

## OUTLINE FOR 90 MINUTE WORKSHOP

Workshop Title:

### **Incorporating Culture into Tribal Courts: A Victim-Centered Approach**

Summary Description:

This workshop offers an overview of the ways that Indian Nations incorporate culture and tradition into their legal framework and will examine the alternative methods of keeping a cultural component in the forefront of tribal justice systems. The workshop will also discuss how culture and tradition affect the rights of victims of crime in tribal judicial systems and how an understanding of cultural issues by those associated with tribal courts can enhance the victim's path to justice.

Target Audience:

Victim Witness Coordinators, court personnel, tribal court judges, court support personnel such as the Court Clerk and the Bailiff, attorneys and lay advocates.

Learning Objectives:

1. Attendees will learn about how Indian Tribes incorporate and prioritize tribal culture and tradition into their substantive law.
2. Attendees will learn about the practical barriers to cultural considerations in today's Tribal court systems.
3. Attendees will discuss and list alternative methods of incorporating a cultural component in tribal judicial systems and will be given examples of such methods.
4. Attendees will learn how culture and tradition impact the rights of victims of crime in the tribal judicial system.
5. Attendees will discuss how the Tribal courts can protect the rights of crime victims within an integrated cultural/legal framework.

Power Point Presentation with notes (if required):

Workshop Activity One:

#### Lecture/Facilitation

The presenter will discuss and provide tribal examples of constitutions and codes that exhibit the relationship of culture and tradition to tribal law. Participants will be invited to provide information about this topic specific to their Tribes.

Workshop Activity Two:

#### Lecture/Facilitation

The presenter will discuss cultural barriers in the Tribal court systems and will invite Attendees to present other experienced similar barriers.

### Workshop Activity Three

#### Lecture/Video/Facilitation

The presenter will provide information on existing practices that incorporate a cultural and traditional component into Tribal court systems which will include sample video cultural materials, practices that keep a strong cultural component in tribal justice systems and victim appropriate justice alternatives. Attendees will be invited to discuss any other methods that are being employed in tribal communities.

### Workshop Activity Four:

#### Lecture/Facilitation

The presenter will discuss the impact of culture and tradition on the substantive rights of litigants with emphasis on the rights of the victim of crime. This Activity will include a discussion of how Tribal courts should have an understanding of cultural influences and practical policy applications that will enhance the victim's search for justice.

Handouts: PowerPoint Presentation