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Bar Admission: State Bar of Oklahoma

**TRIBAL AFFILIATION:** Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

**EDUCATION**

**University of Oklahoma College of Law** Norman, Oklahoma  
*Juris Doctorate & Certificate in American Indian Law* May 2015

- Honors:** National Order of the Barristers  
 Dean's Honor Roll 2013, 2014, 2015  
 2014 & 2015 National Native American Moot Court Competitions, *Elite Eight Finalist*  
 2014 & 2015 Calvert Moot Court Competitions, *5<sup>th</sup> overall speaker and 9<sup>th</sup> overall speaker*
- Activities:** National Native American Law Student Association, *Area 3 Representative, OU Chapter President*  
 OU International Indigenous Human Rights Clinic, Focused on Violence Against Indigenous Women

**The University of Oklahoma** Norman, Oklahoma  
*Bachelors of Arts, Summa Cum Laude, Communication, Native American Studies* May 2012

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**National Congress of American Indians** Washington, DC  
*Policy Manager, Policy Lead – National Security and Community Safety* May 2018 – Present

- Spearheaded tribal homeland security appropriation efforts, which resulted in \$15 million for tribal homeland security and emergency management programs and \$30 million for tribal cyber security programs
- Led NCAI's efforts to change Department of Homeland Security policies related to COVID-19, which directly resulted in the Administration waiving all Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) COVID-19 non-federal cost share requirements for funding and renewed efforts for tribal consultation
- Created the NCAI Tribal Homeland Security and Emergency Management COVID-19 Working Group, which brought together tribal leaders and tribal emergency management from across Indian Country throughout the pandemic to discuss on the ground impacts of COVID-19, share resources, and coordinate on federal policy efforts
- Worked alongside tribal leaders and tribal emergency managers to successfully change FEMA policies that made hundreds of Tribal Nations ineligible to receive Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program funding
- Worked as a part of the NCAI policy team that secured over \$42 billion in tribal infrastructure and health care funding during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Created and filmed the NCAI Tribal Disaster Preparedness webinar series that has been viewed by over 1,000 people and has provided direct technical assistance to Tribal Nations as they navigated the complex FEMA funding system
- Trained over 650 Department of Homeland Security, FEMA, and federal cyber security staff on homeland security needs in Indian Country and how to work with Tribal Nations
- Built bipartisan coalitions and spearheaded tribal efforts to pass the 2022 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which restored Tribal Nations' criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians that commit violence against Indian children, women, and tribal justice personnel and provided \$25 million for tribal public safety and justice systems
- Served as an Indigenous women leader for the U.S. delegation at the July 2022 Trilateral Working Group on Violence Against Indigenous Women and Girls
- Directed NCAI's work on Violence Against Native Women and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women through grassroots efforts at NCAI Task Force and Working Group meetings, as well as wrote tribal leader comments and testimony
- Led NCAI's legal, policy, and public communication efforts on the *Brackeen* Indian Child Welfare Act case from initial ruling through the appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court
- Educated members of Congress, congressional staff, and the public on Indian law and policy through congressional briefings, national conference presentations, online webinars, press releases, and individual meetings
- Built coalitions and strategized with Tribal Nations, tribal organizations, and non-Indian allies to move key pieces of legislation for Indian Country
- Drafted testimony and talking points for tribal leaders presenting to Congress and the Administration
- Drafted formal comments and letters to federal departments and agencies on behalf of NCAI



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**Chuuk State Government, Federated States of Micronesia**

*Assistant Attorney General, Chief of Litigation*

Weno, Chuuk State  
November 2016 – November 2017

- Established the first case of law in Chuuk that required a convicted child predator to cover the medical and mental health services for their victims
- Collaborated with seven Indigenous families on a multi-million dollar land settlement agreement that led to a coconut processing plant being built on the land, bringing electricity and hundreds of local sustainable jobs to the island
- Prosecuted crimes of violence against Indigenous people, including human trafficking cases
- Supervised and mentored four Indigenous trial counselors in the prosecution of Chuuk State criminal and civil cases
- Became the Acting Attorney General and led the Chuuk Department of Justice during State elections
- Provided legal advice to all Chuuk State executive agencies on issues ranging from contracts, leases, employment, taxation, elections, jurisdiction, Indigenous land claims, legal liability, and civil litigation
- Represented the Office of the Attorney General in hearings before the Chuuk State House and Senate
- Prosecuted criminal and civil cases, requiring investigatory research and collaboration with all State agencies

**Maynes, Bradford, Shipps & Sheftel, LLP**

*In-House Tribal Attorney Trainee for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe*

Durango, Colorado  
August 2015 – June 2016

- Prepared documents for and attended high level negotiations with the U.S. Government on behalf of the Tribal Nation
- Drafted language for the Tribal Nation's U.S. Supreme Court joint amicus brief in the 2016 *Dollar General Corp. v. Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians* Tribal civil jurisdiction case
- Drafted memorandums, reviewed contracts and legal documents, and provided legal advice on a multitude of issues related to federal Indian law, including land and environmental issues, taxation, employment, and health care
- Drafted motions, reviewed and gathered evidence, prepared witnesses, and assisted in conducting cases before the Southern Ute Administrative Appeals and Hearing Office

**Berkey Williams LLP**

*Summer Associate*

Berkely, California  
May 2014 – July 2014

- Conducted in-depth research and draft memorandums and brief language regarding on Indian water settlements, federal water law, and federal and state tax law on tribal nonprofit organizations, and administrative law
- Drafted contract language regarding medical equipment rentals for a Tribal healthcare clinic

**United States Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor**

*Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Legal Intern*

Washington, DC  
June 2013 – August 2013

- Conducted in depth policy analysis on various Congressional bills and provided feedback on proposed amendments to federal Indian law
- Created an education program to train DC and Regional Solicitors regarding the Indian Self Determination Act
- Drafted language used in the Cobell buy back deeds for Tribal citizens across the United States
- Received Department of the Interior training for Indian water law issues and self-determination contracts