



U.S. Department of Justice

Executive Office for United States Attorneys

Office of the Director

Room 2261, RFK Main Justice Building (202) 252-1000
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 15, 2026

TO: Jason R. Malmstrom
Assistant Inspector General for Audit
Office of the Inspector General

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francey Hakes", is positioned above the "FROM:" field.

FROM: Francey Hakes
Director

SUBJECT: Response to the Inspector General's Draft Audit Report, *The United States Attorneys' Offices Compliance with Savanna's Act of 2020 and its Efforts in Response to Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons*

The Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) appreciates the opportunity to review the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG's) draft audit report titled, *The United States Attorneys' Offices Compliance with Savanna's Act of 2020 and its Efforts in Response to Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons*. EOUSA recognizes the importance of addressing the issues identified by OIG and is committed to working with the U.S. Attorneys' offices (USAOs) to enhance efforts in support of Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP). To that end, EOUSA provides the below responses to the recommendations directed to EOUSA.

Recommendation No. 1: Coordinate with the 10 districts whose guidelines we determined were not compliant with the requirements of Savanna's Act Section 5 to ensure they include the 6 required subsections in accordance with Savanna's Act Section 5(a) and are tailored to the specific circumstances of the district.

EOUSA's Response: EOUSA concurs with this recommendation. EOUSA will coordinate with the ten identified districts individually to facilitate the necessary revisions to their guidelines. This coordination will include consultation with each district on Savanna's Act requirements, drafting assistance if required, and a final review of the updated guidelines to ensure they fully comply with Section 5(a) of Savanna's Act, by including all six mandated subsections and ensuring each guideline is tailored to the specific circumstances of that district. EOUSA will also provide assistance in coordinating with tribal partners where necessary. While the exact timeline for individual district revisions may vary, EOUSA anticipates guidelines for the 10 districts will be updated on or before January 15, 2027.

Recommendation No. 2: Work to address staffing vacancies within the MMIP ROP to improve program continuity and fulfillment of the MMIP ROP's intended goals.

EOUSA's Response: EOUSA concurs with this recommendation. EOUSA will work with each of the host districts to prioritize the filling of vacant MMIP ROP positions. By August 17, 2026, EOUSA will issue a memorandum to the host districts emphasizing the critical nature of these roles, their regional scope, and the need to prioritize hiring for these positions when there are MMIP ROP vacancies. The memorandum will also direct host districts to designate a qualified individual to coordinate essential MMIP ROP duties with EOUSA and other MMIP ROP personnel on an interim basis when there is a vacancy, and until it is filled. Additionally, this memorandum will offer EOUSA consultation with district stakeholders (e.g., senior leadership, Human Resources Officer), as needed, to help with recruitment strategies and vacancy coverage needs. EOUSA believes these efforts will directly improve program continuity and promote fulfillment of the MMIP ROP's intended goals.

Recommendation No. 3: Develop a statement of expectations for host district USAOs that outlines a clear, standardized definition of MMIP-related work and establishes performance metrics to better assess the program's value and effectiveness.

EOUSA's Response: EOUSA concurs with this recommendation. Working with relevant stakeholders, EOUSA will develop formal program expectations for the MMIP ROP, which will include a standardized definition of MMIP-related work and performance metrics to accurately assess the program's value and effectiveness. EOUSA anticipates the metrics will include prosecution, training, and law enforcement coordination data. EOUSA will issue a memorandum to host districts (leadership and MMIP personnel) setting forth these expectations, definitions, and metrics. EOUSA anticipates that this memorandum will be issued on or before January 15, 2027.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this response, please contact Michael Magruder, Audit Liaison at USAEO.EOUSA.Audit.Liaison@usdoj.gov.