

### **Navajo Nation Law CLE Conference**

Indian Legal Program / Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law / Arizona State University November 30, 2012

### **Speaker Biographies**



## Randolph "Dolph" Barnhouse

Luebben Johnson & Barnhouse L.L.P., Partner J.D., University of New Mexico School of Law M.B.A., University of New Mexico

Dolph Barnhouse has over 20 years' experience in federal Indian law, commercial transactions and business litigation. He practiced with the Phoenix law firm of Brown & Bain PA in large case litigation and business matters

following which he served as executive director of DNA-People's Legal Services, the largest Indian legal services program in the country. He is a past member of the Bureau of Land Management's New Mexico Resource Advisory Council and recipient of the 2003 Courageous Advocacy Award from the State Bar of New Mexico. Dolph's practice emphasizes complex litigation, Indian law, gaming, government relations, representation of Tribes and Indian Country business enterprises in transactional matters.



Eric N. Dahlstrom

Rothstein, Donatelli, Hughes, Dahlstrom & Schoenburg, L.L.P., Partner

Eric N. Dahlstrom is a partner in the Tempe office of The Rothstein Law Firm.

J.D., University of Wisconsin – Madison (1976) B.A., Beloit College cum laude (1972)

Mr. Dahlstrom has limited his practice to the field of Federal Indian Law for over thirty-five years and specializes in Indian Gaming. Mr. Dahlstrom was named Lawyer of the Year—Gaming Law—Phoenix Area for 2013 by *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup>. Mr. Dahlstrom and The Rothstein Law Firm are currently serving as Special Prosecutor to the Navajo Nation. The Rothstein Law Firm also served as the first Navajo Nation Special Prosecutor beginning in 1989 and successfully prosecuted former Chairman Peter MacDonald, Sr. and other Navajo Nation officials for a variety of violations of Navajo Nation laws. Mr. Dahlstrom's career has tracked the growth in the practice of Federal Indian Law over the past thirty-five years. Mr. Dahlstrom represents tribes in Arizona and in Wisconsin and has been involved in nearly every development in the growth of Indian gaming law in both Arizona and Wisconsin. Mr. Dahlstrom also has an active practice in the field of natural resources protection and development on behalf of federally recognized Indian Tribes and Indian economic enterprises, involving mineral development, water rights, and federal, state, and tribal taxation of natural resource

development in Indian Country. Mr. Dahlstrom has also actively participated in the protection of the legal rights of Native Americans through his work for Indian legal services, the Arizona Bar Foundation, and the William E. Morris Institute for Justice.



#### Louis Denetsosie

Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Co., Interim President/CEO

J.D., Arizona State University College of Law (1974) B.S., Electrical Engineering, University of Arizona

Louis Denetsosie is a member of the Navajo Nation and has spent his entire legal career on the Navajo Nation. From 2003 to 2011, he has served as the

Attorney General of the Navajo Nation. He was also the Chairman of the Board of the Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Company from 1995 to 2002. Other clients of Mr. Denetsosie, when he was in private practice, included the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority and other Navajo Nation owned businesses. Achievements during his tenure as Attorney General included: settlement of all litigation with the Hopi Tribe over land; San Juan River Basin water settlement with New Mexico; financing and construction of the first two Navajo casinos; and a hard fought renewal of 900 miles of El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline right-of-way at the Nation's price.



# Levon B. Henry

DNA-People's Legal Services, Inc., Executive Director

J.D., University of New Mexico School of Law B.A., Calvin College

Levon Henry, a member of the Navajo Nation, is the Executive Director of DNA-People's Legal Services, Inc., the largest Indian legal services program

in the country serving seven Indian nations and two state counties. DNA maintains 11 offices in New Mexico, Arizona and Utah to assist low-income persons in civil legal matters. Mr. Henry is the former Attorney General for the Navajo Nation serving in that capacity from 1999 to 2002. He is currently the Chair of the National Association of Indian Legal Services, an organization of 25 Native American legal services programs across the country funded by the Legal Services Corporation. Mr. Henry received his law degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law and a B.A. from Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is licensed to practice in Navajo courts, New Mexico courts, U.S. federal court (NM) and the U.S. Supreme Court.



Franklin J. Hoover

Mangum, Wall, Stoops, & Warden, P.L.L.C., Partner

J.D., Vermont Law School

Franklin is a partner with Mangum, Wall, Stoops & Warden in Flagstaff practicing in education law, employment law, Indian law, construction law and civil litigation. Franklin graduated from Vermont Law School in 1993 earning a

J.D. and a Master of Studies in Law (Environmental Law). He was Assistant General Counsel Legislative Council for the Hopi Tribe from 1994-1998, serving as the staff attorney for the Hopi Tribal Council and representing the Tribe in Federal and Tribal courts in employment matters, land disputes and cultural resources protection matters. He has been with Mangum, Wall, Stoops & Warden since 1998 serving school districts, colleges, universities, tribally-controlled grant schools, charter schools, governmental organizations and private businesses throughout the state and, in particular, within Indian country.

#### **Justin Jones**

Law Offices of Justin Jones, Founder

J.D., University of Kansas School of Law, (Certificate of Indian Law, Government, & Natural Resources) B.A., Political Science, Fort Lewis College

Yá'át'ééh, shí éí Justin Jones yinishyé. Bit'ahnii nishlí, Ta'neeszahnii báshíshchíín, Kin Łichíi'nii dashicheii, Áshiihí dashinalí.

Justin Jones is from Rock Point, Arizona and is currently in private practice with the Law Offices of Justin Jones, P.C. in Farmington, New Mexico.



#### Ed McCool

Navajo Nation Office of Legislative Counsel, Acting Chief Legislative Counsel

L.L.M., Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy, James E. Rogers College of Law, Univ. of Arizona

J.D., Temple University Law School

M.A., Political Science, Temple University

B.A., LaSalle University

Ed McCool has been legislative counsel for the Navajo Nation Council for 6 years, functioning as its Chief Legislative Counsel since the formation of the new 22<sup>nd</sup> Navajo Nation Council in January 2011. He supervises a legal staff of 6 attorneys. He serves as counsel to the Office of the Speaker, the Budget and Finance Committee and the Naabikiyati' Committee as well as the Navajo Nation Council in regular and special session. Mr. McCool also advises the Navajo Nation Gaming Task Force and serves on the Navajo Nation Gaming Compact Negotiation Group for renewal of a gaming compact with the State of New Mexico. His prior work experience includes five years work as a legal services attorney and twelve years as Director and public interest lobbyist primarily dealing with the New Jersey Legislature and Office of the Governor.



# Stanley M. Pollack

Navajo Nation Dept of Justice, Assistant Attorney General, Water Rights Unit

J.D., University of Colorado Law School (1978) Undergraduate/Graduate degrees, University of Michigan

Stanley M. Pollack is the Assistant Attorney General for the Water Rights Unit of the Navajo Nation Department of Justice in Window Rock, Arizona. Since 1985, he has represented the Navajo Nation in all matters affecting the tribe's water resources, including five general stream adjudications in Arizona and New Mexico. He negotiated the Navajo Nation San Juan River Basin in New Mexico Water Rights Settlement approved by Congress in 2009 and is litigating the implementation of that settlement in New Mexico state court. He is also actively engaged in negotiations concerning the Navajo Nation's water rights to the Little Colorado and Colorado Rivers in Arizona — and the Nation's rights in the Upper Colorado River basin in Utah. Mr. Pollack has lectured extensively on Indian Reserved Rights, Colorado River issues, and the impact of the Endangered Species Act on tribal water rights. He received his law degree from the University of Colorado in 1978 and pursued undergraduate and graduate studies in water resources at the University of Michigan. He is admitted to the bars of Arizona, Michigan, New Mexico and the Navajo Nation. He is also admitted to practice before various federal courts, including the Ninth and Tenth Circuits, the Federal Court of Claims and the U.S. Supreme Court.