



Navajo Nation CLE Conference

Friday, September 24, 2010
Great Hall
Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ

8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Dine Traditional Law (1.5)

8:30 – 10:00 Justin Jones

An overview of Dine Traditional law.

Break

10:00 - 10:10

Navajo Nation UCC (1)

10:10 - 11:10

Roxann Gallagher

The Navajo Nation UCC governs the sale of goods, enforcement of contracts, remedies for breaches of contract, obligations, and liabilities of those using negotiable instruments in transactions, and procedures for a creditor to enforce security interests. If your practice involves any commercial transactions within the Navajo Nation, this class is for you.

The Future of the Navajo Preference in Employment Act (1)

11:10 – 12:10 Paul Spruhan

An overview of the employment jurisdiction cases currently pending before courts and a discussion on the future of the Navajo Preference in Employment Act.

Break

12:10 - 12:20

Ethics & Assigned Pro Bono Cases (1 Ethics)

Lunch Provided

12:20 – 1:20

Levon Henry

A discussion of the ethical issues that arise when someone is appointed counsel in pro bono cases.

Break

1:20 - 1:30

Local and National Legislative Update (1.5)

1:30 - 3:00

Frank Seanez Javier Ramos

<u>Navajo Nation Statutory Law Update - September 2010</u>: An overview of new and pending legislation of the Navajo Nation.

<u>National Update</u>: A discussion on President Obama's consultation executive order and its effect on Navajo's government to government process ranging from the United Nation's Declaration of Indigenous People's rights to transportation issues to law enforcement.

Break

3:00 - 3:10

Navajo Nation Sovereign Immunity Act & Arbitration Act (1)

3:10 – 4:10 Bidtah Becker

The Navajo Nation enjoys sovereign immunity but has waived its immunity for certain purposes through the Navajo Nation Sovereign Immunity Act. The discussion will include overview of key Navajo Nation Supreme Court opinions interpreting the Sovereign Immunity Act. The Navajo Nation Arbitration Act is a companion act that provides the process for resolving contract disputes with the Navajo Nation when it is a signatory to a contract.

Government Ethics in Funding & Procurement: Potential Pitfalls (1 Ethics)

4:10 - 5:10

Judith Dworkin Daniel Mestaz

Funding or procurement regulation violations can have severe consequences for the tribe and vendors alike, including conflict-of-interest ethics violations, the loss of federal funding, the loss of a vendor's tribal relationship, and even potential federal criminal liability. This session will discuss the interplay between the Navajo Nation's conflict-of-interest laws and funding and procurement rules. It will also offer practical insights on minimizing business and liability risks.