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**Heller Announces $1,070,175 DOT Grant to the National Judicial College to Promote Judicial Education for Tribal Judges**

**WASHINGTON** – U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) today announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will award the National Judicial College (NJC) located at the University of Nevada, Reno, a $1,070,175 grant to provide Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) education for tribal judges and tribal court professionals. This funding will be used to strengthen their understanding of CDL laws and regulations to advance public safety in tribal communities.

Earlier this year, Heller urged the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration within the DOT to support the NJC’s grant application for the 2018 Commercial Driver’s License Program Implementation Grant. This grant will allow the NJC to provide tribal judges and court personnel with education and guidance to fully comply with CDL laws and regulations and will therefore increase motor vehicle safety in the United States.

“With the increase of commercial motor vehicle traffic in tribal lands, it is imperative that tribal judges understand their role in ensuring that only qualified drivers are eligible to receive a driver’s license ,” **said Heller**. “I was proud to support the National Judicial College’s application to expand Commercial Driver’s License education for judges and court professionals on tribal lands. As a member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, I strongly support the NJC’s efforts to ensure those interpreting the law have a thorough understanding of it.”

The NJC is an independent not-for-profit judicial education institution headquartered at the University of Nevada, Reno. The NJC’s primary objective is to improve justice through education courses and training specifically designed to further judicial competency, proficiency, skills and productivity. NJC provides quality judicial education to more than 10,000 judges annually, and in 2002, founded the National Tribal Judicial center to better address the individual needs of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal law practitioners.

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