

Hopland Tribal
Martin McCarthy



Police Department
Chief of Police

Press Release

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Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman hears Tribal Concerns

On Thursday June 19th, Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman met with representatives from several Mendocino County Indian Tribes. Already known for his Town Hall meetings, Sheriff Allman held an annual round table discussion to hear complaints and concerns from tribal representatives about crime and service from the Sheriff's Office.

Invitations went out to all the Mendocino County Reservations and Rancherias. Representatives from Cahto, Coyote Valley, Hopland, Manchester/ Point Arena, Pinoleville, and Sherwood Valley all came to participate. Mendocino County District Attorney Meredith Lintott and Olin Jones from the State Attorney General's Office were also on hand.

Sheriff Allman introduced a county-wide Methamphetamine Initiative partnered with The Hopland Band of Pomo Indians, and funded through a U.S. Dept. of Justice Grant. Sheriff Allman demonstrated a "take home" drug test kit along with a 19 minute video entitled "Deathamphetamine." While filming the video, inmates at the County Jail volunteered to give their own stories as to how methamphetamine ruined their lives.

"Law enforcement is not the answer to all of society's problems," Sheriff Allman said. If a parent uses the test kit and discovers their child is using drugs, Sheriff Allman hopes it will begin discussions between the two. Other resources to call include counselors, clergy, friends, and any others who could help intervene. Once law enforcement is involved, the offender is "in the system" and it can have far reaching effects for the rest of their lives.

Hopland Tribal Police Chief Marty McCarthy spoke briefly on Hopland's plan to use Joint Power Authority Agreements with other tribes to consolidate law enforcement in Indian Country. Hopland Tribal Police are one of only four tribal police departments in the state of California who have contracts with the Bureau of Indian Affairs making them federal law enforcement officers. "Why have 10 or 11 tribal police departments when we can consolidate our resources and efforts into one highly effective department?" Chief McCarthy told them.

Kathy Kelley, local representative for State Senator Pat Wiggins also attended the meeting and offered to help the tribes on the state level with any issues they might bring her.

Roman Carrillo, Tribal Chair

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