

# AMERICAN INDIAN & INDIGENOUS PEOPLES LAW CAREER GUIDE



2022-2023

## SPECIAL THANKS

This iteration of the *American Indian & Indigenous Peoples Law Career Resource Guide* was updated by John David McKee and American Indian Law Program Fellow Kevin Miller ('20). We hope it will provide valuable information to Colorado Law students and alumni, as well as other students, attorneys, and professionals in the field.

If you have any questions, concerns, or are interested in learning more about the opportunities available in American Indian & Indigenous Peoples Law, please contact one of us:

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## I. Introduction

This guide is designed to provide information on opportunities for involvement, internships, and employment in the field of American Indian & Indigenous Peoples Law. We hope it provides students, alumni, and others interested in the field access to the resources available to them and creates opportunities to network and become more knowledgeable about this practice area.

American Indian law is a broad field that intersects with numerous other areas of law, from human rights to environmental law. There exists many opportunities for state, federal, and international Indian law practice.

The Legal Information Institute at Cornell University provides an [overview of the field](#), as well as a list of key federal and state materials relevant to working in American Indian law and policy. Additionally, Colorado Law and the Native American Rights Fund jointly created *The Implementation Project*, which aims to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as domestic policy. More information on *The Implementation Project*, as well as additional resources and information about the history and current state of the field, is available at the [Project website](#).

### 1. University of Colorado Law School Programs, Courses, and Initiatives *(The following information was directly obtained from the [Colorado Law](#) website).*

Colorado Law's American Indian Law Program provides students with comprehensive opportunities to acquire specialized knowledge of American Indian & Indigenous Peoples law, through courses, the American Indian Law Clinic, the AILP Certificate Program, National Tribal Court Law Clerks Program, research on federal and tribal Indian law issues, externships, Native American Law Students Association, conferences and events, expert faculty, affiliated organizations, and community outreach. In addition, students enjoy numerous opportunities to assist in scholarship and contribute to the national development of the field of American Indian law. In addition to these specialized opportunities, Colorado Law also incorporates American Indian law principles in the general law school curriculum, including civil procedure, property, family law, and international law.

Of the approximately 200 ABA-accredited law schools in the United States, fewer than 36 offer one or more courses dedicated to the field of American Indian law or Indigenous Peoples law. Of those, about 12 offer a dedicated American Indian Law program or department. Colorado Law is unique even among the 12 with a dedicated program: As one of the oldest programs of its kind in the country, it is also one of only ~5 law schools that offer a certificate in American Indian law. Any Colorado Law student interested in the field or an adjacent field, such as environmental law, is encouraged to consider signing up for the Certificate in American Indian Law, which is one of the best ways to stand out to employers who often struggle to find attorneys and law students familiar with the jurisprudence and legislation governing American Indian law and its place in broader legal landscapes.

## 2. Certificate Program

Colorado Law's American Indian Law Certificate demonstrates the completion of a concentrated course of study on the legal issues facing American Indian tribes and individuals. We also have opportunities to study Indigenous Peoples globally, through several human rights and international law classes that count toward the certificate. This Certificate is attractive to many legal employers, including tribal, state, and federal government, firms seeking to do business with tribes and tribal members, and international organizations such as the United Nations and Organization of American States.

Certificate requirements include: 1) at least 92 credit hours, rather than the 89 required for completion of the Juris Doctor credit requirements, and 2) at least 18 of the 92 credit hours in designated Indian law and related courses. Visit [Rules of the Law School](#) for complete details.

Additionally, many of the qualifying courses for the American Indian Law Certificate also qualify for other certificates offered at Colorado Law, including the International Human Rights Certificate and Environmental Law and Policy Certificate. Students are allowed to earn multiple certificates simultaneously, making certificates a great way to set yourself apart from other candidates after graduating.

Required courses after the first year:

- [American Indian Law I](#)
- [American Indian Law II](#)
- [American Indian Law Clinic](#)

The remaining four (4) credits may be earned from any number of classes enumerated on the [Certificate Program page](#). Recommended courses include:

American Indian law Seminar, Cultural Property, Foundations of Natural Resources Law, Indigenous Peoples in International Law, Human Rights, International Law, Advanced Indian Law Seminar.

## 3. Faculty

Colorado Law has several full-time faculty members in the American Indian Law Program.

[Professor S. James Anaya](#) has taught and written extensively on international human rights and issues concerning indigenous peoples. Former Dean of the University of Colorado Law School, Professor Anaya is both a University Distinguished Professor and the Nicholas Doman Professor of International Law. Among his numerous publications are his acclaimed book, *Indigenous Peoples in International Law* (Oxford Univ. Press (1996); 2d ed. (2004)), and his widely used textbook, *International Human Rights: Problems of Law, Policy and Process* (Wolters Kluwer, 6th ed. 2011) (with Hurst Hannum and Dinah Shelton). Professor Anaya graduated from the University of New Mexico and Harvard Law School. He served as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples from May 2008 to June 2014.

[Professor Kristen Carpenter](#) is the Council Tree Professor of Law and Director of the American Indian Law Program at the University of Colorado Law School. Professor Carpenter served on the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as its member from North America from 2017-2021. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Law School. At Colorado Law, Professor Carpenter teaches and writes in the areas of Property, Cultural Property, American Indian Law, Human Rights, and Indigenous Peoples in International Law. She has published several books and legal treatises on these topics, and her articles appear in leading law reviews.

[Professor Sarah Krakoff](#), Moses Lasky Professor of Law, is a nationally recognized expert in Native American law, natural resources law, and environmental justice. She is the recipient of two University-wide awards, the Hazel Barnes Prize for distinguished scholarship and teaching and the Chase Community Service Award for her public service work with low-income communities. In 2021, she was named Deputy Solicitor for Parks and Wildlife with the US Department of the Interior. She has published several books and articles in the fields of environmental law and American Indian law and is the founder of the Acequia Assistance Project which provides free representation to low-income farmers in the San Luis Valley. She has authored amicus briefs in the 6th, 7th, 9th, and 10th Circuits, as well as the Supreme Court of the United States. She received her J.D. from U.C. Berkeley in 1991 and her B.A. from Yale in 1986.

[Associate Clinical Professor Christina Stanton](#) is the Director of the American Indian Law Clinic and former Director of Operations at First Peoples Worldwide, where she led targeted international strategy on behalf of Indigenous partners in parallel with market-based corporate advocacy. She also directed the First Peoples Worldwide student research program, which seeks to develop early-career professionals and Native leaders in the field. Christina holds a J.D. with an American Indian Law certificate from the University of Colorado and a B.A. from the Johns Hopkins University. She is a clinical professor at the University of Colorado Law School.

[Professor Emeritus Richard Collins](#) spent 15 years practicing Indian law with organizations such as California Rural Legal Assistance, California Indian Legal Services, Dinebeina Nahiilna Be Agaditahe in Window Rock, Arizona, and the Native American Rights Fund (NARF). Since joining the faculty, Professor Collins has continued work as a pro bono consultant to NARF and to Native American tribes, including the Southern Ute Indian Tribe. He had a major role in several important Indian law decisions, including United States Supreme Court decisions such as *McClanahan v. Arizona Tax Commission*, 421 U.S. 164 (1973). His scholarship focuses on constitutional issues, and he was Director of the law school's Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law from 2002 to 2010. Professor Collins has written and lectured on such topics as the religion clauses and their relationship to Indian Tribes, the Commerce Clause, and ballot initiatives and referendums, as well as comparative analysis of protection for Indigenous sites in the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, and Russia.

[Professor Emeritus Charles Wilkinson](#) is the Moses Lasky Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of Colorado. He has also been named as Distinguished Professor, one of just twenty-five on the University of Colorado Boulder campus. After graduating from Stanford Law School and practicing with Phoenix and San Francisco firms, Wilkinson joined the Native American Rights Fund in 1971 as a staff attorney. Since 1975, he has taught at the University of Oregon and Colorado law schools, receiving many teaching and research

awards. His fourteen books include the standard law casebooks on Indian Law and Federal Public Land Law. He has also authored general audience books. Over the years, Professor Wilkinson has taken on many assignments from the federal government and Native American Rights Fund, including most recently to work on the protection of Bears Ears National Monument.

#### **4. Local Community**

The American Indian Law Program often collaborates with the [Native American Rights Fund](#) and its [National Indian Law Library](#) headquartered in Boulder, and with other major American Indian organizations in the Denver-Boulder area, including the [Denver Indian Center](#), the [American Indian College Fund](#), the [Denver Indian Family Resource Center](#), [Denver Indian Health and Family Services](#), the [Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies](#) at CU Boulder, and directly with tribes and tribal government.

Colorado Law has long-standing relationships with Colorado's two resident Indian tribes, the [Southern Ute Tribe](#) and the [Ute Mountain Ute Tribe](#). With more than 30,000 American Indians living within a 30-mile radius of the CU campus, the Law School is ideally situated in what is referred to as the "Hub of Indian Country." The annual [Denver March Powwow](#) is the second-largest American Indian gathering in the United States.

#### **5. Scholarships and Fellowships**

The [American Indian Graduate Center](#) posts fellowship opportunities for law students, as does the [National Native American Bar Association](#). Additional scholarship opportunities can be found at the [National Native American Law Students Association](#), the [American Indian College Fund](#), and by contacting the American Indian Law Program fellow, who is tasked with curating scholarship opportunities for Native American students and students who hope to work in the field of American Indian law. From time to time, the Colorado Indian Bar Association offers scholarships to individuals studying American Indian law at Colorado Law.

#### **6. Special Events**

The Program often collaborates with Colorado Law's [Natural Resources Law Center](#), the Native American Law Students Association and CU's undergraduate Native American organization, [Oyate](#), to host special Indian law focused events. Major events held at the Law School include: special sessions of the [Navajo Nation Supreme Court](#) and Peacemaker Court, scholarly symposiums such as, "Native Americans, Race and the Constitution," and "The Next Great Generation of American Indian Law Judges" an appearance by Native lands activist Winona LaDuke, a two-day Native American Sacred Lands Forum and distinguished visitor program featuring Executive Director of the [Indigenous Environmental Network](#), Tom Goldtooth, overviews of current Indian law litigation, including "More than the Money: Restoring Government Accountability through *Cobell v. Norton*," public meetings of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, and workshops such as "Righting Wrongs for American Indians, or, How to Sue the Government" featuring NARF Executive Director John Echohawk.

Colorado Law and its National Native American Law Students Association are hosting

the National Native American Law Students Association Moot Court in February 2022, bringing students and leaders in the field to Boulder for an amazing opportunity to network and see what litigation in the field can look like.

## 7. Alumni

Many of our alumni have long practiced Indian law, as highlighted in a recent issue of the Colorado Law [Amicus](#). A few representative employers include: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, Cherokee Nation, Office of General Counsel, Fredericks Peebles & Morgan, Greene Meyer & McElroy, Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary, Indian Law Resource Center, Montana Dept. of Justice, Attorney General's Office, National Indian Gaming Commission, Navajo Nation Department of Justice, Office of the Navajo Tax Commission, Three Affiliated Tribes, U.S. Department of the Interior, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe.

American Indian Law Program Fellows have found great opportunities in the field, including Edyael Casaperalta ('18), now a [Senior Policy Advisor for the Rural Utilities Services Agency](#), Daniel Cordalis, [Deputy Solicitor for Water Resources at the Department of the Interior](#), and Danielle Lazore-Thompson, an attorney with [Big Fire Law & Policy Group](#) and Adjunct Professor of Federal Indian Law at Cornell Law School.

## II. Career Opportunities

### 1. Internships/Externships/American Indian Law Program

Colorado Law students often serve as externs with local Indian law firms, non-profit entities serving the Native American community such as the [Native American Rights Fund](#) and [Intertribal Council on Utility Policy](#), government agencies such as the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Tribal Programs](#), [Guardians of the Land](#), and the [Southern Ute Tribal Court](#). Some of the law firms [noted below](#) also hire school-year interns.

Faculty with the American Indian Law Program often hire law students as Research Assistants, providing an opportunity for students to work directly with faculty on projects that will be published by leading law review journals. [The Implementation Project](#) also hires students who receive terrific experience at the intersection of tribal, federal, and international law.

The American Indian Law Program hires one post-graduate fellow for a one- to two-year term on an ongoing basis. The Program Fellow is tasked with various departmental responsibilities, including but not limited to:

- Assisting AILP faculty with research, drafting, and editing of materials for publication;
- Assisting with AIL course offerings, from general duties like scheduling to more involved work like helping students or leading portions of course lectures;



- Identifying grant funding opportunities and preparing grant proposals for departmental projects;
- Occasional travel to tribal communities and conferences related to departmental projects;
- Fellows also have the opportunity to choose an area of personal research interest and prepare scholarly work for potential publication.

The fellowship position is competitive, and it offers a broad array of professional development and networking opportunities both within and outside of tribal communities. The fellowship position is typically posted in late spring or early summer, depending on departmental needs, and can be found on the internal Colorado Law job board.

## 2. Tribal Governments

There are currently 574 federally recognized [American Indian tribes](#), many of which have in-house counsel, offices of a tribal attorney, or other internal positions. The directory of [Tribal Leaders](#) provides contact information and the [Tribal In-House Counsel Association](#) (TICA) serves as a professional association, with job listings. If you are applying to work for a tribal government, you should spend a good deal of time reading and learning about the tribe, through its own website and secondary sources.

## 3. Tribal Courts

Some Colorado Law graduates have pursued Tribal Court Clerkships. The [National American Indian Court Judges Association](#) is the leading professional organization for tribal judges and clerks, while the [Tribal Court Directory](#) lists the federally recognized tribes and the tribal courts.

Some Tribal Courts that traditionally have had clerkship positions include, but are not limited to:

- [Cherokee Nation](#)
- [Fort Berthold District Court of the Three Affiliated Tribes](#)
- [Ho-Chunk Nation](#)
- [Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation](#)
- [Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians](#)
- [Narragansett Indian Tribe](#)
- [Navajo Nation](#)
- [Oneida Nation](#)
- [Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians](#)
- [Passamaquoddy Tribe](#)
- [Southern Ute](#)

[Tribal Access to Justice Innovation](#) also maintains a list of [organizations involved with](#)

[tribal justice](#) that may have job openings and opportunities for involvement in the field. [Findlaw.com -- State Legal Aid Resources](#) provides information on organizations nationwide by region and practice area.

Students interested in an externship or internship with a tribal court should make an appointment with the [Office of Career Development](#).

#### 4. Public Interest, Legal Services, and Bar Associations

##### *i. Public Interest Law Firms and Legal Services Providers*

- [California Indian Legal Services](#)
  - CILS is one of the oldest not-for-profit law firms in the country that is devoted exclusively to the cause of Native American rights in California. Governed by a Board of Trustees and endorsed by California tribes and tribal organizations, CILS has provided free and low-cost legal services to California tribes, tribal organizations, and Native American individuals throughout the State since 1967.
- [DNA Legal Services](#)
  - 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provide services to low-income individuals in need of representation across three states and seven tribal nations.
- [Indian Law Resource Center](#)
  - Organization dedicated to helping Indigenous Peoples combat racism and oppression across North America.
- [Michigan Indian Legal Services](#)
  - Legal services for income-eligible individuals and tribes in Michigan.
- National Legal Aid and Defender Association
  - Directory of Legal Aid and Defender Offices in the United States and Territories. Contact the Colorado Law Library for assistance accessing this material.
- [Native American Rights Fund](#)
  - The Native American Rights Fund provides representation and services to Indigenous tribes, organizations, and individuals across the United States.
- [Native American Legal Services of Oregon](#)
  - Legal non-profit organization that provides access to legal assistance and support in Oregon.
- [Oklahoma Indian Legal Services](#)
  - Free legal representation for low-income Native Americans dealing with issues of housing, child welfare, land, civil rights, and/or tribal sovereignty disputes.
- [Pine Tree Legal Assistance -- Links to Other Legal Services Organizations](#)
  - Aggregate list of legal resources available in the State of Maine and nationally.

##### *ii. Indigenous Policy Organizations*

- [National Congress of American Indians](#)
  - Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is the oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization serving the broad interests of tribal governments and

communities.

- [Tribal Law and Policy Institute](#)
  - The Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI) is a 100% Native American operated non-profit corporation organized to design and deliver education, research, training, and technical assistance programs which promote the enhancement of justice in Indian country and the health, well-being, and culture of Native peoples.
- [United South & Eastern Indian Tribes](#)
  - United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. is dedicated to enhancing the development of federally recognized Indian Tribes, to improving the capabilities of Tribal governments, and assisting the USET Members and their governments in dealing effectively with public policy issues and in serving the broad needs of Indian people.

*iii. American Indian and Indigenous Peoples' Bar Associations*

[American Bar Association \(Native American Resources Committee\)](#)

[Australian Bar Association](#)

[California Indian Law Association](#)

Colorado Indian Bar Association (Currently Inactive)

[Federal Bar Association \(Indian Law Section\)](#)

[Indigenous Bar Association of Canada](#)

[National Native American Bar Association](#)

[New Zealand Bar Association](#)

[Northwest Indian Bar Association](#)

[Oklahoma Indian Bar Association](#)

[State Bar of New Mexico \(Indian Law Section\)](#)

[Washington State Bar Association \(Indian Law Section\)](#)

To find regional groups dedicated to the practice of Indigenous Peoples law and policy, you can use search engines to filter by state, jurisdiction, practice area, or nation if your interest lies abroad. Many organizations exist worldwide with a focus on this field; however, they are not always regularly updated or currently active.

## 5. Federal Government

*i. Agencies*

There are a number of federal agencies that work on Indigenous Peoples' issues. Listed below are a few key government agencies. A more complete set can be found at the [Tribal Court Clearinghouse](#).

- [U.S. Department of Interior](#)
- [Bureau of Indian Affairs](#)
- [Bureau of Reclamation's Native American Affairs Office and Program Minerals Management Service](#)
- [U.S. Department of Justice](#)
- [U.S. Office of Tribal Justice](#)

- [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#)
- [Administration for Native Americans Indian Health Service](#)
- [U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Office of Native American Programs](#)

ii. *Congress*

Within the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives there are committees and subcommittees that are tasked with oversight of US-Tribal governmental relationships and the appropriate application of law and treaty rights in domestic governance. The two of note are:

- [United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs](#)
- [United States House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States](#)

iii. *State Government Opportunities*

Each state has different offices that are charged with handling issues affecting American Indians. Each state must be researched specifically to find out which offices handle such legal work.

[Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation – Tribal Relations Division](#)

The Department of Environmental Conservation is committed to enhancing the relationship between the state and Alaska's 229 federally recognized tribes. The DEC tribal liaison works with department staff, the Governor's Tribal Advisory Council (GTAC), GTAC Natural Resources Subcommittee, and other state agencies to address issues of interest to Alaska Tribes, tribal organizations, and the Alaska Native community.

[Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Affairs – Tribal Relations Division](#)

[Arizona Governor's Office of Tribal Relations](#)

The Office on Tribal Relations as initially established as the Commission of Indian Affairs in 1953 by the 21st Legislature to consider and study conditions among the Indians residing within the State of Arizona. The agency mission made targeted efforts to assist and support state and federal agencies in assisting Indians and tribal councils in this state to develop mutual goals, to design projects for achieving goals and to implement their plans.

[Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs](#)

In 1976, the Colorado General Assembly created, within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs (CCIA). The Lieutenant Governor serves in the statutory role as chair of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs. The Commission was designed to be the official liaison between the two Ute Tribes and the State of Colorado

[Maine Tribal-State Commission](#)

The Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission is an inter- governmental entity created by the Maine Implementing Act of 1980. Responsibilities of the Commission include continually review the effectiveness of the Act and the social, economic, and legal relationship between the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, Passamaquoddy Tribe, the

Penobscot Indian Nation, and the State.

#### [Michigan Department of Health & Human Services – Native American Affairs](#)

The Michigan DHHS Native American Affairs office provides a broad range of social services to protect, preserve and strengthen Native American families both on and off tribal lands. This office supports an Indian population of approximately 200,000 with various services provided in partnership with Michigan's federally recognized tribes, the state historic tribes, Indian organizations, federal government and other community and state organizations.

#### [New Mexico Department of Indian Affairs](#)

Since 2003 the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) has implemented groundbreaking state-tribal policies intended to improve the quality of life for the state's Indian citizens.

## **6. Law Firms and Private Practice**

Below is a listing of a number of law firms with American Indian Law practices. This information was obtained from [PSJD](#)<sup>1</sup> and the University of Washington Law School's Office of Career Development, among other sources. *This list is not all inclusive.* Please also visit [Martindale-Hubbell](#) to conduct local state and city searches by practice area.

- [Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP](#), Los Angeles, CA; Washington, DC; San Antonio, TX;
- [Arnold & Porter](#), Denver, CO and nationally;
- [Best & Flannigan](#), Minneapolis, MN;
- [Big Fire Law and Policy Group](#), Omaha, NE; Winnebago, NE; Washington, DC;
- [Burch & Cracchiolo](#), Phoenix, AZ; Orange County, CA; Las Vegas, NV;
- [Crowe & Dunlevy](#), Oklahoma City, Tulsa, OK; Dallas, TX;
- [DLA Piper](#), Worldwide;
- [Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson](#), Oklahoma City, Tulsa, OK;
- [Dorsey & Whitney](#) Minneapolis, MN & Seattle, WA;
- [Elk River Law Office PLLP](#), Billings, MT;
- [Godfrey & Kahn](#), Appleton, Green Bay, Madison, Milwaukee, Waukesha, WI;
- [Greenberg Traurig](#), Denver, CO and nationally
- [Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson](#) Fayetteville, AR; Oklahoma City, Tulsa, OK, Washington, DC;
- [Holland & Hart](#), Denver, CO;
- [Holland & Knight](#), Los Angeles, San Francisco, CA; Washington, DC; Chicago, IL & New York, NY;
- [Hughes Hubbard & Reed, LLP](#), Los Angeles, CA; New York, NY;
- [Hufford, Horstman, Mongini, Parnell & Tucker, P.C.](#) Flagstaff, AZ;
- [Jenner & Block](#), Chicago, IL; Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco, CA; New York, NY; Washington, DC; London, UK;
- [Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston Gates Ellis, LLP](#), Anchorage, AK; Washington, DC; Harrisburg, PA & Seattle, WA;

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<sup>1</sup> PSJD also provides information on internships, externships, and other opportunities in the field.

- [Kanji & Katzen](#), Ann Arbor, MI; Seattle, WA;
- [Maynes, Bradford, Shipps and Sheftel](#), Durango, CO;
- [McElroy, Meyer, Walker & Condon](#), Boulder, CO;
- [Miller Nash](#), Portland, OR & Seattle, Vancouver, WA;
- [Morisset, Schlosser, Jozwiak & McGaw](#), Seattle WA;
- [Nordhaus Law Firm](#), Washington, DC; Albuquerque, Santa Fe, NM;
- [Olson Bzdok & Howard, P.C.](#), Traverse City, MI;
- [Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP](#), Los Angeles, Orange County, Sacramento, San Francisco, Silicon Valley, CA; Washington, DC; New York, NY; Pacific Northwest;
- [Patton Boggs, LLP](#), Anchorage, AK; Washington, DC;
- [Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, LLP](#), Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Silicon Valley, CA; Washington, DC;
- [Pipestem & Nagle, P.C.](#), Tulsa, OK; Washington, DC;
- [Quarles & Brady](#), Phoenix, Tuscan, AZ; Madison, WI;
- [Setter, Roche, Smith & Shellenberger LLP](#), Denver and Fort Collins;
- [Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal](#), Phoenix, AZ; Los Angeles, San Francisco, CA; Chicago, IL; Washington, DC & St. Louis, MO;
- [Sonosky Chambers Sachse Endreson & Perry, LLP](#), Anchorage, AK; San Diego, CA; Washington, DC & Albuquerque, NM;
- [Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP](#), Phoenix, AZ; Washington, DC; Kansas City, MO & Omaha, NE;
- [Stoel Rives](#), Portland, OR & Seattle, WA;
- [Williams Kastner](#), Seattle, WA;
- [Ziontz, Chestnut, Varnell, Berley & Slonim](#), Seattle, WA.

## 7. International Opportunities

### i. [United Nations](#)

The United Nations page aggregates opportunities for human rights work worldwide, including positions related to Indigenous Peoples. Some UN agencies and affiliated bodies, such as the [International Labour Organization](#), maintain their own career postings.

### ii. [Organization of American States](#)

Opportunities at the Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights.

### iii. [World Bank Organization](#)

Opportunities at the World Bank Organization.

### iv. *International Organizations*

There are numerous organizations that engage in international law, policy, and advocacy work. The list below is a starting point for those interested in exploring this area of legal work.

- [Amazon Watch](#)
- [Amnesty International](#)
- [African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights](#)

- [African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights](#)
- [Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact](#)
- [Center for World Indigenous Studies](#)
- [Coalition of the Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#)
- [Cultural Survival](#)
- [European Court of Human Rights](#)
- [First Peoples Worldwide](#)
- [Forest Peoples Programme](#)
- [Indian Law Resource Center](#)
- [Indigenous Peoples' Centre for Documentation, Research and Information](#)
- [Indigenous Environmental Network](#)
- [International Indian Treaty Council](#)
- [International Indigenous Women's Forum](#)
- [International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs \(IWGIA\)](#)
- [Land Rights Now](#)
- [Minority Rights Group International](#)
- [Native American Rights Fund](#)
- [Saami Council](#)
- [Survival International](#)
- [World Rainforest Movement](#)

v. *Associations of International Law*

- American Society of International Law
  - [ASIL Indigenous Peoples' Rights Section & Newsletter](#)
- [University of Calgary International Indigenous Studies](#)

## 8. Other Useful Indian Law Resources

[Turtle Talk](#) provides legal updates and current events in the field, and maintains a job board of openings in the Indian Law field that updates every Friday.

[The University of Oklahoma College of Law](#) publishes *The American Indian Law Review*, which serves as a nationwide scholarly forum for the presentation and analysis of developments in Indian Law and Indian affairs. It also maintains the Native American Constitution and Law Digitization Project which provides access to Tribal Codes, Constitutions, and other legal documents.

The [American Indian Law Center](#), housed at the University of New Mexico, is the oldest existing Indian controlled and operated legal and public policy organization in the country. The AILC provides preparatory legal education to individuals, training and technical assistance to tribes and their courts, and policy analysis.

[The Cornell Legal Information Institute](#) provides a general overview of American Indian Law including links to important legal documents.

[Gonzaga University School of Law Library](#) provides a research guide for American Indian Law, which includes a national database of Tribal Codes, Treatises, and other resources.

[Indian Country Today](#) keeps a list of current job openings related to Indian law.

The Arizona State University [Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law](#) and [UCLA School of Law Native Nations Law & Policy Center](#) both provide additional information about resources for those working or hoping to work in Indian law and policy.

The Native American Rights Fund [Finding Legal Help](#) page has a curated list of organizations engaged in the field.

Law.com retains an updated list of [firms with American Indian law and policy practice areas](#) (account required, and free accounts available).

### **III. Conclusion**

American Indian Law is an important and growing field. For those interested in doing an externship, internship, or seeking a full-time position in this area of practice, please make an appointment with the [Office of Career Development](#) for counseling and resources.