

20 April 2016

To the Oklahoma Department of Corrections,

**Tribal Access to Justice Innovation** would like to highlight the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program in a video for use on our website ([www.tribaljustice.org](http://www.tribaljustice.org)), our YouTube channel, at conferences and workshops, and for distribution to tribal justice practitioners. We feel this program is exemplary and that other tribes can learn from its success. Our hope is that the 10 – 15 minute video will feature interviews with program staff, participants, tribal elders, judges, and representatives of corrections, police and prosecution agencies, as well community members. Through these interviews, the video will explain why and how the program started, how it has evolved, and the impact it has had on the community. We would like to highlight the reintegration process and show how the program restores participants to the community.

We understand that the first steps of the reintegration process take place in the John H. Lilley Correctional Center. We would therefore like to visit the Correctional Center on May 23 – 25, 2016 to hear from participants at the beginning of their reintegration process, and from staff who support them along the way. Specifically, we are seeking to film on site and conduct interviews with staff and inmates, according to availability and in adherence to all safety protocols. It is our hope that this video will enhance the ability of tribal justice practitioners to learn from each other and develop effective solutions to today's complex challenges.

*About Tribal Access to Justice Innovation:*

The central goal of the project is to help tribal justice practitioners learn about emerging and promising justice-related programs in Indian Country. This project was launched at the request of tribal justice practitioners around the country, who report that they often have difficulty finding practical information about how other tribes are addressing common challenges. We aim to improve access to this information through the creation and distribution of an array of resources including a website, videos, podcasts, and a guidebook.

Our website, [www.tribaljustice.org](http://www.tribaljustice.org), is designed for tribal leaders, justice system stakeholders, elders, community service providers, educators, and community members. The site features dozens of tribal practices and programs that address crime, protect victims, and improve public health and safety in their communities. We chose to feature the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program because of its effectiveness, but also because we believe it is an impressive example of tribal-state collaboration.

Tribal Access to Justice Innovation is a project of the **Center for Court Innovation's** Tribal Justice Exchange. Since 2008, the **Tribal Justice Exchange** has provided training and technical assistance to more than 50 tribal justice systems and has worked to promote collaboration and information-sharing between tribes and states. For more information on the Center, please see [www.courtinnovation.org](http://www.courtinnovation.org).

Sincerely,



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