



JAMESTOWN S'KLALLAM TRIBE

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July 9, 2010

President Salvador A. Mungia
WSBA Board of Governors
c/o Paula C. Littlewood, Executive
Director
1325 4th Avenue, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101-2539

Dean Kellye Y. Testy
University of Washington School of
Law
William H. Gates Hall
Box 353020
Seattle, WA 98195-3020

Dean Earl F. Martin
Gonzaga University School of Law
P.O. Box 3528
Spokane, WA 99220-3528

Dean Annette Clark
Seattle University School of Law
P.O. Box 222000
Seattle, WA 98122-1090

Re: Indian Law on the Washington State Bar Exam

Dear President Mungia and Deans Testy, Martin & Clark:

I am the Chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and President of the Washington Indian Gaming Association. I also serve as the Treasurer of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), having served on NCAI's Executive Committee since 1989 and as its President from 1995 to 1999. NCAI, founded in 1944, is the oldest, largest and most representative national American Indian and Alaska Native organization protecting and advocating for such Tribal interests as Tribal sovereignty, treaty rights, and cultural/traditional/religious rights.

I write you, as I wrote to the WSBA Board of Governors in 2004, to encourage the State Bar's continued support of testing federal Indian law on our Washington's bar exam. The inclusion of American Indian law on our State's bar exam is extremely important to Indian Country. It is so important that in 2004, NCAI considered and passed the enclosed Resolution "to have the topic of Indian law tested by state bar associations, so the American public can better understand the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian Nations."

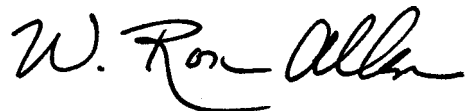
We are pleased that after the Board of Governors adopted Indian law as a bar exam topic here in Washington, South Dakota and New Mexico did the same. Over the course of my nearly forty-year career in state, regional and national Indian politics, I have witnessed Washington State evolve towards the forefront of tribal/state relations. The Board of Governors' decision in 2004 was another example of our State's leadership in that regard.

As the Judiciaries of the 29 Tribes in Washington mature, the state bar exam remains an important piece of law and order on our Reservations. Many Tribes' courts require lawyers to be state bar-licensed to appear in those courts. Many of our Tribal Courts require our trial court and appeals court judges to be state-bar licensed. It is therefore fitting that just as our Tribal judicial systems recognize and draw support from the State Bar and its licensing process, the Washington State bar exam incorporate tenants of federal Indian law and jurisdiction. As a result, we believe that the Tribes and our historical legal rights contribute to the education of lawyers who in turn represent, defend and teach Native and non-Native people throughout our State.

As a longtime elected Tribal leader, I feel an increasingly strong sense of a reciprocity and comity between our Tribal Governments and Washington State with regard to the inclusion of Indian law on the state bar exam – a feeling that must be honored, cherished and protected by us all of us in leadership positions for sake of our citizens and constituents.

I and my Tribe strongly encourage that you will maintain federal Indian law as a topic on the Washington State bar exam. If the Tribes in Washington can be of any assistance in that regard, or otherwise, please let me know and I will see what we can all accomplish together. I appreciate your time and your consideration of my encouragement and recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Ron Allen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

W. Ron Allen
Tribal Chairman/CEO

cc: Gabe Galanda