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NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

October 10, 2025

Draft CalNAGPRA Enforcement Regulations Overview of Revisions

On May 9, 2025, the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) released draft CalNAGPRA enforcement regulations for a 90-day tribal comment and consultation period. During that time, the NAHC conducted two virtual listening sessions and engaged in individual consultation with one tribe. Comments received during these listening sessions and consultations as well as written comments provided by three tribes were compiled and reviewed.

After considering the comments received, the Commission determined that for clarity and improved readability, the following revisions were necessary.

- Added a definition for "Complaining Party."
- Clarified that any civil penalties collected will be done so by the Commission and that these funds are deposited into the General Fund.
- Revised the language to make clear that at the stage of a complaint, violations of CalNAGPRA are allegations.
- Specified that all mailings will be done via USPS and, if available, electronic mail.
- Prohibits a Commissioner who is a complaining party from participating in a public hearing other than as the complaining party.
- Provides for quarterly summaries of all complaints and dispositions which shall be published on the Commission's website.
- Where necessary, renumbered subsections to conform with Office of Administrative Law conventions.
- Revised to better indicate statutory authority versus references.