

Minnesota State Advisory Council on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) Charter

MN Department of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs

2023

**Official Designation:** Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) Advisory Council of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS), Office of Missing and Murdered and Indigenous Relatives Office within the Office of Justice Programs.

**Authority:** The State Advisory Council on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives is in accordance with mandates provide in the 2020 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Taskforce Report and further specified in the 3 Year Strategic Plan published by Wilder Research. The basis for this advisory council is outlined in Minnesota Statute 299A.85.

**Objectives and Scope of Activities:** The MMIR Advisory Council will advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the MMIR Office (DPS), the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety (DPS), and Tribal Liaison (DPS), to increase awareness of MMIR issues, specific MMIR cases, and to provide overall community and stakeholder perspective to the MMIR Office (DPS).

The MMIR Advisory Council will include members who have lived experienced as victims, family members of victims, and community leaders that have a shared vision to address the crisis of MMIR in Minnesota. The 2020 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Taskforce Report, and mandates therein, will provide a background for the work of the council.

**Description of Duties:** The MMIR Advisory Council may, on the basis of information pertinent to MMIR in Minnesota, advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the Director of the MMIR Office and Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. The MMIR Advisory Council may provide community perspective regarding social issues related to MMIR and provide insight about gaps in systems in order to improve safety and response to vulnerable American Indian people. The MMIR Advisory Council may appoint subcommittees in order to collaborate on specific areas in order to effectively focus on a topic related to the work done in the MMIR Office (DPS).

**Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports:** The MMIR Advisory Council will report to the MMIR Office (DPS), Director Juliet Rudie and staff. Minutes from meetings will be kept and any official statements from the MMIR Advisory Council will be provided to the MMIR Office (DPS).

**Support:** Management and support for the MMIR Advisory Council will be provided by the MMIR Office (DPS) staff.

**Compensation:** The MMIR Advisory Council and the following will be compensated: \$55 per diem each day, plus mileage and hotel expense as needed to attend council meetings.

**Designated Officer:** The assigned MMIR Office staff (DPS) will prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all council and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting, keep minutes, organize reimbursement forms for council members and appoint a council member to chair meetings.

**Frequency of Meetings:** The meetings shall be open to the public except as determined by the Director of the MMIR Office (DPS). Notice of all meetings and minutes shall be given to the public on the DPS Office of Justice Programs, MMIR Office (DPS) webpage. In the event a portion of the meeting is closed to the public, a report will be prepared which shall contain the function, dates, and summary of recommendations. The MMIR Advisory Council will meet quarterly, with virtual options provided. Any requests to present to the MMIR Advisory Council can be made by emailing [Juliet.Rudie@state.mn.us](mailto:Juliet.Rudie@state.mn.us)

**Termination:** The charter for the MMIR Advisory Council will expire two years from the date the charter is filed.

**Membership and Designation:** The MMIR Advisory Council shall consist of the eleven (11) Tribal Nations, five (5) Community members and four (4) Community Stakeholders; and not more than twenty (20) members. Non-voting members shall consist of the following: MMIR Office (DPS) staff, Wilder Research staff, and other State agencies vested in collaboration with the MMIR Office (DPS) as outlined in Minnesota Statute 299A.85.

A quorum for the conduct of business by the full MMIR Advisory Council will consist of a majority or currently appointed voting members. The MMIR Office (DPS) Director will select an individual from among the appointed members to serve as chair of the MMIR Advisory Council. The term of office of the chair shall be two years unless otherwise indicated by the MMIR Office (DPS) Director. Members can be appointed to the MMIR Advisory Council by MMIR Office Director. Members of the Board will conduct themselves in a respectful manner to other members of the Board. They will not publicly or privately ridicule anyone. A member may be removed by the appointing authority at any time as determined by MMIR Office Director.

**Attendance:** In the event a member has three unexcused absences for MMIR Advisory Council or Subcommittee meetings in a twelve-month period, the Chair or MMIR Office Staff shall contact the member to inquire as to that members' ability to continue to serve on the Council.

**Subcommittee:** Subcommittees may be established by the MMIR Advisory Council with approval of the MMIR Office Director (DPS). The advice/recommendations of a subcommittee must be reviewed and presented to the MMIR Office (DPS) Director by the MMIR Advisory Council. Meetings of the subcommittee will be provided in person and virtually.

**Recordkeeping:** Meetings of the MMIR Advisory Council and its subcommittees will be provided consistently and approved by the council then posted on the OJP Office of MMIR (DPS) webpage for public inspection.

**Approved:** Kate Weeks, Executive Director Office of Justice Programs (DPS)

Juliet Rudie, Director of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Office (DPS)