

Post-Hearing Questions for Sarah Deer:

Rep. Deb Haaland:

1. As part of your “recommendations” in your written testimony (suggestion #4), you stated that there should be a “funding stream for non-profit organizations” to help address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW). If Congress allocated money for these non-profits, how would that funding help address the issue of MMIW and domestic violence in urban areas where 70 percent of the Native American population currently reside?
2. What else do you think could be done in urban areas with high populations of Native Americans/Indigenous women to help address this issue?

Chairman Grijalva:

1. In your expert opinion, what is the historical context of the MMIW crisis, and how do you think that history exasperates the issue to this day?
2. Ideally, what do you feel like is the proper response to MMIW from a law enforcement standpoint? (tribal, state, local agencies)?
3. In your written testimony, you highlighted the colonial history of Indigenous women. What are the current statistical gaps when it comes to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women?
4. What role does tribal sovereignty play in addressing this violence?
5. Your written testimony states that many Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women cases are “unsolved”. What does an unsolved case mean? What are your recommendations for these unsolved cases as it relates to MMIW?
6. Why are police investigations into MMIW cases plagued with delays and missteps?
7. Your written testimony noted 40 cases of deaths caused by police brutality or deaths in custody. Do you have recommendations on how to address issues related to police brutality and deaths in custody?
 - a. How does this relate to violence against Indigenous women?