



March 2012

## **SORNA Substantial Implementation Review Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana**

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 Chitimacha Tribe 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 Seminole Nation's SORNA substantial implementation packet and has found that the Chitimacha Tribe has substantially implemented SORNA.

On May 31, 2011, the Chitimacha Tribe submitted a substantial implementation package that included several exhibits, including background information on the Chitimacha Tribe and its criminal justice system, courts, and police department; policies and procedures regarding sex offender registration; the Chitimacha Tribe's sex offender registration law; and other relevant additional laws. They provided forms and memoranda of agreement with other law enforcement agencies. In addition, the SMART Office had email and telephone correspondence with Trisha Mestayer, Division Administrator.

Our review of these materials follows the outline of the SMART Office Substantial Implementation Checklist-Revised, which contains 14 relevant sections addressing the SORNA requirements. Under each section, we indicate that the Chitimacha Tribe meets the SORNA requirements of that section.

### **I. Immediate Transfer of Information**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

### **II. Offenses that Must Be Included in the Registry**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

### **III. Tiering of Offenses**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**IV. Required Registration Information**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**V. Where Registration is Required**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**VI. Initial Registration: Timing and Notice**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**VII. Initial Registration: Retroactive Classes of Offenders**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**VIII. Keeping the Registration Current**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**IX. Verification/Appearance Requirements**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**X. Public Registry Website Requirements**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**XI. Community Notification**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

**XII. When a Sex Offender Fails to Appear for Registration**

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

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

The Chitimacha Tribe meets all of the SORNA requirements in this section.

### **XIV. Other Considerations**

The Chitimacha Tribe's substantial implementation submission followed very closely with the model code and their policy and procedures are exceptional. All of the omissions or issues have been taken care of by the Chitimacha Tribe and are reflected in pages amended to the binder or in emails in the cover of the Substantial Implementation Package.

### **Conclusion**

The Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana has put forth exceptional work and effort in adopting SORNA and enhancing its sex offender registration and notification system.