Subject: State-Tribal Collaboration and Communication		Policy Number: ADM: 05
Revision Number: 01	Effective Date: 11/17/2025	Original Issue Date: 05/31/2009

1) PURPOSE

a) The purpose of this policy is to promote effective communication and collaboration between the Department of Public Safety and Indian Nations, Tribes or Pueblos. It is the goal of the DPS to promote cultural competency in providing effective services to American Indians or Alaska Natives and ensure all DPS employees are notified of the provisions of the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.

2) POLICY

a) The Department of Public Safety shall make a reasonable effort to collaborate with Indian Nations, Tribes or Pueblos in the development and implementation of policies, agreements, and programs of DPS that directly affect American Indians or Alaska Natives.

3) APPLICABILITY

a) This policy applies to all employees of the Department of Public Safety.

4) REFERENCES

a) State-Tribal Collaboration Act
b) US Code: Title 18, 1153

5) DEFINITIONS

a) **American Indian or Alaska Native** –
   i) Individuals who are members of any federally recognized Indian Tribe, Nation or Pueblo.
   ii) Individuals who would meet the definition of "Indian" pursuant to 18 USC 1153.
   iii) Individuals who have been deemed eligible for services and programs provided to American Indians and Alaska Natives by the United States public health service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs or other federal programs.

b) **DPS** – The Department of Public Safety.
c) **Indian Nation, Tribe or Pueblo** – Any federally recognized Indian Nation, Tribe or Pueblo located wholly or partially in New Mexico.
d) **Secretary** – DPS Cabinet Secretary
e) **Tribal liaison** – A DPS employee appointed by the Secretary of DPS. The liaison shall report directly to the DPS Secretary in all matters related to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.

6) OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

a) Agency Responsibilities

The DPS has several duties when interacting with the various Indian Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos in the state. These duties include:

i) Promote effective collaboration and communication.
ii) Promote positive government-to-government relations.
iii) Promote cultural competency in providing effective services to American Indians or Alaska Natives.
iv) Ensure employees are notified of all provisions of the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.
v) Make a reasonable effort to collaborate with Indian Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos in the development and implementation of policies, agreements and programs that directly affect American Indians or Alaska Natives.

b) Employee Duties

DPS managers and employees who have ongoing communication with Indian Nations, Tribes or Pueblos shall complete training which will be provided by the State Personnel Office with assistance from the Indian Affairs Department. The training will include the following:

i) Promotion of effective communication and collaboration between DPS and Indian Nations, Tribes or Pueblos.
ii) Development of positive state-tribal government-to-government relations.
iii) Cultural competency in providing effective services to American Indians or Alaska Natives.

c) Tribal Liaison Duties

DPS shall designate a tribal liaison, who reports directly to the Secretary of DPS. Their duties will include, but not be limited to the following:

i) Assist the DPS Secretary with developing and ensuring the implementation of this policy.
ii) Serve as a contact person who shall maintain ongoing communication between the state agency and affected Indian Nations, Tribes or Pueblos.
iii) Ensure that training is provided to the staff of DPS as set forth in this policy. Nothing in this policy shall preclude tribal liaisons from providing or facilitating additional training.

d) **Annual Reporting**

No later than July 31 of every year, DPS shall submit a report to the Indian Affairs Department on the activities of the agency pursuant to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act. The Indian Affairs Department shall compile all such reports for submittal to the governor and to the legislature. The annual report shall include the following:

i) The policy DPS adopted pursuant to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.
ii) Names and contact information of the individuals in DPS who are responsible for developing and implementing DPS programs that directly affect American Indians or Alaska natives.
iii) Current and planned efforts by DPS to implement policy related to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.
iv) Certification by the State Personnel Office of the number of DPS managers and employees who have completed the required training.
v) Description of current and planned programs and services provided to or directly affecting American Indians or Alaska Natives. As well as the amount of funding for each program.
vi) Method(s) established by DPS for notifying employees of the provisions of the StateTribal Collaboration Act.

7) ATTACHMENTS

a) **NONE**

8) APPROVAL

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE:** 11/17/25

DPS Cabinet Secretary