



19th Annual California Indian Law Conference & Gala

October 3-4, 2019
Graton Resort & Casino

*“Practical Skills For Indian Law
Practitioners & Tribal Leaders”*

19TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA INDIAN LAW CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 4, 2019
GRATON RESORT & CASINO

2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GENEVA E.B. THOMPSON,
PRESIDENT
LORETTA MIRANDA,
VICE PRESIDENT
SAMANTHA CYPRET, TREASURER
ERICA COSTA, SECRETARY
CHEYENNE SANDERS
JOHN HANEY
JOHN MILLER
ALEXANDRA MOJADO
ANNA HOHAG



Osiyo!

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the California Indian Law Association, I am pleased to welcome you to the 19th Annual California Indian Law Conference. This year, we are excited to have five panels with speakers who will present practical tools and tips to help benefit your legal practices. To supplement our panels and speakers, we have organized helpful legal materials by topic areas into flash drives as conference gifts. We are also very excited to provide conference attendees a copy of *An American Genocide* by Professor Benjamin Madley. This book provides a detailed history of the genocide and colonialization of California and is quickly becoming one of the most influential history books informing changes to California Native law and policy. We hope this book will be a useful tool to help ground your legal practice in California Native history and help our profession shape the future of Native nations and California.

The CILA Board of Directors have been working very hard this year to meet our four overarching goals including: (1) improve the law school to bench pipeline to encourage more Native people to enter the legal profession; (2) improve CILA's ability to serve as a resource and to promote public policies on behalf of Native attorneys, people, and tribes; (3) to continue to organize CLE events and opportunities to network and build a California Indian law community; and (4) strengthen our fundraising efforts to support CILA's goals and programs.

I am very proud to announce we have made huge strides in all of our goals! This year we awarded \$25,000 in scholarship money and hosted our first pre-law workshop program. CILA joined the amicus brief in the *Brackeen v. Zinke* case and sent letters to the California Legislature in support of AB 685 and AB 686. We hosted a CLE webinar with Judge William Fletcher of the 9th Circuit, Judge Deborah Sanchez of the Los Angeles Superior Court, and Judge Christine Williams of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians tribal court to discuss their paths to the bench. Lastly, CILA has received a growing number of donations from tribes, firms, organizations, and businesses in support of our programming. I would like to thank the members of the CILA Board of Directors for all of their hard work making this year so successful!

We appreciate your membership and participation in CILA, and hope you enjoy the Conference!

Geneva E.B. Thompson
President California Indian Law Association



FEDERATED INDIANS OF
GRATON
R A N C H E R I A

**The Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria
are proud to be the presenting sponsor of the
California Indian Law Association's**

**19TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE & GALA.**

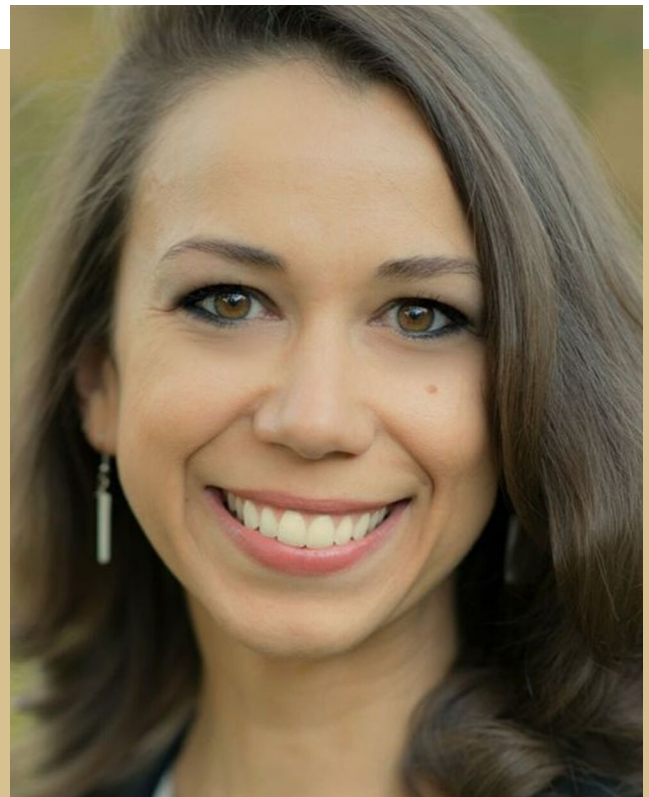


George Forman, 2019 Outstanding Achievement in Indian Law Award Recipient

George Forman began his Indian law experience with California Indian Legal Services (CILS) in 1969. In 1985, George entered full-time private practice and is currently the Founding Partner of Forman & Associates, Attorneys at Law in San Rafael, CA. George has been solely or principally responsible for multiple landmark Indian law decisions that continue to shape the legal landscape of Indian law in California and beyond. Mr. Forman has and continues to represent countless California tribal clients. This year, George celebrates his fiftieth year representing the Morongo Band of Mission Indians.

Christina Snider, 2019 Outstanding Young Attorney Award Recipient

CILA's inaugural Outstanding Young Attorney Award recognizes one attorney in practice for ten years or less who exemplifies high achievement, innovation, leadership, and service. Christina Snider (Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians) serves as the Governor's Tribal Advisor and executive secretary to the Native American Heritage Commission.





RINCON BAND OF LUISEÑO INDIANS

PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE

CALIFORNIAN INDIAN LAW ASSOCIATION



RINCON-NSN.GOV



Thank you to our scholarship partner, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

California Indian Law Association celebrates its second year of partnership with the Tribe, supporting the next generation of California Indian law leaders!



Thanks to the generous donation from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, CILA has awarded six scholarships to Native American law school students to assist with law school expenses since 2018, totaling \$20,000.



CILA's First Annual Pre-Law Workshop

In June 2019, CILA and the **National Native American Bar Association Foundation** co-hosted the first annual Pre-Law Workshop for Native Students interested in applying to law schools. Over the two-day event, students learned from many different speakers about the law school application process, financial aid, and the LSAT.

Many thanks to the **California ChangeLawyers** for their sponsorship and support for the Pre-Law Workshop Program, **Berkey Williams LLP** for sponsoring the reception, **Fredericks Peebles & Patterson LLP** for sponsoring the lunches, and the **Tribal Justice Project at UC Davis** for hosting us the UC Davis School of Law. Also, a huge thank you to the Law Fellows Program at **UCLA School of Law** for sharing materials for the program and the many speakers who spent their Saturday talking with the students. Thank you!



19th Annual California Indian Law Conference

Agenda At-a-Glance

8:00 am - 8:30 am

Registration & Breakfast

8:30 am - 8:45 am

Opening Prayer

Honorable Greg Sarris, Chairman

Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria

8:45 am - 9:45 am

Legislative & Litigation Update

Loretta A. Tuell, Managing Principal, Tuell Law

Robert Odawi Porter, Founder & Principal,
Odawi Law PLLC

Angela Riley, Professor of Law, UCLA Law

9:45 am - 10:00 am

Presentation by California Native Vote Project

10:00 am - 11:15 am

ICWA: Constitutional Challenges & Advanced Topics

Delia Sharpe, Executive Director, California Tribal
Families Coalition

Samuel Kohn, Managing Associate, Dentons

Tamara Honrado, Associate General Counsel,
Yurok Tribe

11:15 am - 11:30 am

Break

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Tribal Law & Policy: How Tribal Law Can Advance
Government & Business

Michelle LaPena, Partner, Rosette, LLP

Fatima Abbas, Director of Policy and Legislative
Counsel, National Congress of American Indians

Sara Dutschke Setshwaelo, Chairperson, Ione Band
of Miwok Indians/ Partner, Dentons

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

Keynote Address & Luncheon

Honorable Greg Sarris, Chairman

Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria

1:45 pm - 2:00 pm

Break

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Government-to-Government Relations: Real-World
Examples & Practical Applications

Javier Kinney, Executive Director, Yurok Tribe

Nathan Voegeli, Attorney & Tribal Liaison, California

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Reno Franklin, Chairman Emeritus, Kashia Band of
Pomo Indians

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

CILA Membership Meeting & Elections

Silent Auction Concludes, Winners Announced

3:45 pm - 4:00 pm

Break

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Ethics: Lay Advocates, Tribal Bar Associations, and
the California Rules of Professional Conduct -
Conflict & Opportunity

Lauren van Schilfgaarde, San Manuel Band of
Mission Indians Director, UCLA Tribal Legal

Development Clinic

Hon. Christine Williams, Director, Tribal Justice
Project, UC Davis School of Law

5:00 pm

Closing Remarks & Thanks

Panel 1: Legislative & Litigation Update

8:45AM-9:45AM



Loretta Tuell

Loretta A. Tuell is the managing principle at Tuell Law. She has practiced in the arena of federal Indian law and policy in Washington, D.C. for more than 20 years. In September 2017, she relocated to southern California and established Tuell Law, P.C. Her practice focuses on American Indian law, governmental law and policy, and gaming matters. In the private legal sector, Loretta was most recently a Partner at the international law firm, Greenberg Traurig, L.L.P. Her public service includes serving as the Majority Staff Director and Chief Counsel for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to Chairman, Senator Daniel K. Akaka. In 2009, Loretta received the prestigious Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award from the American Bar Association. She is a graduate of UCLA School of Law. Ms. Tuell is a citizen of the Nez Perce Tribe and grew up on the reservation in Lapwai, Idaho.

Robert Porter

Robert Odawi Porter is an experienced and innovative attorney who has devoted over 25 years to advancing the rights of sovereign American Indian nations and tribes in the United States. A citizen of the Seneca Nation of Indians, Rob was raised in the Nation's Allegany Territory. He served as the founding chairman of Seneca Holdings LLC, and, in 2010, was elected as the Seneca Nation's 67th President. For 15 years, Rob was also a tenured law professor at the University of Kansas, the University of Iowa, and Syracuse University. Currently, he provides legal and lobbying services to Indian tribal governments, Indian-owned businesses, and companies doing business in Indian Country through his law firm, Odawi Law PLLC and his government relations firm, the Capitol Hill Policy Group LLC.



Angela Riley

Angela R. Riley is Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law and Director of UCLA's Native Nations Law and Policy Center. She directs the J.D./M.A. joint degree program in Law and American Indian Studies and is the UCLA campus representative on issues related to repatriation under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Professor Riley's research focuses on indigenous peoples' rights, with a particular emphasis on cultural property and Native governance. Her work has been published in the Yale Law Journal, Stanford Law Review, Columbia Law Review, California Law Review, Georgetown Law Journal and numerous others. She received her undergraduate degree at the University of Oklahoma and her law degree from Harvard Law School.

Notes

Panel 2: ICWA - Constitutional Challenges & Advanced Topics

10:00 AM - 11:15AM



Delia Sharpe

Delia Sharpe is the founding Executive Director of the California Tribal Families Coalition, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the health, safety and welfare of tribal children and families, with a focus on increasing compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act. Prior to being hired as the founding Executive Director of the California Tribal Families Coalition, Ms. Sharpe was the Program Director for the Resource Center for Family-Focused Practice at UC Davis Extension's Center for Human Services. She previously served as Directing Attorney for the Eureka Office of California Indian Legal Services. Ms. Sharpe received her JD from the New College of California School of Public Interest Law in 2005 after graduating from Humboldt State University in 2001 with a BA in Political Science.

Samuel Kohn

Samuel Kohn is a managing associate in Dentons' Native American Law and Policy practice. He has advised numerous tribal clients on Indian Child Welfare Act matters, including intervention on their behalf. Sam was part of the legal team that prepared and submitted an amicus brief on behalf of 325 Tribal Governments and 57 Tribal Organizations in the Brackeen v. Zinke litigation. Sam is an enrolled member of the Crow Tribe of Montana. Following law school, he served as a law clerk to the Hon. Brian Morris of the US District Court for the District of Montana



Tamara Honrado

Tamara Honrado, Six Nations Mohawk, is Associate General Counsel for the Yurok Tribe. Previous to her position with the Yurok Tribe, she was a Staff Attorney at California Indian Legal Services (CILS) with a focus on Indian law issues, in particular by representing Tribes at child custody proceedings concerning the Indian Child Welfare Act. She also worked on racial discrimination in schools, assisting individuals with Individualized Education Plans and executed Wills for clients under the American Indian Probate Reform Act. She received her Juris Doctor from Southwestern Law School's accelerated SCALE program.

Notes

Panel 3: Tribal Law & Policy

11:30AM - 12:30PM



Michelle LaPena

Michelle LaPena is a Partner at Rosette, LLP and is experienced in a wide variety of tribal legal matters including cultural resource protection, Indian child welfare, tribal taxation, tribal gaming regulation, tribal governance, the fee to trust process and real estate transactions, and general civil litigation involving tribal governments. She is extensively involved in developing statewide policy in California regarding cultural resources protection, gaming regulations, cannabis operation, and tribal taxation. Ms. LaPena received her B.A. and J.D. from the University of California, Davis. She is a member of the Pit River Tribe, and is admitted to practice in California, all federal district courts in California, the Hoopa Valley Tribal Court, and the San Manuel Tribal Court.

Fatima Abbas

Fatima, Haliwa Saponi, currently serves as Policy Director and Legislative Counsel for the National Congress of American Indians where she supervises the NCAI policy team and works on legislative issues across a range of subject areas. Previously, Fatima served as General Counsel for the Karuk Tribe where she served as the Tribe's first in-house general counsel. She also supervised a tribal student clinic at UC Berkeley School of Law that conducted research on natural resources and cultural resource issues. Ms. Abbas has also served as Deputy Attorney General for the Colorado River Indian Tribes and as a Litigation Associate for Fox Rothschild LLP. Fatima is originally from Philadelphia and is a graduate of the Community College of Philadelphia, Temple University, and the University of California, Berkeley School of Law.



Sara Dutschke Setshwaelo

Sara Dutschke Setshwaelo is a member of Dentons' Native American Law and Policy and Federal Regulatory and Compliance practices. She is also a member and the elected Chairwoman of the Ione Band of Miwok Indians. Sara has advised and supported tribal clients on complex matters involving tribal sovereignty and governance, government-to-government relations and business and economic development which includes gaming, energy, conventional and bond financing, and tax analysis. Sara has also represented tribal interests in litigation involving tribal sovereign immunity, intratribal disputes, contract-related claims and tribal jurisdictional issues. Her litigation experience involves briefing and oral argument in the California superior, federal district and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Sara is a graduate of the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law,

Notes

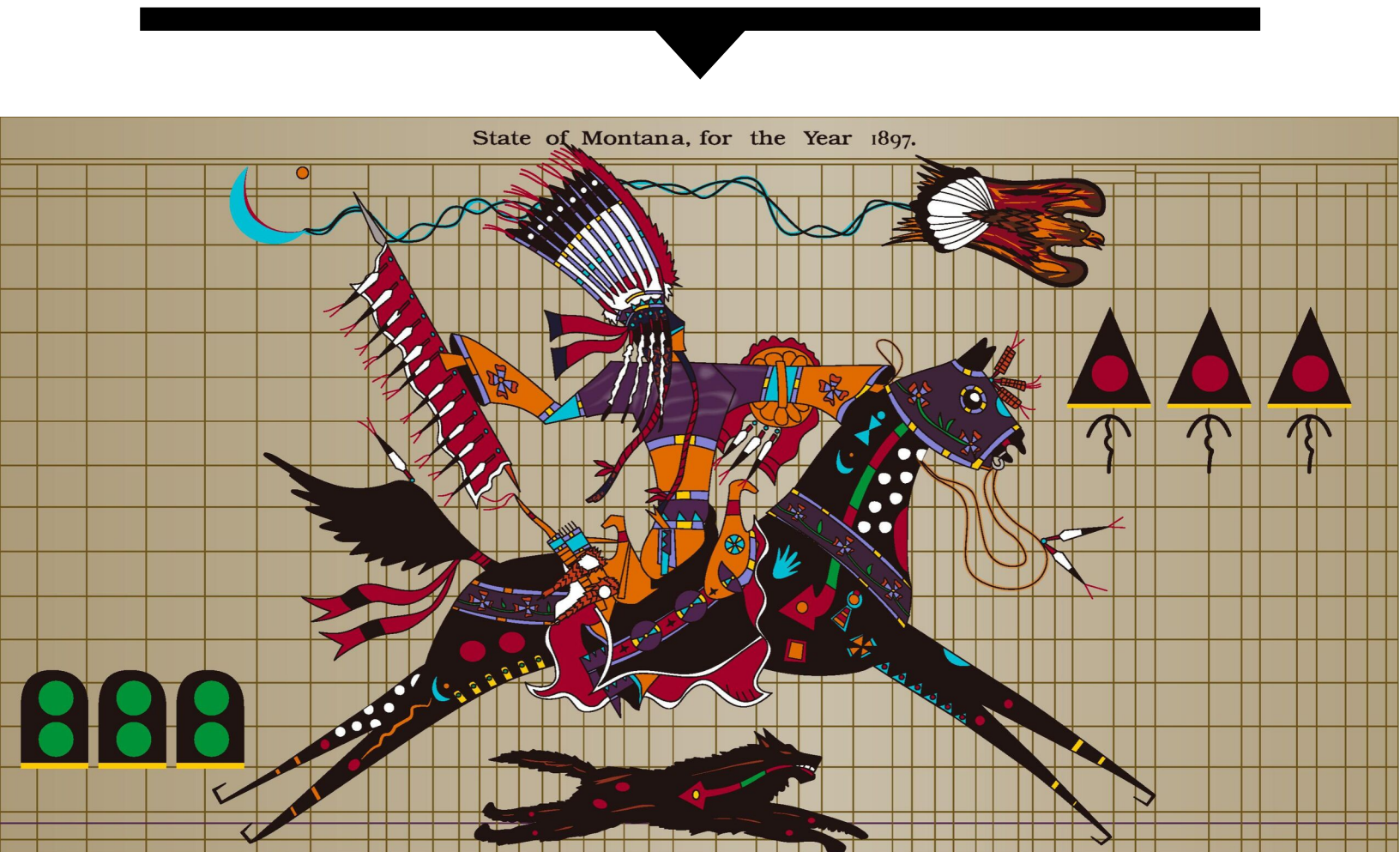
Keynote Address & Luncheon

12:30PM - 1:45PM



Chairman Greg Sarris

Greg is currently the Tribal Chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria. He is in his thirteenth elected term as Chairman of the Tribe and is currently leading the Tribe in its economic development endeavors. Tribal Chairman Greg Sarris oversees all business negotiations and the daily operations of the Tribe. In addition, Greg Sarris is a renowned author, scholar, and teacher, but his list of accomplishments extends much deeper. As a novelist he has brought inspiration, as a professor he has provided motivation, and as Chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, he has instilled hope. Greg has fully dedicated his life to making an impact on the lives of those who helped set the foundation of his own life today. Tribal Chairman Greg Sarris has put forth efforts to restore and rebuild a community that will forever change the lives of many.



Dentons Native American Law and Policy, honored to serve Indian Country and proud to sponsor CILA.

DENTONS

[dentons.com](https://www.dentons.com)

© 2019 Dentons. Dentons is a global legal practice providing client services worldwide through its member firms and affiliates. Please see [dentons.com](https://www.dentons.com) for Legal Notices.

MORONGO
BAND OF
MISSION
INDIANS



A SOVEREIGN NATION

PROUD SPONSOR OF THE
CALIFORNIA INDIAN LAW ASSOCIATION
SUPPORTING AND PROTECTING CALIFORNIA TRIBES FOR 19 YEARS



WWW.MORONGO.COM

Panel 4: Government-to-Government Relations

2:00PM-3:00PM



Javier Kinney

Javier I. Kinney is a Yurok Tribal citizen and serves as the Executive Director for the Yurok Tribe. He has attained a Bachelor of Arts Degrees in History and Native American Studies from the University of California, Davis, a Master of Arts degree in Law & Diplomacy, specializing in Development Economics and International Law from Tufts University-Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, and a Juris Doctorate from Suffolk Law School. Mr. Kinney has extensive experience advising Tribal governments with expertise in areas of strategic actions, economic development, climate change, natural resource management, protection of tribal cultural resources and water and law policy.

Nathan Voegeli

Nathan Voegeli is a staff attorney and the tribal liaison for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. He practices natural resource and Native American law and advises Department management on regulatory programs, tribal issues, public trust resources, and environmental review. Previously, he was General Counsel for a Northern California tribe. There, he litigated natural resource issues in federal court, served as Tribal prosecutor for civil offenses, managed the Tribe's development of forestry carbon offset projects, and helped the Tribe reacquire over 25,000 acres of forest land. Nathan holds a Masters in International Policy Studies from the Monterey Institute of International Studies and a law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. He grew up on the flat prairies of Kansas, spent his undergraduate days in Fairbanks, Alaska, and now calls Sacramento, California, home.



Reno Franklin

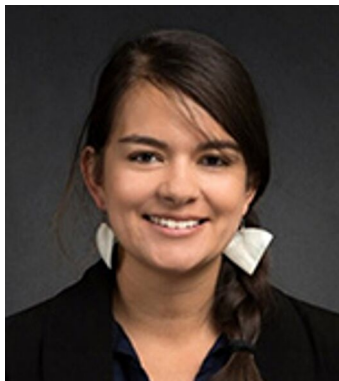
Reno Keoni Franklin has previously served as the Tribal Chairman of the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians and Vice Chairman of the Sonoma County Indian Health Project. He served as Director of Government Relations for the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation from 2009 to 2013 and as General Chairman of the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers from 2009 to 2011. Mr. Franklin served on the Department of Health and Human Services Tribal Advisory Committee from 2010 to 2011. He was Chairman of National Indian Health Board and Chairman of California Rural Indian Health Board. Mr. Franklin received an A.S. from Santa Rosa Junior College.

Notes

Panel 5: Tribal Bar Associations & the California Bar Association

Conflict & Opportunity

4:00PM-5:00PM



Lauren van Schilfgaarde

Lauren van Schilfgaarde is the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Tribal Legal Development Clinic Director at UCLA School of Law. She was previously the Tribal Law Specialist at the Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI) in West Hollywood, CA. At TLPI, van Schilfgaarde coordinated training and technical assistance to tribal courts, focusing on Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts, tribal court infrastructure, and federal Indian law. Previously, van Schilfgaarde was a law clerk at Native American Rights Fund and Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles. She was also a Public Interest Fellow at American Civil Liberties Union of Colorado. van Schilfgaarde received her B.A. from Colorado College and her J.D. from UCLA School of Law.

Hon. Christine Williams

Hon. Christine Williams is a member of the Yurok Tribe, certified in Indian Law, and has spent her legal career focusing on representing tribes on a broad spectrum of tribal legal matters, primarily Indian child welfare, tribal court development and cultural resource protection. She currently serves as the Chief Judge for the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians in El Dorado County and the Northern California Intertribal Court System. Judge Williams was instrumental in helping to secure a competitive technical assistance grant (Project TEAM) to establish a joint-jurisdictional court initiative with the El Dorado County Superior Court. This grant will focus on cases involving tribal youth and families. The grant, awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, was only awarded to one jurisdiction nationwide. The joint-jurisdictional court, once established, will enable judges from both jurisdictions to work in concert to hear cases in one courtroom. This model is one of only two tribal court/state court joint-jurisdictional efforts across the country. Judge Williams has a long history of providing training and education on various areas of Indian law and history.



Notes

Thank You Sponsors

Presenting Sponsor



FEDERATED INDIANS OF
GRATON
R A N C H E R I A

Pine Level Sponsor

**MORONGO
BAND OF
MISSION
INDIANS**



A SOVEREIGN NATION

Goldier Bear Sponsors



大成 DENTONS

ODAWI LAW PLLC

Abalone Sponsors

Berkey 
Williams LLP

Holland & Knight

Silent Auction Donors



CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS

LUSH
FRESH HANDMADE COSMETICS

WARRIORS
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



b.YELLOWTAIL

SF MO
MA



ALLIANCE REDWOODS
**SONOMA
CANOPY
TOURS**

