Paul Spruhan, Esq.
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Curriculum Vitae

Academic Positions

August 2025-Present, Assistant Professor of Law, University of New Mexico School of Law

- Develop syllabus and course materials and teach Civil Procedure, Indian Law, Indian Tax, American Indian Economic Development, Tribal Law, and other courses.
- Serve on Law and Indigenous People's Program Committee and Faculty Appointments Committee.
- Serve as faculty advisor to the Tribal Law Journal.

August 2024-May 2025, Visiting Assistant Professor, University of New Mexico School of Law

- Developed syllabus and course materials and taught Indian Law, Jurisdiction in Indian Country, Tribal Appellate Advocacy and Tribal Law Journal Writing Seminar.
- Served as faculty advisor to the Tribal Law Journal.

August 2020-August 2024, Faculty Associate, Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law, Arizona State University

- Developed syllabus and course materials and taught online Civil Jurisdiction in Indian Country course for Master of Legal Studies Program.
- Developed syllabus and course materials for online Advanced Topics in Indian Law Course for Master of Legal Studies Program.

December 2002-Present, Faculty, Barbri, Inc.

- Teach Federal Indian Law in preparation course for South Dakota bar examination.
- Draft and revise Federal Indian Law outlines, lecture worksheets, and practice questions.
- Draft mock civil procedure questions for Multistate Bar Examination.
- Taught Federal Indian Law for New Mexico bar examination until adoption of Uniform Bar Examination.

August-December 2021, Adjunct Professor, University of New Mexico School of Law

- Developed syllabus and course materials and taught in-person Tribal Appellate Advocacy course.

June 2019, Faculty, University of Montana School of Law, Summer Indian Law Program

- Developed syllabus and course materials and taught Civil Regulatory and Adjudicatory Jurisdiction in Indian Country course.

July 2013-May 2018, Adjunct Faculty, University of Tulsa School of Law

- Developed syllabus and course materials and taught online Civil Jurisdiction in Indian Country for Masters of Jurisprudence in Indian Law Program.

August-December 2012, Adjunct Legal Instructor, Navajo Technical University

- Taught Administrative Law to tribal college students in Legal Advocate Program.

December 2000-March 2002, Adjunct Professor, University of New Mexico School of Law

- Taught appellate advocacy in preparation for national Indian law moot court competition.

Education

J.D. University of New Mexico 2000

- Member, Order of the Coif
- Indian Law Certificate recipient
- Lewis Sutin Award for Excellence in Advocacy recipient
- May Beth and W. Richard West, Jr. Award for Excellence in Indian Law recipient
- Best Oralist, National Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition (1998, 2000)
- Best Overall Team, National Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition (with Bidtah Becker) (1998)

A.M. University of Chicago 1996 Social Sciences

- Earl S. and Esther Johnson Prize for Best Thesis

A.B. University of Chicago 1995 Anthropology

- Honors in Anthropology

Professional Experience

October 2013-October, 2024: Assistant Attorney General, Litigation Unit, Navajo Nation Department of Justice

- Supervised four attorneys and two legal secretaries in unit responsible for representation of Navajo Nation government in litigation and labor and employment matters.
- Litigated cases for Navajo Nation government in Navajo Nation, federal and state trial and appellate courts and administrative tribunals concerning tribal sovereignty, treaty rights, employment, natural resources, voting rights, and other issues.
- Coordinated and drafted the Navajo Nation's amicus briefs filed in federal, state,

and Navajo Nation courts.

- Presented reports, provided legal advice, and drafted proposed legislation for Navajo Nation Council and its committees on sovereignty, tribal government structure, labor and employment, and other matters.
- Advised Navajo Nation government programs concerning labor and employment matters, including review of proposed disciplinary actions and negotiation and implementation of collective bargaining agreements with the United Mine Workers of America.
- Taught Federal Indian Law and the Navajo Treaty of 1868 for the Navajo Nation Bar Association Bar Review Preparation Course and Introduction to Indian Law for the New Mexico Board of Bar Examiners Required Class in New Mexico Law.
- Hired, supervised, and evaluated attorneys, tribal court advocates, law student interns, and administrative staff.

Published Cases:
(On Brief and Argued)

- *Brackeen v. Haaland*, 994 F.3d 249 (5th Cir. 2021) (en banc)
- *Navajo Nation v. San Juan County*, 929 F.3d 1270 (10th Cir. 2019)
- *Window Rock Unified School Dist. v. Reeves*, 861 F.3d 894 (9th Cir. 2017), *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 648 (2018)
- *Public Service Co. of New Mexico v. Barboan,* 857 F.3d 1101 (10th Cir. 2017), *cert. denied*, 138 S. Ct. 695 (2018)
- *Navajo Nation v. U.S. Dept. of Interior*, 819 F.3d 1084 (9th Cir. 2016)
- *Navajo Nation v. Tso*, 13 Am. Tribal Law Rep. 466 (Navajo Supreme Court 2016)
- *Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Company v. Window Rock District Court*, 12 Am. Tribal Law Rep. 22 (Nav. Sup. Ct. 2014)

(On Brief)

- *Arizona v. Navajo Nation*, 599 U.S. 555 (2023)
- *Haaland v. Brackeen*, 599 U.S. 525 (2023)
- *Board of Education for Gallup-McKinley Public Schools v. Henderson,* 696 Fed.Appx. 355 (10th Cir. 2017)
- *Yazzie v. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*, 851 F.3d 960 (9th Cir. 2017)
- *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission v. Peabody Coal Company*, 773 F.3d 977 (9th Cir. 2014)
- *Navajo Nation v. Urban Outfitters*, 212 F.Supp.2d 1098 (D.N.M. 2016)

Counsel of Record Amicus Briefs:

- *Lac de Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians v. Coughlin*, 599 U.S. 382 (2023)
- *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta*, 597 U.S. 629 (2022)
- *Dine Citizens Against Ruining Our Environment v. Bureau of Indian Affairs*, 932 F.3d 843 (9th Cir. 2019)
- *State ex rel. Riddle v. Oliver*, 487 P.3d 815 (N.M. 2021)
- *Hamaatsa, Inc. v. Pueblo of San Felipe*, 388 P.3d 977 (N.M. 2016)
- *State v. Steven B.*, 352 P.3d 1181 (N.M. 2015)

- *State v. Harrison*, 238 P.3d 869 (N.M. 2010)
- *Tsosie v. Arizona Public Service Co.*, 16 Am. Tribal Law 146 (Nav. Sup. Ct. 2020)
- *Neptune Leasing, Inc. v. Mountain State Petroleum Corp.*, 11 Am. Tribal Law 162 (Nav. Sup. Ct. 2013)

October 2008-September 2013, Assistant Attorney General, Human Services and Government Unit, Navajo Nation Department of Justice

- Supervised five attorneys, two tribal court advocates, and four legal secretaries in unit responsible for advice to and representation of tribal social services, human services, public safety, health, and education programs.
- Drafted and negotiated procurement contracts, grant agreements, and intergovernmental agreements, including cross-commission agreements with outside law enforcement agencies.
- Drafted proposed legislation, policies, and procedures for the Navajo Nation Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches.
- Taught criminal jurisdiction to state and county law enforcement officers seeking cross-commissions from the Navajo Nation.

November 2003-September 2008, Law Clerk, Navajo Nation Supreme Court

- Reviewed briefs and trial court records, researched case law, and drafted bench memoranda and other documents.
- Hired, supervised, and evaluated summer law clerks and interns.

June 2002-October 2003, Staff Attorney, New Mexico Legal Aid

- Advised and represented low-income clients in New Mexico, Navajo Nation, and Zuni Pueblo legal systems in civil matters.
- Litigated cases in New Mexico District and Magistrate Courts, Navajo Nation District and Family Courts, and Navajo Office of Hearings and Appeals.

September 2000-May 2002, Associate Attorney, Rothstein, Donatelli, Hughes, Dahlstrom, and Schoenburg, LLP

- Assisted firm partner in advice to and representation of several Pueblo tribal governments in federal, state, and tribal legal systems.
- Developed process for tribal governments and tribal members to assert exemptions from federal excise and state and county gross receipts taxes on telecommunications services.

Professional Licenses

Bar Admissions

New Mexico Bar Association (2000)
Navajo Nation Bar Association (2002) (Resigned 2026)

Court Admissions

United States Supreme Court (2017)

Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals (2019)
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (2012)
Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals (2011)
Federal District Court of Arizona (2009)
Federal District Court for the District of Columbia (2017)
Federal District Court of New Mexico (2002)

Publications

Law Review Articles

The Last Slavery: The Navajo Nation, the Federal Government, and the Legal History of Indian Captivity in the Reconstruction Southwest, Forthcoming, Michigan Journal of Race & Law (2027), available at, The Last Slavery: The Navajo Nation, the Federal Government and the Legal History of Indian Captivity in the Reconstruction Southwest by Paul Spruhan :: SSRN

CDIB: The Role of the Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood in Defining Native American Legal Identity, 6 American Indian Law Journal 169 (2018),
available at, https://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/ailj/vol6/iss2/4/

"Indians, in a Jurisdictional Sense": Tribal Citizenship and Other Forms of Non-Indian Consent to Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction, 1 American Indian Law Journal 79 (2012),
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2179149

Standard Clauses in State-Tribal Agreements: The Navajo Nation Experience, 47 Tulsa Law Review 503 (2012),
available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1930589

The Canadian Indian Free Passage Right: The Last Stronghold of Explicit Race Restriction in United States Immigration Law, 85 North Dakota Law Review 310 (2009)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1267977
[Reprinted in 31 Immigration and Nationality Law Review 830 (2010)]

The Origins, Current Status, and Future Prospects of Blood Quantum as the Definition of Membership in the Navajo Nation, 8 Tribal Law Journal 1 (2007-08)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1138302

Indian as Race/Indian as Political Status: Implementation of the Half-Blood Requirement under the Indian Reorganization Act, 1934-1945, 8 Rutgers Race and the Law Review 27 (2006)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1051501

A Legal History of Blood Quantum in Federal Indian Law to 1935, 51 South Dakota Law Review 1 (2006),
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=955032
[Excerpted in Matthew Fletcher, American Indian Tribal Law, 228-29 (Wolters Kluwer

2011)]

Means v. Chinle District Court and the Hadane Doctrine in Navajo Criminal Law, 1 Tribal Law Journal (2000-2001)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1418268

Profile of the Law of the Navajo Nation (with Bidtah Becker), Tribal Law Journal, Preview Issue (1999)
available at, https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/tlj/vol0/iss1/2/
[Excerpted in Justin Richland and Sarah Deer, Introduction to Tribal Legal Studies 111-14 (AltaMira Press 2010)]

Book Chapters

The Meaning of Due Process in the Navajo Nation, in The Indian Civil Rights Act at Forty (UCLA American Indian Studies Center Press 2012)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2030436

Tribal Justice Systems, in Careers in Criminal Justice (American Bar Association Press 2010)

Legal Professional Publications

Tribal Labor and Employment Law: The Evolution of the Navajo Preference in Employment Act, Arizona Attorney Magazine, Vol. 58, No. 11 (July/August 2022)
available at, http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4124764

The Canadian Indian Free Passage Right: An Anomaly in United States Immigration Law, Federal Lawyer (June 2020)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3675909

Guardians of Tribal Tradition: Litigation on the Navajo Nation, Litigation, the Journal of the Litigation Section of the American Bar Association (Spring 2017)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2998344

Indian Law on State Bar Exams in the Age of the Uniform Bar Examination, Federal Lawyer (March 2015)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2567018

Tribal Business Laws: Familiarity and Difference, 2014 No. 5 RMMLF-INST Paper No. 6A, Rocky Mountain Mineral Foundation, Energy and Mineral Development in Indian Country (2014)

The Current Status of the Navajo Preference in Employment Act, 2011 No. 2 RMMLF-INST Paper No. 13B, Rocky Mountain Mineral Foundation, Special Institute on Natural Resources Development on Indian Lands (2011)

Other Publications

Blood Quantum History, Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Indigenous Studies (Under peer review)

COVID-19 and Indian Country: A Legal Dispatch from the Navajo Nation, Northwestern Law Review Online of Note (May 5, 2020)
available at, https://northwesternlawreview.org/uncategorized/covid-19-and-indian-country-a-legal-dispatch-from-the-navajo-nation/

Book Review: Blood Will Tell by Katherine Ellinghaus, The Canadian Journal of Native Studies, Vol. XXXVIII, 2 (2019)

Warren, Trump, and the Question of Native American Legal Identity, Harvard Law Review Blog (February 27, 2018)
available at, https://blog.harvardlawreview.org/warren-trump-and-the-question-of-native-american-identity/

The Complete Timeline of the Navajo Presidential Dispute (2015)
available at, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2598541

Presentations

The Last Slavery, Navajo Nation Law CLE Conference, Arizona State School of Law, Phoenix, Arizona, October 23, 2026

The Navajo Nation, General Sherman, and the Transcontinental Railroad, Railroads in Native America Forum, California Railroad Museum, Sacramento, California, July 12, 2026

More Than a Number: Blood Quantum and Tribal Legal Identity, Oklahoma Sovereignty Symposium, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, June 15, 2026

Birthright Citizenship and "Indians not Taxed": Indian Law Perspectives on Trump v. Barbara, Lunch in Indian Country CLE, State Bar of Arizona/Tribal In-House Counsel Association, April 22, 2026 (with Matthew Fletcher) (via Zoom)

The Legal Origins of Blood Quantum, University of Wisconsin School of Law Coming Together of People's Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, March 21, 2026

When Can Tribal Nations Sue?: Theories of Standing in Federal Court, Lunch in Indian Country CLE, State Bar of Arizona/Tribal In-House Counsel Association, April 23, 2025 (via Zoom)

Navajo Fundamental Law in Employment Law Context, Navajo Nation Law CLE Conference, Arizona State School of Law, Phoenix, Arizona, October 25, 2024 (with Rodgerick Begay)

Defending Nihikéyah from a Legal Perspective, Diné Landback Symposium, Diné College, Tsaile, Arizona, April 26, 2024

Advocacy and Litigation to Protect Democracy, Preparing for 2024 Voting Rights Summit, American Bar Association Cornerstones of Democracy Project, Sandia Pueblo, New Mexico, April 3, 2024 (with Matthew Campbell, Patty Ferguson, and Brian Garcia)

Arizona v. Navajo Nation and Navajo Treaty Rights, Red Rising: The Shifting Legal Landscape of Tribal Sovereignty, UCLA Law Review 2024 Symposium, February 9, 2024 (via Zoom)

Brackeen v. Haaland: ICWA at the Supreme Court, 2023 Annual ICWA Conference, Utah State Bar Indian Law Section, Salt Lake City, Utah, December 1, 2023 (with Matthew Fletcher)

SCOTUS Water Law: Navajo Water Case & Current Adjudication, Navajo Nation Law CLE Conference, Arizona State School of Law, Phoenix, Arizona, November 10, 2023 (with Derrick Beetso, Rhett Larson, Judy Dworkin, and Roman Bitsuie)

Arizona v. Navajo Nation and Navajo Water Rights, Energy and Environmental Law Society and George Barrett Social Justice Program, Vanderbilt School of Law, October 10, 2023 (via Zoom)

Sovereignty vs Solvency: The Lac de Flambeau v. Coughlin Ruling's Impact of Tribal Bankruptcy Rights, Fall Finance and Tribal Economies Conference, Native American Finance Officers Association, Gila River Indian Community, October 3, 2023 (with Jody Cummings and Jennifer Nassiri)

The U.S. Supreme Court and the Nature of the Federal Tribal Trust, Symposium on the Settlement of Indian Reserved Water Rights Claims, Western States Water Council and Native American Rights Fund, August 8, 2023 (with Lisa McKnight and John Smeltzer) (via Zoom)

No "Magic Words Needed": What Tribes Need to Know About Bankruptcy in Light of Lac du Flambeau v. Coughlin, Native American Finance Officers Association, July 27, 2023 (with Barrett Marum and Christine Swanick) (via Zoom)

In the Supreme Court: Arizona v. Navajo Nation, William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV, Indian Nations Gaming & Governing Program, June 30, 2023 (with Michelle Brown-Yazzie, Andrew Mergen, and Bret Birdsong) (via Zoom)

Debrief of the Ruling in Arizona v. Navajo Nation, UCLA School of Law Native Nation Law and Policy Center, June 26, 2023 (with Matthew Fletcher, Heather Tanana and Heather White Man Runs Him) (via Zoom)

Unpacking Brackeen v. Haaland, Arizona State School of Law/UCLA School of Law Native Nations Law and Policy Center, June 20, 2023 (with Bob Miller, Lenny Powell and Lauren Van Schilfgaarde) (via Zoom)

Protection of Tribal Sovereignty and Self-Determination Before the U.S. Supreme Court, Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference, Sandia Pueblo, April 17, 2023 (with Lenny Powell and Angela Riley)

The Intersection of Bankruptcy, Financial Restructuring and Indian Law, Lunch in Indian Country Series, State Bar of Arizona, December 7, 2022 (with Peter Barrett and Adolyn Wyatt) (via webcast)

Decoding Brackeen: The Latest in the ICWA Saga, American Bar Association Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice, November 29, 2022 (with Erin Dougherty Lynch and Prudence Biedler Carr) (via Zoom)

Castro-Huerta and Navajo Nation Crime and Jurisdiction, Navajo Nation Law CLE Conference, Arizona State School of Law Indian Law Program, Arizona State School of Law, Phoenix, Arizona, October 21, 2022 (with Troy Eid and Kathleen Bowman)

Panel Discussion on Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta, Utah Bar Association Indian Law Section Annual Meeting and CLE, October 18, 2022 (with Dustin Jansen) (via Zoom)

The Santa Fe Railroad and Navajo Territorial Integrity, Railroads in Native America Gathering, Utah Division of Indian Affairs, Ogden, Utah, May 21, 2022

Brackeen v. Haaland: The Navajo Nation Perspective, Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference, Sandia Pueblo, New Mexico, April 7, 2022

U.S. v. Cooley and its Effect on Indian Country Jurisdiction, NALSA Symposium 2022: Building on Our Institutional Strengths, University of South Dakota School of Law, March 21, 2022 (with Frank Pommersheim) (via Zoom)

Party or Amicus: Deciding When Your Tribal Nation Should Participate in Litigation, Indigenous Law Conference, Michigan State School of Law and Tribal In-House Counsel Association, November 5, 2021 (with Chrissi Nimmo and Megan Topkok) (via Zoom)

United States v. Cooley, Indian Law Seminar: Reconnecting our Sovereign Nations, Federal Bar Association New Mexico Chapter, Sandia Pueblo, New Mexico, October 15, 2021 (with Tim Purdon and Sam Winder)

COVID-19's Impact on Tribal Communities, State Bar of Arizona Convention, June 16, 2021 (with Kimberly Dutcher and Matthew Fletcher) (via Zoom)

Impact of Early Policy on Enrollment Law: Blood Quantum and CDIBs, 12th Annual Indian Law Conference, Spokane County Bar Association, March 4, 2021 (via Zoom)

Hwal'Bay Ba dba GCRC: Subordinate Economic Organizations and Tribal Sovereign Immunity, Lunch in Indian Country CLE, State Bar of Arizona, February 24, 2021 (with T.J. McReynolds) (via Zoom)

Tribal Enrollment and Certificates of Degree of Indian Blood, National Association for Public Health and Statistics and Information Systems 2020 Identity and Security Conference, November 30, 2020 (via Zoom)

Oral Arguments Remotely: What Could Go Wrong?, Part II, Tribal In-House Counsel Association Annual Conference, November 12, 2020 (with Nicole Ducheneaux and Natalie Landreth) (via Zoom)

Oral Arguments Remotely: What Could Go Wrong?, Quarantica Webinar Series, Tribal-In-House Counsel Association, June 4, 2020 (with Nicole Ducheneaux and Riyaz Kanji) (Via Zoom)

The Current State of Navajo Employment Law, Last Chance CLE, Navajo Bar Association, Churchrock, New Mexico, December 6, 2019

Tribal Law and Business Law: Contracts, Indian Law Section, New Mexico Bar Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 7, 2019

Protecting ICWA: Update on Brackeen v. Bernhardt, Lunch in Indian Country Series, State Bar of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, October 23, 2019 (via webcast)

The Secret Life of Litigators, 16th Annual IPLC & Tribal In-House Counsel Association Conference, Michigan State School of Law, East Lansing, Michigan, October 11, 2019 (with Jessica Intermill and Zeke Fletcher)

Practicing Law in Indian Country, State Bar of Arizona Bar Annual Convention, June 27, 2019 (with Kyle Fields, Sonia Martinez, and Claudette White) (via Zoom)

World Justice Project Rule of Law, 15th Annual IPLC & Tribal In-House Counsel Association Conference, Michigan State School of Law, East Lansing, Michigan, November 15, 2018 (with Alex Ponce and Juan Carlos Botero)

The Navajo Treaty of 1868, 15th Annual IPLC & Tribal In-House Counsel Association Conference, Michigan State School of Law, East Lansing, Michigan, November 15, 2018

The Role of the Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood in Defining Native American Legal Identity, Arizona State School of Law Indian Law Program, Arizona State School of Law, Phoenix, Arizona, October 30, 2018

Keynote Address: The Role of Law in the Navajo Nation, Diné Studies Conference, Diné College, Tsaile, Arizona, October 27, 2018

Naltsoos Sani: A Legal History of the Treaty of 1868, Diné Studies Conference, Diné College, Tsaile, Arizona, October 26, 2018

The Window Rock School District Case and Its Impacts on Jurisdiction, Navajo Nation Bar Association Annual Conference, Ignacio, Colorado, June 7, 2018 (with Brian Nichols)

Navajo Nation v. Urban Outfitters, University of New Mexico School of Law Intellectual Property Society and Native American Law Students Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 12, 2018

Historical Legacies of Blood Quantum, Lunch in Indian Country Series, State Bar of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, April 4, 2018 (with Michael Oeser)

Indian Blood: *Presentation and Panel on Blood Quantum*, University of New Mexico School of Law Native American Law Students Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 8, 2017 (with Christine Zuni-Cruz, Lloyd Lee and Roshanna Toya)

Keynote Address: In-House Tribal Counsel's Guide to Amicus Briefs, 14th Annual ILPC & TICA Indigenous Law Conference, Michigan State School of Law, East Lansing, Michigan, October 27, 2017

Federal Litigation Update, with a Special Focus on Window Rock Unified School District v. Reeves, Navajo Law CLE, Arizona State School of Law, Phoenix, Arizona, October 20, 2017

Modern Navajo History, Traditional Teachings Course, Navajo Bar Association, St. Michaels, Arizona, October 13, 2017

Tribal Law and Jurisdiction Issues, 10th Annual Legal Service Providers Conference: Fighting Multi-Generational Poverty in New Mexico, New Mexico Bar Association, Albuquerque, New Mexico, August 18, 2017

The Legacy of the Navajo Treaties, Traditional Teachings Course, Navajo Bar Association, St. Michaels, Arizona, May 12, 2017

The Saga of Navajo Nation v. Urban Outfitters and the Future of Tribal Trademarks, 42nd Annual Indian Law Conference, Federal Bar Association, Scottsdale, Arizona, April 7, 2017

Where Do We Go from Here?: Civil Jurisdiction after Dollar General, 13th Annual ILPC & TICA Indigenous Law Conference, Michigan State School of Law, East Lansing, Michigan, November 4, 2016

Cross-Commission Agreements, 13th Annual ILPC & TICA Indigenous Law Conference, Michigan State School of Law, East Lansing, Michigan, November 3, 2016

The Living Treaty, Navajo Law CLE, Arizona State School of Law, Phoenix, Arizona, October 28, 2016

Jurisdiction and Indian Law at the Supreme Court: A Discussion, New Mexico Bar Association Annual Conference, Pojoaque, New Mexico, August 20, 2016 (with Professor Barbara Creel and Lynn Slade)

The Ethics of Taking over Litigation from Outside Counsel, Aandaakonige: From the Trilogy to TICA, Michigan State School of Law/Tribal In-House Counsel Conference, East Lansing, Michigan, November 6, 2015

The Tribal Counsel's Relationship with Plaintiffs' Attorneys, Aandaakonige: From the Trilogy to TICA, Michigan State School of Law/Tribal In-House Counsel Conference, East Lansing, Michigan, November 5, 2015

Representing Indian Clients in Federal and State Court, Lunch in Indian Country Series, Indian Law Section of the State Bar of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, June 17, 2015

Modern Legal Application of the Treaty of 1868, Navajo Studies Conference, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, May 29, 2015 (with Bidtah Becker and Stanley Pollack)

Teaching Federal Indian Law and Navajo Tribal Law to Students at Navajo Technical College and Tulsa School of Law, Navajo Studies Conference, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona, May 28, 2015

Ethics: How to Survive a 12-Hour Road Trip with Opposing Counsel, Navajo Law Seminar, Sutin Thayer Law Firm/Indian Law Section of the New Mexico Bar Association, Sandia Pueblo, New Mexico, August 29, 2014 (with Christina West and Brian Nichols)

Tribal Preference and Discrimination under Title VII, Tribal Employment Rights and Law Conference, Law Seminars International, Prior Lake, Minnesota, April 28, 2014

The Effect of United States v. Sandoval *on the Navajo Nation*, United States v. Sandoval, One Century Later Symposium, University of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 19, 2013

Tribal Preference Litigation: EEOC v. Peabody *and Beyond*, Tribal Rights, Sovereignty, and Economic Development Conference, Law Seminars International, Las Vegas, Nevada, October 10, 2013

Enhancing Cooperation: Tribal-State Public Safety Agreements, National Congress of American Indians/National Criminal Justice Association Webinar, March 26, 2013 (with Regina Holyan and Larry Scarber)

Title VII and Tribal Employment Jurisdiction, Arizona State Bar Convention, Phoenix, Arizona, June 22, 2012

The Navajo Preference in Employment Act, Special Institute on Natural Resources Development on Indian Lands, Rocky Mountain Mineral Foundation, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 4, 2011

Awards

Attorney Achievement Award, Indian Law Section, New Mexico Bar Association (2018)

Professional Service

Mentor, New Mexico Bar Association Bridge the Gap Mentorship Program (2017-present)

Chair, Training Committee, Navajo Nation Bar Association (December 2012- February, 2024)

Board Member, Tribal In-House Counsel Association (January 2018-November 2023)

Board Member, New Mexico Legal Aid, Inc. (October 2005-January 2018; June 2020-March 2022 (Chair, Standing Committee on Indian Policy; Member, Finance Committee))

Co-Chair, Federal Bar Association Annual Indian Law Conference (2010, 2011)