty – Mother of Zachariah Juwaun Shorty. Mentioned Missing Persons' Day in Shiprock, NM and questioned how outreach and connection could be improved to involve more families in the event. Recommended that the TF contact families directly to share event details and provide resources including DNA submittal and testing, NamUs access. Requested more involvement in San Juan County. Expressed her feeling that MMIP families and those assisting them don't get enough assistance. Echoed the need for photos on the MMIP Portal, billboards for MMIP.

Member **Bernadine Beyale** – Asked families to think about and share what they are looking for in an advocate so that the TF can better-assist in finding the right people for these roles. Asked families for feedback regarding the challenges that impact the effectiveness of their advocates.

Member **Deiandra Reid** – Reiterated the need for improved advocacy resources for families. Detailed the challenges she has experienced in the Four Corners area in obtaining the certifications necessary to become a legally certified advocate on the Navajo Nation. Mentioned the communication and jurisdictional challenges on the Navajo Nations.

Becky A. Martinez – Sister of Calvin Martinez. Mentioned the logistics of getting advocates for MMIP families in general and on the Navajo Nation. Mentioned working with the family of Julius Largo. Raised the need for advocacy services that serve a more diverse population, highlighting that there are individuals and families with diverse ethnic backgrounds who also need advocacy services. Posed questions regarding the functionality of the MMIP Portal and highlighted the need for additional development.

Chair Padilla opened the floor to any additional members of the public who wished to make a public comment and, hearing none, adjourned the public comment session at 9:56 a.m. She thanked everyone for their participation and comments and requested that all non-member attendees exit the call so that the TF could enter closed session after a brief break.

IV. NEW BUSINESS - CLOSED SESSION

The Task Force reconvened in closed session at 10:12 a.m. Secretary Gonzales confirmed that a quorum was present.

- A. Eliot Neal and Regina Begay-Roanhorse: Presentation on Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation

Chair Padilla opened the floor to questions following the conclusion of the presentation. Members discussed.

- B. Opportunity for Public Holiday Event- Discussion and Possible Action

Chair Padilla provided a brief overview of a proposed Holiday Outreach Event for MMIP families to be sponsored by the NMDOJ and MMIP Task Force later in the month.

Member Yolanda Azua made a **MOTION** to approve the Holiday Outreach Event as outlined, with additional outreach events in Farmington and Gallup in the future. Member DeeJay Chino **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote. **VOTE:** 24 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

- C. Meeting Format Items- Discussion and Possible Action

- i. Member Request- Interactions with Public and Media

Chair Padilla provided an overview of the guidelines and expectations regarding TF member interactions with the public and media/press.

- ii. Meeting Structure Moving Forward

Chair Padilla provided a brief overview of some of the options the TF may consider regarding meeting formats.

Member Alden made a **MOTION** for open meetings with the option for TF members to motion to close particular sections of meetings as deemed necessary. Member Eliot Neal **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.

VOTE: 25 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

- iii. Outreach and Notice of Meetings

Chair Padilla mentioned her previous overview on the outreach efforts of the NMDOJ relating to the TF and opened the floor to suggestions and feedback on this topic.

- D. Identification and Discussion of Specific Goals

- i. Legislative Subcommittee

Chair Padilla provided a brief overview of her vision for subcommittee formation and the role of the proposed Legislative Subcommittee.

Member Police Chief Rodriguez made a **MOTION** to create a Task Force Legislative Subcommittee. Member Rep. Little **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.

VOTE: 24 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

Chair Padilla initiated a break starting at 11:58 a.m. The TF reconvened at approximately 12:05 a.m.

ii. Information Technology Subcommittee

Chair Padilla provided a brief overview of the previous Indian Affairs Department (IAD) MMIWR Task Force Data Subcommittee and proposed the creation of an Information Technology Subcommittee to address similar goals.

Member Beyale made a **MOTION** to create a Task Force IT Subcommittee. Co-Chair Yatsayte **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.

VOTE: 24 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

iii. Legislative Task- Update the 2022 State Response Plan

a) Review of 2022 Objectives

b) Goals Poll Out Week of December 16, 2024

a) Responses due December 20, 2024

Chair Padilla opened the floor to suggestions, feedback, and discussion from TF members regarding the formation of additional subcommittees to address the other objectives outlined in the 2022 State Plan and/or other goals the TF would like to pursue.

Member Capt. Burns made a **MOTION** to create a law enforcement-oriented subcommittee to address Objective 5 of the 2022 State Response Plan. Member Billie **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.

VOTE: 24 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

Chair Padilla opened the floor to additional discussion on this topic and briefly reviewed further potential subcommittees and assignments.

Member Reycita Billie made a **MOTION** to create this subcommittee to address Objective 4 of the State Response Plan. Member Cina Little Bird **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.

VOTE: 24 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

Member Alden made a **MOTION** to create a Resource Data Subcommittee to address Objectives 1, 2, and 3 of the 2022 State Response Plan. Member Sarah Tafoya **SECONDED** the motion.

Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.

VOTE: 24 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

Member Bernadine Beyale made a **MOTION** to create a Community Outreach Subcommittee. Member Reycita Billie **SECONDED** the motion. Chair Padilla initiated a roll call vote.

VOTE: 24 in favor, 0 objections, 1 abstention. **MOTION** carries.

E. Task Force Community Representative and Expert Nominations

i. New Member Poll Out Week of December 16, 2024

a) Responses due December 20, 2024

Chair Padilla opened the floor to nominations for the open Community Representative and Professional Expert seats.

F. Determine Next Meeting Details

i. Host Checklist

Chair Padilla proposed an 11:00 a.m. meeting on April 4th, 2025 in Farmington, NM.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further Task Force business, the meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.