

Procopio Native American Internship

Procopio has a long standing tradition of providing growth opportunities to the communities we serve. Procopio's Native American Practice Group extends this tradition by actively investing in the future leaders of Indian Country through offering internships for Native American law students or law students with an emphasis in Native American law.

This opportunity allows students to gain hands-on experience dealing with everyday legal issues facing Native American communities. Each intern gains valuable law firm experience as they are exposed to matters that deal with specific Indian law related matters by assisting in legal research, writing, public speaking and representation regarding matters for tribal clients affecting Indian Country. Projects may include the development of governmental operation programs for tribal governments, including tribal histories, program audits and development, Tribal Code review and updating, Tribal healthcare, employment manual review and development, taxation issues, strategies for cultural resource protection and legislative and rulemaking review and analysis. Once completed, the internship transitions into a mentorship program after students return to law school and begin their legal careers.

Please join us in identifying qualified legal students within Native American communities that may be interested in being part of the program. To qualify, applicants should have completed at least their first year of law school prior to the start of the internship (which is scheduled to begin after May 15). Our paid Native American Internship is offered each summer to interns for eight to 10 weeks.

Applications may be submitted electronically or via email to the attention of Ted Griswold at ted.griswold@procopio.com or 525 B Street, Suite 2200, San Diego, CA 92101. All applications should include a short cover letter expressing applicant's interest in Native American law, along with a resume and law school transcript.

"We welcome the Native American Interns and their contributions to our group and appreciate the opportunity to share their experience with our tribal clients, while providing the interns with valuable work experience and guidance. The lived experiences of our Native American Interns help us continue to provide our tribes and tribal-affiliated clients the highest level of legal services."

- Ted Griswold, Partner and Chair of the Native American Practice Group, Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP

About Us

With more than 140 attorneys in San Diego, Del Mar Heights and Silicon Valley, Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP is one of the largest business law firms in California. We are a regional law firm with a global network that gives us the ability to serve clients' interests throughout the world.

Procopio is dedicated to understanding the businesses and industries of clients and collaborating with them to develop tailored strategies. We structure and manage our practice with our focus firmly fixed on what matters to clients: experienced business attorneys acting as partners to deliver the most intelligent and pragmatic legal solutions in the most cost-effective fashion. We advise companies at every stage in the corporate life cycle, helping them to plan, finance and operate their businesses. Our seasoned attorneys respond quickly and in the most qualified manner to address clients' needs.

Since 1946, our success has been derived from our commitment to clients and our ability to maximize the value we provide to them. Our goal is to continue building long-term relationships with clients through a steady, team-oriented approach.

Alumni of the Procopio Native American Internship



2013

Kelsey Leonard is a citizen of the Shinnecock Indian Nation. She received her undergraduate degree from Harvard University, where she served within various Native undergraduate organizations, including the All Ivy Native Council and the Harvard University Native American Program. She then attended University of Oxford, England, where she received her masters in water science, policy and management. Kelsey has worked as an independent consultant in Western Pennsylvania with a variety of nonprofit organizations on environmental policy and water resource management projects prior to her current pursuit of a law degree at Dusquene University Law School.



2013

Stephanie Conduff is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation. She received her undergraduate degrees from the University of Oklahoma in political science and journalism and a masters in public policy from the University of Minnesota. Stephanie works extensively in Indian Country – including representing the Cherokee Nation and Cherokee Nation Businesses. From managing \$350M of annual federal appropriation requests on capitol hill to working on mergers and acquisitions for a \$750M diversified business portfolio, Stephanie has experience in Native policy development, business development and tribal politics. Additionally, Oklahoma Magazine recognized her as a “40 Under 40.” Stephanie is currently a law clerk for Procopio and is finalizing her law degree. at the University of Oklahoma College of Law.



2012

Jaclyn Simi is a citizen of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. She graduated with honors from Notre Dame de Namur University and obtained a law degree at California Western Law School where she was the president of the Native American Law Students Association. Jaclyn has previous experience working in corporate communications and media relations with NBC Universal and the San Diego Padres Baseball Club, and worked for the San Diego County Treasurer-Tax Collector regarding deferred compensation employment matters, and has a strong interest in employment law and its application to Native American Tribal Governments and Intertribal Entities. Jaclyn is currently a full-time associate attorney at Procopio and works within the labor and employment and Native American teams in the San Diego office.



2012

Fernando Anzaldua is a citizen of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Fernando attended Arizona State University, where he earned his undergraduate degree. in philosophy and political science, in addition to obtaining an Ethics Certificate. He obtained his from the Sandra Day O'Connor of Law, as well as an Indian Legal Certificate. During his law school career he was a student attorney for the Indian Legal Clinic and was involved in various student organizations, including the Native American Law Students Association, Chicano/Latino Law Students Association and the Law Journal for Social Justice. After graduating, Fernando sat for the Arizona Bar Exam and is seeking employment opportunities to practice law in the areas of Federal Indian Law, Public Interest Law and Environmental Law.



2011

Trinidad Contreras is citizen of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel and is a descendent of the Pala Band of Mission Indians. He received his law degree from the University of Arizona, College of Law and his LL.M. from the U.C. Los Angeles. Trinidad received his undergraduates degrees from U.C. Berkeley in Native American Studies and molecular and cellular biology and a masters at the University of Arizona in Federal Indian Law and Policy. He previously completed legal externships with the Pascua Yaqui National Public Defender's Office in Tucson, AZ, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Tribal Justice in Washington, DC, the U.S. Federal District Court, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona and the National Indian Gaming Association. He is currently a law clerk for the Superior Court in Fairbanks, AK.