

INDIAN LAW FOR TRIBAL OFFICIALS

**November 30-December 1
Sheraton Suites Country Club Plaza
770 W. 47th Street
Kansas City, MO 64112**

Seminar Summary

This Seminar is intended for tribal government officials interested in learning more about fundamental concepts of American Indian law and policy to assist them in performing their governing responsibilities. Attendees will learn about tribal sovereignty and its origins, the importance of treaties and intergovernmental compacts, federal Indian law fundamentals, jurisdiction, tribal land use regulation, federal policy reform and federal lobbying.

Seminar presenters have a variety of experiences in tribal law, governance and business, as well as federal government advocacy, and will rely upon both traditional legal materials and their actual experiences to help illustrate relevant concepts.

Who Should Attend

This Seminar is specially designed for elected and appointed officials of federally-recognized sovereign Indian nations and tribes, particularly those who are newly elected or appointed to office.

Registration and Hotel Information

Registration:

The cost to attend the Seminar is \$750, which includes opening reception, continental breakfast, lunch, and materials.

Attendees can register for the Seminar at Eventbrite.com with the following URL <https://indian-law-for-tribal-officials.eventbrite.com>.

Hotel Reservations:

A discount hotel rate of \$149 has been secured for Seminar attendees. Rooms may be reserved at the Sheraton Country Club Plaza by calling (816) 931-4400 and registering under the group code “Indian Law for Tribal Officials” or by registering online at: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1710117649&key=307B2381>

The discount rate is available until November 9, 2017 only. Reservations after that date will be subject to regular rates and availability.

More Information:

For more information, please contact Steve Watt at (716) 499-3864 or email at steve.watt@odawilaw.com.

Agenda
(as of October 12, 2017)

Thursday
November 30, 2017

All sessions will be held in the **Ballroom Plaza II**, unless otherwise noted. There will be a 10-minute break between each session.

- 12:30 pm ***Registration – Outside Ballroom Plaza II***
- 1:00 pm ***Introduction***
- 1:10 pm ***Session 1: Tribal Sovereignty and its Origins***

 Robert Odawi Porter, Esq.
- 2:00 pm ***Session 2: Overview of Laws Affecting Indigenous peoples***

 Robert Odawi Porter, Esq.
- 3:00 pm ***Session 3: Treaties, Compacts and Agreements***

 Ken Bellmard, Esq.
 Russell Brien, Esq.
- 4:00 pm ***Session 4: Fundamentals of Federal Indian Law***

 Robert Odawi Porter, Esq.
- 5:00 pm ***Session 5: Criminal and Civil Jurisdiction in Indian Country***

 Kimberlee M. Dunlop, Esq.
- 6:00 pm ***Reception -- The Gallery I***

**Friday
December 1, 2017**

- 8:00 am ***Breakfast Buffet – Ballroom Plaza II***
- 9:00 am ***Session 6: Gaming Regulation***

 Kimberlee M. Dunlop, Esq.
 Ken Bellmard, Esq.
- 10:00 am ***Session 7: Tribal Taxation and Business Structures***

 Russell Brien, Esq.
- 11:00 am ***Session 8: Fee-to-Trust Process and Land Leasing (HEARTH Act)***

 Ken Bellmard, Esq.
- 12:00 pm ***Lunch and Keynote Address - The Gallery I***

 Hon. Geoffrey Standing Bear, Esq.
- 1:00 pm ***Session 9: Energy Development on Tribal Lands***

 Ken Bellmard, Esq.
 Russell Brien, Esq.
- 2:00 pm ***Session 10: Federal Lobbying of Tribal Issues***

 Todd Bertosen, Esq.
 Kimberlee M. Dunlop, Esq.
 Robert Odawi Porter, Esq.
- 3:00 pm ***Session 11: Federal Law Reform to Promote Tribal Economies***

 Robert Odawi Porter, Esq.
 Todd Bertosen, Esq.
- 4:00 pm ***Session 12: Practical Considerations of Tribal Lawyering***

 All presenters
- 5:00 pm ***Seminar Concludes***

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About the Faculty

Robert Odawi Porter, Esq. (Seneca) is the Seminar host and moderator. He is a nationally-recognized advocate for the protection and expansion of American Indian tribal government sovereignty and treaty rights. His unique background includes service as a former elected president of the Seneca Nation of Indians, tribal attorney general, and founding chairman of Seneca Holdings LLC. He has served as a tenured professor of Indian law at three national universities, which provides him with unparalleled experience platform to assist his tribal clients in seizing opportunities and resolving complex issues at the intersection of law, politics, business, and social policy.

Rob has led successful efforts in Congress to end taxation of tribal general welfare benefits and has won many victories protecting tribal sovereignty and treaty rights from interference by outside governments and interests. He has been named by Best Lawyers to its list for Native American law for 2018.

Kimberlee M. Dunlop, Esq. (Seneca) is Counsel to Odawi Law PLLC and assists sovereign Indian nations and tribes with their legal development, including developing tribal governing documents such as constitutions, codes, and administrative procedures; drafting election ordinances and regulations; and drafting tribal natural resources and environmental regulatory laws. A national leader in the development of enhanced tribal identification cards (“ETCs”), Kim was instrumental in securing one of the first agreements between an Indian nation and the Department of Homeland Security to begin producing and issuing identification cards that tribal citizens could use under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative to cross the U.S.-Canada international border.

Kim represents Indian nations and tribes before Congress and federal agencies. Prior to joining Odawi Law PLLC, she practiced federal Indian Law in Washington, D.C. with an international law firm and served as a government relations liaison for an Indian law boutique firm. Most recently, she served a term on the Board of Directors for the Seneca Gaming Corporation, where she served as Board Secretary and Chair of the Audit Committee.

Ken Bellmard, Esq. (Kaw) is a tribal attorney representing Native American tribes and tribal entities in various matters in both tribal and federal courts. Ken recently assisted an Oklahoma Tribe in becoming HEARTH Act authorized for the purpose of establishing a renewable energy project on tribal trust land which is in the construction phase as of December 2016. Ken is noted for having negotiated the first three federally approved Tribal-State of Oklahoma Class III gaming compacts on behalf of the Tonkawa, and Miami Tribes, and for the Miami-Modoc Tribal joint venture, and subsequently negotiated a Class III Compact for the Otoe-Missouria Tribe and was involved in the federal approval of the Comanche-State of Oklahoma Class III Compact. Ken's practice also involves the development of tribal economic ventures. Currently, Ken is an Associate Supreme Court Justice for the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma.

Todd Bertosen, Esq. is a Principal at Dentons US LLP in Washington, D.C. and a former Staff Director of the United States Senate Commerce Committee. His federal relations practice focuses on representing clients with interests in natural resources and fisheries, telecommunications, infrastructure development. His clients include several sovereign Indian nations and a regional Alaska Native Corporation. Todd has been involved in numerous successful efforts to protect client interests and secure federal assistance.

Russell Brien, Esq. (Iowa) established Brien Law, LLC in 2009 and is a former partner in the corporate finance group of a national law firm. His practice primarily involves working as special counsel to tribes and as outside general counsel to tribal business enterprises on a variety of issues, with an emphasis on economic development, governance, gaming, finance, taxation, and doing business in Indian country. Russ frequently speaks on a variety of topics including federal Indian law, tribal economic development, gaming, Indian lands issues, estate planning in Indian country, protection of tribal records, ethics for tribal leaders, negotiation, and tribal constitutions and bylaws. He also serves as an adjunct instructor at the University of Kansas School of Law, teaching the *Indian Gaming* and *Economic Development and Indigenous Nations* courses in the law school's Tribal Lawyer Certificate Program. Russ, the Past President of the Kansas Bar Association Indian Law Section, is listed in the *Best Lawyers in America* for Native American Law and Securitization and Structured Finance Law.

Chief Geoffrey M. Standing Bear (Osage) was elected as Principal Chief of the Osage Nation in 2014 and before this was a member of the Osage Legislature. Chief Standing Bear has 37 years of law experience practicing mostly in Oklahoma. He filed the first federal gaming case in Oklahoma for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in 1984. He later filed a case to reestablish tribal courts in eastern Oklahoma, also for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Both cases had successful conclusions. In 1987 he accepted a position as Economic Development attorney for the Navajo Nation and then became Special Counsel to the Chairman. He has also worked with numerous other tribes since his work with the Navajo. He has been listed in *Best Lawyers in America*, *Oklahoma Super Lawyers*, and *Chambers and Partners*. In 2016, Chief Standing Bear was recognized by *Oklahoma Magazine* as an Oklahoman of the Year for his leadership of the Osage Nation. His dedication to the concept of Native American sovereignty has been proven.