Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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WASHINGTON – The Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services (OJS) will hold the first in a series of six training sessions to improve the trial advocacy skills of tribal court prosecutors, defenders and judges. The July 24-26, 2012 training session will be held in Duluth, Minn., and will focus on domestic violence.

The training is being conducted under the Tribal Court Trial Advocacy Training Program, a joint effort by the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice that furthers the mandate of the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 (TOLA) to strengthen tribal sovereignty over criminal justice matters on federal Indian lands by strengthening the skills of those who practice within the tribal court system.

The program is the result of a collaborative effort by the OJS and DOJ's Access to Justice Initiative (AJI) to offer trial advocacy training with courses designed specifically for tribal courts and free training to the judges, public defenders and prosecutors who work in them. Training is provided in three areas – domestic abuse, illegal narcotics and sexual assault on children and adults – with faculty and instructional materials prepared by experts knowledgeable about tribal court issues. The program is unique because it also has training specifically for public defenders.

The remaining sessions will be held August 14-16, 2012, in Durango, Colo.; September 11-13, 2012, in Great Falls, Mont.; October 2-4, 2012, in Seattle, Wash.; October 23-25, 2012, in Chinle, Ariz.; and January 15-17, 2013, in Albuquerque, N.M.

WHO:	Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services (OJS)
WHAT:	Tribal Court Trial Advocacy Training Program session with training topic on domestic violence.
WHEN:	July 24-26, 2012 (all times are local time) Tuesday, July 24: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 25: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 26: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
WHERE:	Edgewater Resort and Waterpark Hotel and Conference Center, 2400 London Rd., Duluth, MN, 55812. Phone: 218-728-3601.

CREDENTIALS: This invitation is extended to credentialed media representatives, who must display sanctioned media credentials for admittance to the event.

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