

Operation Lady Justice: Federal Government Resources on Missing & Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) – Transcript of audio

WELCOME TO TODAY'S A SERIES OF TALKS FOR THE 2022 FALL, FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARY CONFERENCE. MY NAME IS HELEN KEREMEDJIEV. I'M A USER SUPPORT LIBRARY THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE GPO. I WILL BE THE MC FOR THIS ROOM, TODAY. GPO USER SUPPORT LIBRARIES AND DONALD SENSABAUGH IS PROVIDING TECH SUPPORT IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE. ELIZABETH SANDERS, FROM THE MARION JON GRAY LIBRARY AT LaMARR UNIVERSITY WILL PRESENT OUR NEXT TALK. OPERATION LADY JUSTICE -- FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RESOURCES ON MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS . FOR THE Q&A, PLEASE ADD YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE CHAT AND SEND THEM TO ALL PARTICIPANTS, OR ALL PANELIST. I WILL MONITOR AND FACILITY QUESTIONS AT THE END OF THE DOCK. THIS PRESENTATION IS BEING RECORDED AND WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE SHORTLY THEREAFTER. OKAY, ELIZABETH. THE ROOM IS YOURS.

THANK YOU, VERY MUCH. CAN EVERYBODY SEE AND HEAR ME OKAY?

YES, WE CAN.

OKAY, I WANTED TO MAKE SURE. GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE. AS HELEN SAID, MY NAME IS ELIZABETH SANDERS. I AM, CURRENTLY, A RESEARCH ENGAGEMENT AND LEARNING LIBRARIANS, AND THE FDLP COORDINATOR FOR LaMARR UNIVERSITY. PREVIOUSLY, I WAS THE LS 102 COORDINATOR AND FDLP COORDINATOR FOR SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY. A LOT OF THE PRESENTATION TODAY COMES FROM AN ARTICLE THAT I DID, WHICH I HAVE A LINK TO IN THE SLIDE. I HAVE A LOT OF SLIDES. I WILL NOT BE READING ALL OF THEM, FULLY. I WANTED TO PREPARE THEM IN CASE YOU NEEDED TO REFER TO THEM AFTER THE PRESENTATION. THERE ARE A FEW IMPORTANT FOUNDATIONS BEFORE WE GET STARTED. FIRST, I TRIED STRIVE TO PRESENT ACCURATELY AND COMPASSIONATELY, BUT I ACKNOWLEDGE MY LIMITATIONS. I'VE ONLY BEEN RESEARCHING THIS TOPIC FOR A LITTLE OVER A YEAR. I'M NOT AN INDIGENOUS PERSON. THESE MATERIALS DO NOT REFLECT MY LIFE EXPERIENCE. TRIBAL AND GRASSROOT EFFORTS AND ADVOCACY PROMPTED MULTILEVEL GOVERNMENT RESPONSE ON THIS ISSUE. BY MULTILEVEL, I MEAN INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL, STATE, LOCAL, TRIBAL. I WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORK AND THE DEDICATION OF THOSE PEOPLE, EVEN THOUGH MY PRESENTATION DOESN'T REALLY FOCUS ON THEM. FINALLY, ANYTHING DEALING WITH A SENSITIVE TOPIC, ESPECIALLY CRIMINAL JUSTICE, IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THE VICTIMS. IN THE SOURCES THAT I'M GOING TO GO OVER TODAY, OVER 30 VICTIMS ARE NAMED. I LIST ALL OF THEM IN THE FINAL SLIDE. HERE IS OUR OUTLINE. WE ARE GOING TO START WITH DEFINING WHAT MMIP IS. LOOK AT A TIMELINE OF GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS FROM 2015 TO THE PRESENT. TALK ABOUT WHAT OPERATION LADY JUSTICE IS. THEN, LOOK AT SOME ADDITIONAL SOURCES AND SEARCH STRATEGIES. SO, WHAT IS MMIP? BEFORE WE GET TO THE WORDING OF IT, WHAT IT ACTUALLY REFERS TO OUR HIGH RATES OF VIOLENT CRIME VICTIMIZATION IN INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS, PARTICULARLY WOMEN AND GIRLS. THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT MEN OR MALES ARE NOT AFFECTED. THEY ARE ALSO TWO SPIRITS AND NON-LIBRARY IDENTITIES THAT ARE ALSO AFFECTED. ACCORDING TO A RESEARCH STUDY FROM 2016, MORE THAN FOUR IN FIVE AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN AND MEN HAVE EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE IN THEIR LIFETIME. THIS MMIW TOPIC COMES UNDER A LOT OF ACRONYMS. MMIP STANDS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSON. I CHOOSE TO USE THAT BECAUSE IT IS THE MOST INCLUSIVE. HOWEVER, YOU MAY ALSO SEE IT AS, MMIWG2S -- THERE ARE SEVERAL CONFUSING FACTORS TO THE SITUATION. ONE IS A LACK OF RESOURCES FOR INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS. THE LACK OF CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SERVICES. JURISDICTIONAL ISSUES, WHETHER THAT

BE BETWEEN THE TRIBE AND THE STATE GOVERNMENTS. TRIBE AND LOCAL, TRIBAL AND FEDERAL, AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN, A LACK OF ATTENTION TO THESE CASES AND GAPS IN THE DATA. SO, NOW WE'RE GOING TO LOOK LIKE A TIMELINE OF DOCUMENTS LOOK AT 2015 THROUGH NOW, WHAT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT INFORMATION. THIS IS NOT COMPREHENSIVE. THERE ARE SEVERAL SOURCES MISSING. BUT, IT GIVES YOU A WAY OF LOOKING AT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOPIC. I ALSO WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE, THERE ARE HISTORICAL RESOURCES THAT WOULD FIT UNDER THIS TOPIC THAT ARE NOT BEING LOOKED AT, EITHER. IN 2015, WE HAD A SENATE HEARING CALLED, ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR VICTIM SERVICES IN INDIAN COUNTRY. HE DOESN'T ACTUALLY USE THE PHRASE OR TERM, MMIP , BUT IT DOES ADDRESS THE HIGH RATES OF VIOLENT CRIME VICTIMIZATION AMONG NATIVE AMERICANS. IN 2016, WE HAVE THE FIRST RESOLUTIONS, BOTH IN THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE, TO DESIGNATE MAY 5th AS A NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN AND GIRLS. WELL MY THESE PAST, INITIALLY, IN 2016, THE SENATE BEGAN REGULARLY PASSING ANNUAL RESOLUTIONS. THE HOUSE INTRODUCES THEM REGULARLY. THEY DON'T ALWAYS CONSISTENTLY PASS. ON THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT, AND 2016, THE NORTH AMERICAN WORKING GROUP ON VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS DEVELOPED. A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, AND MEXICO BEGAN WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA. THE PURPOSE OF THE GROUP IS TO ADDRESS HIGH LEVELS OF DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS. IN 2017, THERE WAS A SENATE HEARING FOR THE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS. THE BILLS ARE LISTED IN THE TITLE ARE ACTUALLY THE SURVIVE ACT, THE TRIBAL LAW AND ORDER ACT REAUTHORIZATION, AND SAVANNA'S ACT. AT THIS POINT, NONE OF THOSE LAWS PASSED. BUT, THEY ARE CONTINUALLY BROUGHT UP. ESPECIALLY THE TRIBAL LAW AND ORDER ACT REAUTHORIZATION, AND SAVANNA'S ACT. THE OTHER SENATE HEARING -- OR THE OTHER SENATE BILL, 772, IS THE AMBER ALERT IN INDIAN COUNTRY ACT. IT WAS LATER RENAMED TO THE ASHLAND MIKE AMBER ALERT IN INDIAN COUNTRY ACT. THE PURPOSE OF THIS BILL WAS TO AMEND AND PROTECT ACTS TO MAKE INDIAN TRIBES ELIGIBLE FOR AMBER ALERT GRANTS. IN 2018, THE ASHLAND MIKE AMBER ALERT IN INDIAN COUNTRY ACT PASSED. IT BECAME PUBLIC LAW 115 DEATH 166. IT IS NAMED AFTER ASHLYNNE MIKE . BROTHER WAS ALSO A VICTIM. MISSING AND MURDERED IS THE FIRST SENATE HEARING THAT TACKLES THE TOPIC OF THE MMIP FOR BOTH AS A CRISIS AND ITS CORE ISSUES. YOU CAN SEE, IN THREE YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LITERATURE. 2019, WE HAD A COUPLE OF SENATE HEARINGS. THE FIRST ONE WAS A SENATE HEARING FOR A LOT OF DIFFERENT BILLS. THE TWO THAT I'M GOING TO HIGHLIGHT OUR SAVANNAS ASK, WHICH WAS S227. AND, THE NONVISIBLE ACT OF 2019 WHICH WAS S .982. AND THEN, TO PROTECT AND SERVE, JOINT LAWN ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN BUILDING SAFE TRIBAL COMMUNITIES AND STOPPING DANGEROUS DRUGS FROM ENTERING INDIAN COUNTRY. THIS ONE FOCUSES ON IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT, SPECIFICALLY, IN INDIAN COUNTRY. IT IS NOT MMIP FOCUS, DIRECTLY. IT IS DISCUSSED IN THE TESTIMONY. A LOT OF THE ISSUES THAT ARE BROUGHT UP ON HOW TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY TO UNDERLINE SOME OF THOSE CAUSES. THERE WERE ALSO TWO HOUSE HEARINGS IN 2019. THE FIRST ONE, UNMASKING THE HIDDEN CRISIS AVERTED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN, MMIW. EXPLOIT SOLUTIONS TO END THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE. THIS ONE IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT LOOKS AT, NOT JUST CONTEMPORARY ISSUES, BUT HISTORICAL ONES. ALL FORMS OF WITNESSES WHO TESTIFY ARE INDIGENOUS WOMEN. LATER, IN THE SAME YEAR, THEY HAD THE, REVIEWING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S APPROACH TO THE MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN CRISIS. IT SUMMARIZES THE EFFORTS OF THREE STATES -- EXCUSE ME, THREE FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS -- DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, INTERIOR, AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. ALSO, IN 2019, PRESIDENT TRUMP ISSUED EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 13898. WHICH IS ESTABLISHING THE TASK FORCE ON MISSING AND MURDERED AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKAN NATIVES. THIS WAS ISSUED DIRECTLY IN RESPONSE TO MMIP CONCERNS THAT WERE BROUGHT UP IN THE RECENT YEARS. SECTION 3 DETAILS THE MEMBERSHIP OF THAT TASK FORCE. SECTION FOR DETAILS FOUR PRIMARY FOCUSES. CONSULTING

WITH TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS, DEVELOPING PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES FOR MMIP CASES , ESTABLISHING A TEAM TO REVIEW COLD CASES, AND CLARIFYING ROLES, AUTHORITIES, AND JURISDICTION FOR MMIP CASES. WE'RE GOING TO TALK MORE ABOUT THIS TASK FORCE LATER IN THE PRESENTATION. BUT, THIS WAS THE EXECUTIVE ORDER THAT ACTUALLY FOUNDED IT. IN 2020, BOTH SAVANNA'S ACT AND THE NOT INVISIBLE ACT OF 2019 PASSED. PUBLIC LAW 116 THROUGH 165 AND 166, RESPECTIVELY. SAVANNA'S ACT DIRECTS REVIEW, REVISION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AND JUSTICE PROTOCOLS TO ADDRESS MMIP, SPECIFICALLY. NAMED AFTER MURDER AND FETAL ABDUCTIVE VICTIMS SAVANNA LaFontaine Gray Wind. THE NOT INVISIBLE ACT OF 2019 INCREASES INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION TO IDENTIFY AND COMBAT VIOLENT CRIME WITHIN INDIAN LANDS AND OF INDIANS. IT ESTABLISHED MMIP COORDINATOR IN THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE SERVICES. AND, IT ESTABLISHES A JOINT COMMISSION BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CALL THE KNOT IN HIS BLACK COMMISSION. IN 2020, PROCLAMATION 10026 IS THE FIRST RECOGNITION ON A PRESIDENTIAL LEVEL OF MAY 5th AS MISSING AND MURDERED AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES AWARENESS DAY. THIS PROCLAMATION SUMMARIZES ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS MMIP FROM THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION. IN 2021, WE HAVE A COUPLE OF OTHER HEARINGS. RESTORATIVE JUSTICE, ADDRESSING VIOLENCE IN NATIVE COMMUNITIES THROUGH THE AWA, WHICH IS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT, TITLE I ASK, SPECIAL JURISDICTION. THE PART THAT RELATES TO MMIP IS IN THE Q&A. BUT, THE IMPACT OF SPECIAL JURISDICTION AND REMAINING GAPS AND CHALLENGES IN TRIBAL JURISDICTION ARE REALLY IMPORTANT AND A LOT OF THE OTHER GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ON MMIP, YOU SEE A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT. THEN, CALL TO ACTION, NATIVE COMMUNITIES PRIORITIES AND FOCUS FOR THE 117th CONGRESS. THIS HEARING FOCUSES ON CONSULTING NATIVE COMMUNITIES ABOUT THEIR PRIORITIES FOR CONGRESSIONAL ATTENTION. MMIP IS DISCUSSED, ALBEIT, VERY BRIEFLY. WE HAD PROCLAMATION 10202, WHICH IS RECOGNIZING MAY 5th, 2021 AS MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS AWARENESS DAY. IT SUMMARIZES ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS MMIP FROM PRESIDENT BIDEN'S ADMINISTRATION. WE ALSO HAVE EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 14053. WHICH IS, IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE FOR NATIVE AMERICANS AND ADDRESSING THE CRISIS OF MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE. THIS IS A MUCH BROADER SCOPE OBJECTIVE SET THAN WHAT YOU SAW IN THE PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE ORDER. IT IS BUILT AROUND INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION. BOTH ON THE FEDERAL LEVEL, AND THEN, ON MULTIPLE LEVELS. IT SEEKS NOT ONLY TO ADDRESS UNDERLYING CAUSES OF MMIP, BUT TO CREATE LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR NATIVE AMERICANS. SO, AGAIN, MUCH BROADER IN SCOPE. IN 2022, WE HAD A HOUSE HEARING AND CALL THE NEGLECTED EPIDEMIC OF MISSING BIPOC -- WHICH STANDS FOR LACK INDIGENOUS PERSON OF COLOR -- WOMEN AND GIRLS. I THINK THIS ONE IS INTERESTING BECAUSE IT SHOWS AN EVOLUTION OF THE FOCUS. A LOT OF THE CONCERNS RAISED IN THIS HEARING ECHO THE CONCERNS RAISED IN THE MMIP PACIFIC HEARING. IN ADDITION TO THOSE IDENTIFIED ISSUES, IT LOOKS AT DATA GAPS FOR HISPANIC AND LATINOS. HIGH RATES OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND TRAFFICKING FOR ALL THREE GROUPS, AND A LACK OF MEDIA ATTENTION TO ALL BIPOC CASES. IT IS AN EVOLUTION TO THE MORE INCLUSIVE -- KIND OF TAKING LESSONS LEARNED AND MOVING THEM FORWARD. THE CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF 2022, PL 117103. THIS ONE IN DIVISION W HAS THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022. AGAIN, THE REAUTHORIZATION IS A TOPIC THAT IS MENTIONED IN A LOT OF MMIP RELATED DOCUMENTS. THIS PARTICULAR SECTION INCLUDES THE EXPANSION OF TRIBAL JURISDICTION, AND OTHER PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS THE AREAS THAT INFLUENCE MMIP. THE PROCLAMATION 10389 RECOGNIZED MAY 5th, 2022 AS MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS AWARENESS DAY. IN ADDITION TO SUMMARIZING THE ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS MMIP AND PRESIDENT BIDEN'S ADMINISTRATION, IT IS THE FIRST PROCLAMATION TO INCLUDE NATIVE HAWAIIAN IN ADDITION TO INDIAN NATIVES AND ALASKAN NATIVES. THE TRILATERAL WORKING GROUP ON VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS. THIS IS THE FOURTH

CONVENING OF THE GROUP THAT STARTED IN 2016. THE SECOND TIME IT WAS CONVENED IN THE U.S. IT WAS THE FIRST MEETING OF THE GROUP SINCE 2018. THIS WAS MORE INCLUSIVE. IT INCLUDES TWO SPIRIT, GENDER DIVERSE, AND LGBTQ PLUS PERSONS. AND, NATIVE HAWAIIANS. SO, NOW WE HAVE GONE THROUGH THE GENERAL TIMELINE. WE ARE GOING TO LOOK A LITTLE BIT, SPECIFICALLY, AT OPERATION LADY JUSTICE. THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE SOURCE FOR INFORMATION ON THE TASK FORCE'S REPORTS TO THE PRESIDENT, WHICH WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ONE OF TWO REPORTS THAT THE TASK FORCE PUBLISHED. I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND THE SECOND ONE. THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER, 2021. THIS REPORT HAS SEVEN SECTIONS. EACH ONE OF THOSE SECTIONS ALIGNS WITH ONE SPECIFIC TASK FROM THE ORIGINAL EXECUTIVE ORDER. THE FIVE APPENDICES REPRINTS A LOT OF KEY DOCUMENTS. I WANT TO HIGHLIGHT TWO THAT I THINK ARE USEFUL. APPENDIX B LIST THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS AND FEDERAL PERSONNEL. APPENDIX E LIST 35 PUBLIC FACT SHEETS FROM THE TASK FORCE. THERE WERE ALSO A LARGE FOCUS ON LISTENING SESSIONS AND CONSULTATIONS. THERE WERE 30 TOTAL MEETINGS. 16 OF THOSE WERE WITH TRIBES. THE OTHERS WERE MEETING WITH VARIOUS GOVERNMENT GROUPS, OR SPECIFIC GROUPS. MOST OF THESE WERE APPROACHABLE. NOT ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO BE THAT WAY, BUT HAD TO CONVERGE TO BE VIRTUAL DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. FOR THE VIRTUAL MEETINGS, YOU USUALLY HAVE THE YOUTUBE VIDEO AND A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT. MOST OF THEM HAVE CAPTIONS. SOMETIMES, THE CAPTIONS ARE NOT FOR THE CORRECT MEETING, I DISCOVERED. THERE ARE A FEW SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THESE, THOUGH. THE WRITTEN CONSULTATION COMMENTS RECEIVED, IN ADDITION TO THESE LISTENING SESSIONS -- IF PEOPLE WERE UNABLE TO MEET VIRTUALLY -- THEY HAVE THE OPTION TO SUBMIT COMMENTS BY WRITING. SO, THE WRITTEN CONSULTATION COMMENTS DOCUMENT IS ALL OF THOSE. THEN, THE TWO SUMMARY DOCUMENTS ARE SUMMARIES OF DISCUSSIONS HELD BETWEEN JULY AND AUGUST, 2020. AND JANUARY SEPTEMBER, 2021. THE ISSUE WITH THE SPECIFIC DOCUMENT IS THAT THEY DON'T HAVE A LOT OF WAYS TO HELP YOU FIND SPECIFIC INFORMATION. FOR EXAMPLE, THE WRITTEN CONSULTATION COMMENTS ORGANIZED BY PERSON WHO SUBMITTED. BUT, THEY DON'T HAVE A TABLE OF CONTENTS, PER SE. THEY DON'T HAVE AN INDEX TO TELL YOU WHO IS FROM WHICH TRIBAL AREA, OR WHICH GEOGRAPHIC AREA. WHICH MAKES IT A LITTLE BIT CHALLENGING TO ACTUALLY READ. IN THIS SECTION, I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT ADDITIONAL SOURCES. THE IDEA BEHIND THIS PRESENTATION IS, IF YOU HAVE A USER, OR IF YOU WANT TO RESEARCH THIS TOPIC, I WANT TO GIVE SOME BACKGROUND AND SOME WAYS TO GET STARTED. FOR STARTING PLACES, MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUE. THAT IS A REALLY GOOD STARTING POINT. IT IS WRITTEN IN PRETTY PLAIN LANGUAGE. AND THEN, MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE MMIP, IS A CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH REPORT. A FEW PAGES LONG, BUT AGAIN, COMPREHENSIVE. THERE ALSO ONGOING CURRENT INITIATIVES. THERE IS A MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS PERSONS INITIATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THAT STARTED IN 2019, RIGHT BEFORE THE EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR OPERATION LADY JUSTICE CAME OUT. I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FIND TOO MUCH ABOUT HOW IT HAS CONTINUED SINCE THEN. THE NOT INVISIBLE AT COMMISSION, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT BECAUSE OF THE NOT INVISIBLE ACT. THE MISSING AND MURDERED UNIT, OR AN AND YOU, IS THROUGH THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS. HERE ARE SOME SPECIFIC RESOURCES, DEPENDING ON WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO FIND. FOR STATISTICS, VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN AND MEN IS THE MOST CITED STATISTICAL SOURCE. EVEN THOUGH IT IS FROM 2016. THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPORTED CHILDREN HAS NATIVE AMERICAN CHILDREN REPORTS. THERE WAS AN ARTICLE THAT LOOKED AT THE NATIONAL VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM FOR AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES BETWEEN 2003 AND 2018. THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT TRAVEL CONSULTATIONS THAT HAPPENED. ALL OF THEM ARE MMIP FOCUSED. BUT, IT IS A TOPIC THAT COMES UP. THERE IS TRAVEL CONSULTATION AND ADVISORY GROUPS, AND SPECIFICALLY, MMIP LISTENING SESSIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. TRAVEL CONSULTATIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. THE CDC'S TRAVEL CONSULTATION

AND TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE. AND THEN, THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR WILL TRAVEL CONSULTATION. WE WOULD LOOK AT SOME SEARCH STRATEGIES. THERE ARE A LOT OF VARIATIONS IN THE KEYWORDS THAT MAKE UP THIS IDEA OF MISSING AND MURDERED -- OR MISSING OR MURDERED INDIGENOUS PEOPLE. INCLUDING PEOPLE, PERSONS, WOMEN, GIRLS, WOMEN AND GIRLS, TO SPIRITS SPELLED TWO DIFFERENT WAYS, TO CHILDREN AND RELATIVES. YOU MAY NEED TO SEARCH BROADLY, OR WITH A LOT OF "ORS". FOR RACE, INDIGENOUS, NATIVE AMERICAN, AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE ARE THE TWO MOST COMMON FOR FEDERAL DOCUMENTS. NATIVE HAWAIIAN IS JUST NOW STARTING TO BE ADDED. TRIBAL MEMBER, AND THEN BIPOC. WHICH AGAIN, IS BLACK INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF COLOR. FOR CRIME, IT COULD BE MISSING AND MURDERED. IT COULD BE MISSING OR MURDERED. IT COULD BE EASY EITHER ONE OF THOSE, SEPARATE. IT COULD BE HOMICIDE. THERE IS A LOT OF CRIME THAT RELATES TO THE MMIP EPIDEMIC . VIOLENT CRIME, VIOLENCE AGAINST, INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ABUSE, AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING, CHILD ABDUCTION -- UNFORTUNATE THINGS. BUT, THESE ARE ALL RELATED TO THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF WHY INDIVIDUALS GO MISSING. SOMETIMES, ALSO, MURDERED. SO, THERE USEFUL TO LOOK AT. FOR LOCATIONS, THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT WORDINGS FOR THIS. INDIAN COUNTRY, I NEVER ENCOUNTERED AS A FREIGHT UNTIL I STARTED THIS RESEARCH. INDIAN LANDS, RESERVATIONS, TRIBAL LANDS, ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES -- SPECIFICALLY TO ALASKA -- TRIBAL JURISDICTION. BUT, ALSO, THERE IS AN ISSUE WITH LOCATION BECAUSE MANY INDIGENOUS PEOPLE NOW LIVE OUTSIDE OF THESE TRADITIONAL LOCATIONS THAT ARE MORE OR URBAN. BECCA MAKES URGING DIFFICULT, TOO. WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, THERE ARE SEVERAL AGENCIES THAT PRODUCE INFORMATION THAT MAY BE RELEVANT. THE OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE, NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPORTED CHILDREN, OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME, BUREAU OF JUSTICE STICKS, AND THE U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE. WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, THE ADMINISTRATION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS -- WHICH IS A SUBSET OF THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES -- THE CDC , NATIONAL CENTER FOR INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL, AND THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE. AND, FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, THE OFFICE OF JUSTICE SERVICES IS PART OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS. IF YOU SEARCH THE SITE EXTENSION DASH NSN.GOV , MANY TRIBES HAVE THEIR OWN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT. TRIBAL GOVERNMENT WEBPAGES. THE SITE EXTENSION. I PUT THAT ON THE INTERIOR BECAUSE THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ACTUALLY ASSIGNS THOSE URLs. IF YOU OTHER AGENCIES YOU MIGHT WANT TO LOOK INTO, THE U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS. BECAUSE THEY LOOK AT SOME OF THE UNDERLYING CAUSES. THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE, THE WHITE HOUSE, AND CONGRESS. I WILL HAPPILY ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS I CAN, BUT I KNOW I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET TO EVERYBODY. IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION AND I DON'T GET TO ANSWER HERE, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME. I HAVE MY CONTACT INFORMATION, HERE. IT IS ESANDERS5@LAMAR.EDU. MY FINAL SLIDE IS THE 30 VICTIMS NAMED IN THE GOVERNMENT SOURCES. WHICH, IF IT IS OKAY WITH EVERYBODY, I'M GOING TO LEAVE UP WHILE I DO THE Q AND A.

THANK YOU, ELIZABETH. WE HAVE QUESTIONS. THE FIRST ONE IS, WHAT IS TO SPIRITS? SOMEBODY PUT IN THE CHAT, A LINK TO THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE. IF IT IS OKAY WITH YOU, I'M GOING TO READ THE INITIAL SENTENCES ABOUT IT, IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND ELABORATING MORE, IN YOUR OWN WORDS. SO, TWO SPIRIT DOES NOT MEAN SOMEBODY WAS NUMERIC AND, LASTLY AMERICAN AND . TRACING TO THEIR STATUS AS TWO PEOPLE. TWO SPIRIT PEOPLE. IS ANYTHING ELSE YOU LIKE TO ELABORATE ON THE TERM, TWO SPIRIT?

IS A GOOD OVERALL DEFINITION. I WILL ADMIT, I AM NOT AN EXPERT ON IT. THIS WAS, AGAIN, THE THING I LEARNED WHILE DOING THIS. TWO SPIRIT IS AN UMBRELLA TERM, IN ITSELF, FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL TRIBE WOULD NECESSARILY HAVE THIS TWO SPIRIT DESIGNATION. BUT, EACH INDIVIDUAL

TRIBE MAY HAVE SOMETHING THAT FALLS IN THAT UMBRELLA. SO, I THINK THAT THE DEFINITION THAT WAS LINKED IS A GOOD INTRODUCTION. IT IS A SPECIFICALLY INDIGENOUS REPRESENTATION OF SOMEONE WHO NAVIGATES THE MALE AND FEMALE ROLE. THAT COULD BE FOR GENDER IDENTITY REASONS, IT COULD BE FOR SEXUAL ORIENTATION REASONS, BUT IT COULD BE SOMETHING ELSE. THERE IS A LOT OF HISTORY BEHIND IT.

OKAY. THE NEXT QUESTION IS WILL THE MORE FOR CLARIFICATION. WHICH OF THE MAIN AGENCIES THAT ARE INVOLVED WITH OPERATION LADY JUSTICE?

OKAY. SO, OPERATION LADY JUSTICE WAS AROUND FOR TWO YEARS. FROM 2019 THROUGH 2021. THE INITIAL INVOLVED AGENCIES WERE THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. THE TWO MAIN ONES. IN THE SECOND YEAR OF THE TASK FORCE, THEY EXPANDED OUT TO INCLUDE OTHER RELEVANT AGENCIES. WHICH INCLUDES THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES. I BELIEVE, ALSO, THERE WAS A MEMBER FROM HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT. BUT, MOST OF THE INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS WERE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OR DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR.

IN GENERAL, ABOUT YOUR MMIW RESEARCH, HAVE YOU LOOKED AT ANY TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ? I WAS WONDERING IF YOU KNEW THAT THERE WERE GOOD PLACE TO FIND INFORMATION ON THE DOCUMENTS OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.

IN THE SCOPE OF MY RESEARCH, I HAVE, UNFORTUNATELY, NOT LOOK AT TOO MANY FULL DOCUMENTS. MOSTLY BECAUSE MY SCOPE WAS ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL. THERE ARE A COUPLE OF SUGGESTIONS I CAN MAKE. ONE IS THAT, ONE OF THE FACT SHEETS FROM OPERATION LADY JUSTICE ACTUALLY LISTS THE COALITION AND ADVOCACY GROUPS. THAT IS A GOOD WAY TO SEE THE TRIBAL LEVEL. THE MISSING AND MURDERED DYING HAVE BEEN ACTIVE FOR A LONG TIME. THEY MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS. THERE IS DISCUSSION AND SOME OF THE LISTENING SESSIONS ABOUT TRIBAL EMERGENCY PLAN, OR -- SORRY -- TRIBAL COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLANS. THAT IS THE ACTUAL AND CORRECT NAME. THOSE DOCUMENTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC BECAUSE THEY ARE SENSITIVE. SOME TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS MAY HAVE THEIR TRIBAL COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLANS ON THEIR TRIBAL WEBSITE. THAT IS ANOTHER WAY THAT YOU MIGHT LOCATE SOME TRIBAL SPECIFIC -- BUT, YES. IF I WERE TO CONTINUE THIS, I WOULD ABSOLUTELY WANT TO LOOK AT THE TRIBAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION.

ARE YOU PLANNING A GUIDE ON THIS TOPIC? ARTHUR OTHER EXISTING GUIDES THAT YOU WOULD RECOMMEND?

THERE ARE A FEW MMIP OR MMIW LIVE GUIDES OUT THERE. I HAVE NOT THOUGHT ABOUT MAKING A LIBGUIDE MYSELF. BUT, IF THAT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL, I WILL CONSIDER DOING IT.

AND A RELATED QUESTION, DO YOU HAVE A CITATION FOR YOUR ARTICLE?

I DO. ALL THE WAY BACK AT SLIDE NUMBER TWO. YEAH. THE LINK IS NOT ACTIVE. IT WAS PUBLISHED IN DOCUMENTS TO THE PEOPLE IN, I WANT TO SAY, SPRING 2021. OR, IF YOU DOWNLOAD THE SLIDES FROM THE CONFERENCE WEBSITE, THIS WILL BE A LINK TO THE ACTUAL ARTICLE.

OKAY. WE DON'T HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FOR THE MOMENT. WE WILL GIVE A FEW MORE MINUTES FOR FOLKS TO QUESTIONS. IN THE MEANTIME, IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ELABORATE MORE ON YOUR TOPIC?

YEAH, SINCE WE HAVE TIME, WE'LL TALK A LITTLE BIT ABOUT SOME OF THE CHALLENGES IN FINDING AND USING THE FEDERAL DOCUMENTS. THE ONES THAT HIGHLIGHTED, THE LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENTS, ARE PRETTY EASY TO FIND. THE OPERATION LADY JUSTICE WEBSITE, WHICH DOES HOST A LOT OF THIS INFORMATION, IS ARCHIVED. AGAIN, IF YOU GOOGLE, IT IS PRETTY EASY TO FIND. BUT, THERE ARE SOME OF THE CHALLENGES. ONE IS THAT NOT ALL THE INFORMATION -- LIKE, TO UNDERSTAND WHERE A FACT SHEET CAME FROM OR WHEN IT WAS PUBLISHED -- SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO USE THE WAY BACK MACHINE AND LOOK AT OLDER VERSIONS OF THE OPERATION LADY JUSTICE WEBSITE. SOMETIMES, THE CAPTIONS ARE NOT ACCURATE. I FOUND A COUPLE OF VIDEOS WHERE IT IS CAPTIONS FROM A DIFFERENT LISTENING SESSION. THE DOCUMENTS THEMSELVES, THE TRANSCRIPTS, WHILE THEY ARE VERBATIM, THEY DON'T HAVE CAGE NUMBERS. THEY DON'T HAVE INDEXES. THEY DON'T HAVE A TABLE OF CONTENT. SO, ACTUALLY, EITHER WATCHING THE VIDEO OR READING THE TRANSCRIPT, IF YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING SPECIFIC LIKE A SPECIFIC TRIBE, OR, A SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC AREA, IT CAN BE A LITTLE CHALLENGING.

WE HAVE NEW QUESTIONS THAT HAVE COME IN. THE FIRST ONE IS THIS, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE BEST AND EASIEST WAY TO KEEP UP WITH CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS ON THE TOPIC. NOT NECESSARILY DOCUMENTS, PER SE.

I THINK THE BEST WAY TO KEEP UP WITH CURRENT RESEARCH ON THE TOPIC WOULD PROBABLY BE TO LOOK FOR THOSE TRIBAL OR COMMUNITY LEVEL GRASSROOTS AND ADVOCACY GROUPS. THEY'RE GOING TO BE THE ONES IN THEIR SPECIFIC AREA THAT HAS HER FINGER ON THE PULSE, SO TO SPEAK. THERE ARE USUALLY MORE OF THEM AND THERE ARE YOU KNOW, BIG INITIATIVES. I WILL SAY, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR IS DOING A LOT OF WORK IN THIS AREA. THAT IS A GOOD PLACE TO CHECK FOR UPDATES. THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WEBSITE HAS TAKEN OVER FOR OPERATION LADY JUSTICE. THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION IS GOING TO BE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. SO, THOSE WOULD BE THE PLACES I WOULD LOOK AT.

THE NEXT QUESTION IS, DO YOU KNOW WHY, IN 2022, NATIVE HAWAIIANS INCLUDED FOR MMIW AWARENESS DAY, IF NOT IN 2020?

NO. NO IDEA. MY BEST GUESS IS THAT, IF YOU LOOK -- FROM 2015 TO THE PRESENT, THE LANGUAGE BECOMES INCREASINGLY INCLUSIVE. SO, AT FIRST IT STARTED OFF WITH JUST WOMEN, OR WOMEN AND GIRLS. THEN, BECAUSE THERE WAS RECOGNITION THAT THERE WERE MALE VICTIMS AND TWO SPIRIT VICTIMS, LGBTQ PLUS GENDER ORIENTATED VICTIMS, IT BECAME PERSONS INSTEAD OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE, SPECIFICALLY. IT BECAME INDIGENOUS. I DO THINK, PERHAPS THE REASON NATIVE HAWAIIANS WERE NOT INCLUDED AT FIRST IS BECAUSE THEY ARE A DIFFERENT RACIAL CLASSIFICATION. SO, IF YOU LOOK AT DATA, IT IS USUALLY ASIAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER AND AMERICAN INDIAN ALASKA NATIVE -- TWO SEPARATE CATEGORIES. BUT, I THINK IT IS A GOOD CHANGE. I THINK MORE INCLUSION IS BETTER.

OKAY. WE'RE GOING TO WRAP UP THIS PRESENTATION. THANK YOU FOR AN INFORMATIVE TALK, ELIZABETH. THE STOCK HASN'T RECORDED AND WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE SOON. UP NEXT, GOVERNMENT RESOURCES, AND INTRODUCTION FOR TEACHERS. IN THE OTHER TRACK, READING ROOM A, BOARDING SCHOOLS AND BROKEN PROMISES. INDIGENOUS AND TRIBAL HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS. BOTOX WILL BEGIN AT 2:15 P.M., EASTERN TIME. THANK YOU.