

JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE NAVAJO NATION

HERB YAZZIE
Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation

Eleanor Shirley, Associate Justice
Louise Grant, Associate Justice

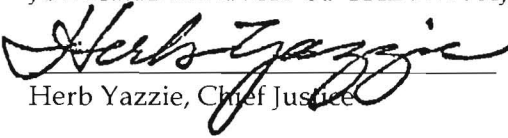


Supreme Court

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Judges, Court Administrators and Probation Services
JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE NAVAJO NATION

FROM: 
Herb Yazzie, Chief Justice

DATE: December 4, 2008

SUBJECT: Probation Services, Standard Operating Procedures

The Judicial Conference recently issued resolution JBN-03-08 on November 21, 2008 recommending immediate use of the November 19, 2008 revised Standard Operating Procedures of Probation Services. This was done following a lengthy period of review and comment dating from December, 2007.

This memorandum establishes that the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) may now be put in use. By the delegated authority of the Chief Justice, the Chief Probation Officer will develop and implement future revisions as provided in the SOP.

As a practical matter, operational revisions must be made at regular intervals rather than on an ongoing basis. This is because Judicial Branch courts and programs, other Navajo Nation departments, and the Navajo public must be able to rely on the use of the SOP without frequent and unexpected operational changes. As provided in the SOP, operational review and revisions will be on an annual basis with the active participation of Probation Services personnel and input from Judicial Branch stakeholders. Otherwise, errors and inconsistencies may be corrected on an ongoing basis.

I would like to thank all who submitted comments and gave assistance. The revised Standard Operating Procedures greatly simplifies and updates the previous procedures in an accessible format for our Probation Officers and the Navajo public.