

October 27, 2011

SORNA Substantial Implementation Review Comanche Nation

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART) would like to thank the Comanche Nation for the extensive work that has gone into its effort to substantially implement Title I of the Adam Walsh Act, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA). The SMART Office has completed its review of the Comanche Nation's SORNA substantial implementation packet and has found that the Comanche Nation has substantially implemented SORNA.

On April 14, 2011, the Comanche Nation submitted a substantial implementation package that included eleven exhibits, including background information on the tribe and its criminal justice system, courts, and police department, policies and procedures regarding sex offender registration, the tribe's sex offender registration law and relevant additional laws, as well as forms and memoranda of agreement with other law enforcement agencies. In addition, email and phone correspondence with Vernon Griffin, Chief of Police, filled in gaps in information and procedure, which informed our review.¹

Our review of these materials follows the outline of the SMART Office Substantial Implementation Checklist-Revised, which contains 14 sections addressing the SORNA requirements. Under each section, we indicate whether the Comanche Nation meets the SORNA requirements of that section or deviates from the requirements in some way.

I. Immediate Transfer of Information

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

II. Offenses that Must Be Included in the Registry

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

¹The SMART Office had email and phone correspondence with Vernon Griffin, Chief of Police, in August 2011.

III. Tiering of Offenses

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

IV. Required Registration Information

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

V. Where Registration is Required

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

VI. Initial Registration: Timing and Notice

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

VII. Initial Registration: Retroactive Classes of Offenders

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

VIII. Keeping the Registration Current

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

IX. Verification/Appearance Requirements

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

X. Public Registry Website Requirements

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

XI. Community Notification

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

XII. When a Sex Offender Fails to Appear for Registration

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

XIII. When a Jurisdiction has Information that a Sex Offender may have Absconded

The Comanche Nation meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

Conclusion

The Comanche Nation has put forth exceptional work and effort in adopting SORNA and enhancing its sex offender registration and notification system. We encourage you to continue your efforts towards fully implementing the provisions of SORNA. If at any time you require assistance or clarification on implementation, do not hesitate to contact the SMART Office.