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Tulalip, WA 98271

**TulalipCares.org**

# Funds Distribution Report

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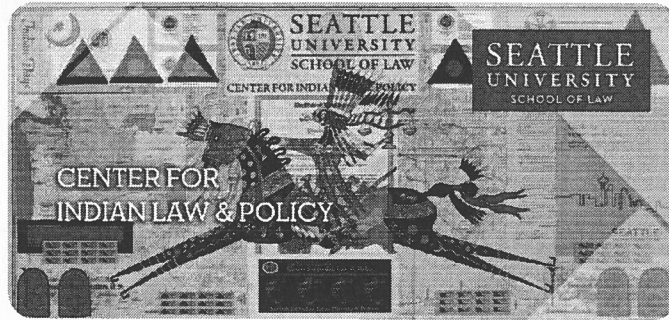
**Organization's General Goals:**  
Seattle University is dedicated to educating the whole person, to professional formation, and to empowering leaders for a just and humane world.

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<b>Date of Award:</b>	<b>Level:</b>
2019 Q1	\$10,000+

For more information, please read the attached report from Seattle University.

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## 2020 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE TULALIP TRIBES

The Tulalip Tribes of Washington, 6406 Marine Drive, Tulalip, WA 98271

The Center for Indian Law & Policy (Center) at Seattle University School of Law is a resource for our law students, alumni, faculty, and for the Indian law and Tribal communities of the Pacific Northwest. We endeavor to provide an emphasis on Indian law through our curriculum, advocacy, programs, and events. We would like to thank the Tulalip Tribes for providing us with an annual grant, which helps us to do the work to fulfill our mission to our students, tribal members, and Indian country. Because of the generosity of the Tulalip Tribes, we sponsored programs for our students, increased recruitment of tribal members to law school, supported those students while in law school, and increased the number of attorneys practicing Indian law in the Northwest. We are committed to increasing the number of American Indian and Alaska Native students who attend law school. Center staff includes Faculty Director Gregory Silverman, Staff Director Brooke Pinkham, and Legal Assistant Elizabeth Guinn. Thank you for your support!



## From the Directors

Q'ciw'yew. It has been an eventful year with much time focused on both students and Tribal activity. We are excited to tell you about our newest project, update you on our ongoing projects, and how we continue to strengthen our work serving Indian country. Below you will learn about the projects, partnerships, events, and programs we have been able to accomplish throughout this past year.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to hearing from you.

**Gregory Silverman, Faculty Director**

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**Brooke Pinkham, Staff Director**

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## Projects

### **Protecting the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)**

Due to the increasing threat against the Indian Children Welfare Act by private policy groups, the Center agreed to step up to support tribes in protecting Native children, and tribal sovereignty. Recognizing the Center's reputation in the Northwest, nationally known ICWA expert, Kate Fort, approached the Center and requested that we begin providing support to WA Tribes on issues related to ICWA. The Center stepped up to the task, and in the past year have incorporated various ways to support ICWA and Tribes. While we endeavor to increase our expertise in ICWA, we are now a known resource on ICWA issues. Here is what we've been up to:

**In-house ICW Tribal Attorney Support:** In September 2019, the Center hosted an all day meeting for WA State ICW Attorneys. The meeting was sponsored by Casey Family Programs, an organization committed to keeping Native families together. There were over a dozen Tribes represented. A robust discussion of the Tribal attorneys present confirmed the need of WA Tribes for additional resources to support their ICW work. The Center will continue to facilitate and expand this group until it includes Tribal attorneys and representatives from all of the WA Tribes and becomes a permanent resource for the Tribes in addressing their ICWA needs. The next meeting will take place in May 2020.

**Assistance with Amicus Briefs:** The Center signed on this year to two WA State amicus briefs to force the State into ICWA compliance.

**Providing Training On ICWA issues:** The Center has provided numerous trainings through continuing legal education courses for lawyers and training programs for students and Tribes throughout the region.

**Legislative work:** The Center submitted rulemaking comments on a crucial issue affecting Tribes who receive special funding for ICW and foster care programs.

**Working and Meeting with ICW workers and staff:** The Center has participated in the National ICWA conference in the past two years, and attended tribally hosted meetings with ICW workers, state social workers, and state representatives supporting tribes and working to create more efficient programs.

**WSBA Family Law Deskbook:** Due to the Center's new initiatives concerning ICWA, we were invited to help re-draft the ICWA Chapter of the of the Washington State Bar Association Family Law Deskbook, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

### **Indian Institute for Estate Planning**

The Center for Indian Law and Policy continues to be a resource in Indian Estate Planning and Probate. We provide education to law students who then go out into tribal communities to provide estate planning services.

## **Partnerships**

The Center continues to work closely with the Indigenous Peoples Institute at SU to tackle the work desperately needed in Indian education, and the recruitment and retention of Native students. The Center also continues to partner with a consortium of law schools in the Pacific Northwest focused on encouraging undergraduate Native students from all over the nation to attend law school. This work is especially important as American Indians continue to be the least represented in the legal profession.

The Center also partners with alumni, local law firms, Tribal organizations, and other community organizations to find opportunities for our law students as well as educate the broader community on understanding the importance of federal Indian and tribal law.

## **Programs**

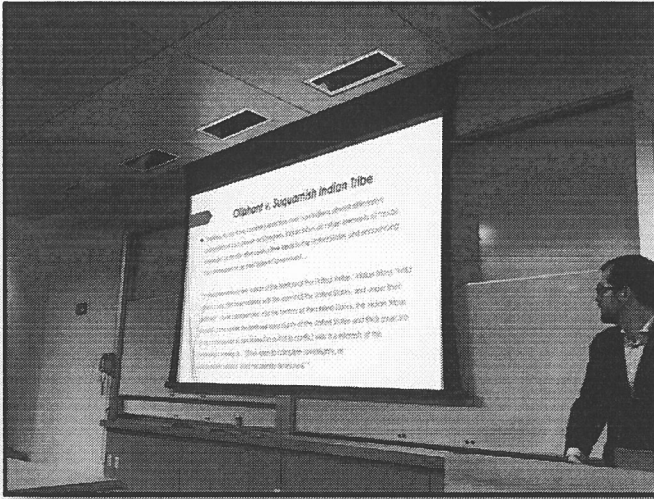
### **“Exploring the Tribal Court System: An evening of Film and Discussion”**

On April 4, 2019, the Center, along with the Washington Supreme Court's Minority Justice Consortium, and the Indigenous Peoples Institute at SU, hosted the screening of “Tribal Justice,” a film which showcases how Tribal courts are leading the way in transforming their communities through traditional modes of restorative justice. Following the film the Center hosted a reception, with a keynote by Judge Claudette White, who is featured in the film. The



program highlighted the incredible work tribal court judges do to provide access to holistic, structured, and phased treatment and rehabilitation services that incorporate culture and tradition. The event was well attended by students, staff, faculty, judges, attorneys, and other community members interested to learn more about this important work.

## “Restoration of Inherent Tribal Criminal Authority over Non-Indians through The Violence Against Women Act.”



The Center, the Native American Law Students Association at Seattle University (NALSA), and the American Indian Law Journal (AILJ), hosted a discussion in honor of Indigenous Peoples Day on October 14, 2019. Phil Tinker, an attorney with the law firm of Kanji, Kaatzen, presented on how federal restrictions on tribal criminal jurisdiction can severely hinder the ability of tribal governments to keep their citizens and communities safe. This lecture

was very well attended, and added to the work the Center has been doing to support those advocating for the awareness of murdered and missing Indigenous people.

## Events

### You are invited to save the date:

On **Saturday, April 11, 2020**: The American Indian Law Journal at SU will host its annual Award and Recognition Dinner at SU School of law from 5-7pm. Expect an email invitation to this dinner sometime in March.

### Thank you for your Support of Our Students!

#### The American Indian Law Journal's 2018-2019 Editorial Board:

Editor-in-Chief Jessica Roberts, Cherokee Nation; Managing Editor Sungeun Julie Kim; Development Editor Keegan Tasker; Executive Editor Cloie Chapman, Content Editor Phoebe Millsap; and Senior Editor Lindsey Bray.

The journal was launched in 2011 by Seattle University law students and faculty with the goal of filling a critical gap in scholarship of the rapidly developing fields of Indian and tribal law. AILJ's online format makes this resource readily available throughout Indian Country; the latest issue can be found online: <https://law.seattleu.edu/academics/co-curricular/journals/ailj>.

#### The SU Native American Law Student Association 2018-2019 Board:

Nathan McCurtain, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, President; Makayla Gustafson, Tlingit-Haida, Vice-President; Stockton Pendergast, Secretary; Alexa Kubeska, Treasurer.