

Presented by:



A Tribal Enterprise of:



July 29-31, 2015

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center ~ Albuquerque, NM

AGENDA

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

- 8:00 AM Registration**
8:30 AM Welcome and Overview by Chairman Mark Romero
9:00 AM The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978
The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a federal law that seeks to keep American Indian children with American Indian families, but is it really working? We will review the actual Act and its intent. The discussion will also focus on how the Act has been interpreted in State, District and Federal courts since 1978.
- 10:15 AM Break**
10:30 AM Current Court Cases
Tribal Law advocates will discuss the current status of the Act and how current court cases around the country have been reviewed, handled and eroded the Act in the past five years. We will also look at the recent ruling for the Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians court case and how that ruling was decided.
- NOON Lunch**
1:00 PM Current Court Cases Cont'd.
4:30 PM Session Ends
5:00 PM Networking Reception

Thursday, July 30, 2015

- 8:30 AM What is Competent Jurisdiction?**
This term is not defined in the Act or its legislative history. So how do we define that and make sure a case is heard in the right court and jurisdiction where all sides are heard and there is a clear understanding of Tribal sovereignty and Tribal culture?
- 10:15 AM Break**
10:30 AM What is Competent Jurisdiction? Contd.
NOON Lunch
1:00 PM Education and Reform of the Act
How can tribes play a key role in the education of case workers, lawyers and the court system on their cultural and sovereign rights?
- 2:45 PM Afternoon Break**
3:00 PM Education and Reform of the Act Cont'd.
4:30 PM Session Ends

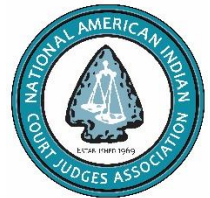


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AGENDA CONTINUED

Friday, July 31, 2015

In Partnership with:



8:30 AM Implementing the Peacemaking Process

Peacemaking, or traditional dispute resolutions, can offer a form of best practice when considering the circles of care required to ensure a child's well-being over the course of their upbringing, as well as the various parties with a potential interest in the child's care and future. Even if a tribally specific model is not available, some version can be implemented as best practice. This session will look at the how to implement the peacemaking process and what alternative process would work for your tribe.

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM Implementing the Peacemaking Process Cont'd.

We will continue the discussion as well as some experiential learning exercises to help show the power of traditional systems to create a more comprehensive circle of care for the child.

NOON Lunch

1:00 PM Tribal Codes and Models for Peacemaking

There are various models and infinite possibilities for any Tribe that seeks to implement more traditional dispute resolution practices and methods into its system for addressing children in need of care. What are some of those variables to consider in adopting or developing peacemaking programs and laws? What models exist? Do any states respect tribal laws that reflect traditional systems? Can tradition and federal funding requirements and assurances be reconciled?

4:00 PM Conference Ends