

B I O G R A P H I E S

W. RON ALLEN

Mr. Allen is the secretary of the National Congress of American Indians where he has served in various capacities for 20 years, including four years as the organization's president and eight as its treasurer. He has also been involved in a number of other governance organizations, such as the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and the Pacific Salmon Commission, and active in the development of federal policy and legislation implementing self-governance, as well as in initiatives like the National Indian Policy Center at George Washington University dedicated to policy research. Allen has been the chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe since 1977 and chief executive officer since 1982. In 2002, he became president of the Washington Indian Gaming Association. Allen graduated from the University of Washington with a dual bachelor's degree in political science and economics.

BOBBY L. BARRETT

Serving his fourth consecutive tribal council term, Mr. Barrett is now chairman of the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians. He made a decade-long career in management at Viejas Casino before running for tribal council. A certified problem gambling counselor, Barrett has initiated or developed several humanitarian efforts, including the Indian Nations UNICEF Tsunami Relief Fund in 2005, the Bobby Barrett Foundation, which endeavors to help less fortunate community members, and the Viejas Housing Program whose goal is to provide every tribal member with a home. In addition to his duties with the Viejas council, Barrett also serves on the board of directors of the recently formed California Tribal Business Alliance, an organization comprised of six tribes that aim to safeguard the tribal gaming industry and build a wide range of businesses and industry alliances.

JAMES BILLIE

Born behind a chimpanzee farm, Mr. Billie is a member of the Bird Clan of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, which never signed a peace treaty with the U.S. Government and defeated the U.S. Army in the three Seminole Indian Wars. After Billie's mother crossed over when he was nine, he was transferred from school to school, finally receiving his high school diploma from the Haskell Institute at the age of 20. Through his youth, Billie earned money wrestling alligators as an "Indian Guide" in the Everglades. After graduating, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving 18 months in Vietnam with the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne while completing three years of service. Less than two years after his honorable discharge, Billie was elected chairman of the tribe. While it is debatable whether or not the Seminole were the first tribe to pursue gaming, it is clear that under his leadership the Seminole were the first to conduct high-stakes operations and the first to openly market their gaming in defiance of threats made by local law enforcement. Billie is now pursuing a career in the country music industry as Chief James Billie. His "Big Alligator" is a YouTube classic.

KURT BLUEDOG

A member of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, Mr. BlueDog has been in the active practice of federal Indian law for nearly 30 years. After graduating from the University of South Dakota, he served as a commissioned officer in the Army paratroopers. BlueDog graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Law in 1977. He is a member of the state bars of Minnesota and Wisconsin, several tribal courts, the United States Supreme Court, and numerous federal district and appellate courts. Prior to working in private practice, he worked for the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) as a staff attorney. BlueDog serves as the Chief Judge for the Fond du Lac Reservation Tribal Court and on the executive committee of the National Indian Gaming Association. He also has served as an adjunct professor at William Mitchell College of Law and the Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota.

BRUCE "TWO DOGS" BOZSUM

Mr. Bozsum has been tribal council chairman of the Mohegan Tribe in Connecticut since 2005 when fellow councilors selected him for the position upon his re-election to the council. He is also an appointed Pipe Carrier, following an honored Mohegan tradition. Prior to his chairmanship, Bozsum served the tribe as manager of cultural and community programs, responsible for education outreach programs, the annual Wigwam Festival and Cultural Week. He had also worked as a floor supervisor in the tribe's high-stakes bingo operation.

STEVE CADUE

Over the last three decades, Mr. Cadue has held every elected position on the Kickapoo in Kansas tribal council, including serving 10 non-consecutive terms as chairman. In that position, he became a leader in introducing Indian gaming to the state of Kansas: In 1992, Governor Joan Finney of Kansas, the first governor to recognize by official proclamation the sovereignty of American Indian tribes, negotiated and signed a compact with the Kickapoo Nation. Cadue has also assisted the National Indian Gaming Association as its treasurer.

SENATOR BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL

Senator Campbell is a renowned jewelry designer, athlete, and trainer of champion quarter horses. He was All-American in judo at San Jose State University and captain of the 1964 U.S. Olympic Judo Team and is one of the 44 Chiefs of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe. Campbell served in the United States Senate from 1993-2005 and in the U.S. House from 1987-1993. He was the first American Indian in history to chair the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, leading the committee to pass more legislation than any other similar period in history. Campbell also held the position of Deputy Majority Whip. As a congressman, in 1987 he co-authored the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and introduced legislation to authorize the creation of the National Museum of the American Indian. Before



entering college, Campbell served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951-53 (stationed in Korea) where he attained the rank of Airman 2nd Class. He was also a deputy sheriff before being elected to the Colorado State Legislature in 1982.

CONGRESSMAN TOM COLE

Mr. Cole is the representative for Oklahoma's Fourth Congressional District. Cole was appointed to the House Appropriations Committee in early 2009 and serves as a Deputy Whip in the U.S. House. He is an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation and is currently the only Native American serving in Congress. Cole recently served as chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee for two years. He was awarded the Congressional Leadership award by the National Congress of American Indians and was inducted in the Chickasaw Hall of Fame in 2004. A former college instructor in history and politics, Cole holds a bachelor's degree from Grinnell College, a master's from Yale University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma. Cole has been a Thomas Watson Fellow and a Fulbright Fellow at the University of London. He and his wife, Ellen, have one son, Mason, and reside in Moore, Oklahoma.

MICHAEL COX

Mr. Cox is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. He and his wife, Patricia Zell, are the founding partners of Zell & Cox Law, P.C. Cox is Washington counsel to the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association and the National Indian Gaming Association. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma, his juris doctorate from the University of Virginia School of Law, and has been admitted to practice law in California, the District of Columbia, and the United States Supreme Court. As the first general counsel to the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), Cox was instrumental in transitioning the agency from its start-up phase to its operational phase. He was responsible for drafting the NIGC's regulations implementing the statutory requirements of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988. From 1996 until the establishment of Zell & Cox Law in June 2005, Cox served in the capacity of Counsel to Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky LLP.

STANLEY CROOKS

Born in Pipestone, Minnesota, Chairman Crooks has been a lifelong resident of Minnesota, residing in the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) for over 35 years. He is a tribal member of SMSC and in December 2007 was elected to his fifth consecutive four-year term as chairman. He is also chairman of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association (MIGA) as well as the SMSC representative to the National Indian Gaming Association and the National Congress of American Indians. Crooks served as vice chairman of the SMSC in the late 1980s and was also president and part owner of a gaming consulting firm that worked with Indian tribes in Minnesota, most notably the Prairie Island Indian Community which owns Treasure Island Casino. He is a Navy veteran and served during the Cuban Missile Crisis. In 2005 he was awarded NIGA's Wendell Chino Humanitarian Award. Prior to his involvement in tribal government, Crooks worked for the Whirlpool Corporation for 20 years. He is married and has two daughters, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. His father, the late Norman M. Crooks, was the first chairman of the SMSC and was one of the first proponents of bringing Indian gaming to Minnesota.

FRANKLIN DUCHENEAUX

A member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Mr. Ducheneaux was born and raised on the Cheyenne River Reservation. He became one of the few Native American lawyers in the United States when he received his juris doctorate from the University of South Dakota in 1965. He served in President Johnson's Office of Economic Opportunity before directing the Bureau of Indian Affairs'

Congressional Relations Office. He was elected executive director of the National Congress of American Indians, serving briefly in that role before becoming the organization's legislative consultant. Ducheneaux then began his 18-year service as counsel to the House Interior Committee where he helped draft some of the most influential legislation in contemporary American Indian history. Following his service on the Hill, Ducheneaux worked for a number of years lobbying on behalf of many Native American organizations.

JOHN E. ECHOHAWK

Mr. Echohawk, a Pawnee, is the executive director of the Native American Rights Fund (NARF). He was the first graduate of the University of New Mexico's visionary program to train Indian lawyers and was a founding member of the American Indian Law Students Association while in law school. Echohawk has been with NARF since its inception, having served continuously as executive director since 1977. He has been recognized as one of the 100 most influential lawyers in America by the *National Law Journal* since 1988 and has received numerous service awards and other recognition for his leadership in the Indian law field. He serves on the boards of the American Indian Resources Institute, the Association on American Indian Affairs, the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy, Natural Resources Defense Council, and the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development. He received his bachelor's degree and juris doctorate from the University of New Mexico, was a Reginald Heber Smith Fellow, and is admitted to practice law in Colorado.

GLENN M. FELDMAN

Since entering a law practice in Washington, D.C., in 1979 with former U.S. Senator James Abourezk (D-SD), who had been chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, Mr. Feldman has represented numerous tribes in an array of cases, tribal-state gaming compact negotiations, and financing transactions. A defining moment in his career came when he successfully represented the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians in the preeminent Indian gaming case, *California v. Cabazon Band*. The U.S. Supreme Court's 1987 decision in that case confirmed tribal gaming rights and helped trigger Congress' 1988 passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Feldman currently is a shareholder in the law firm of Mariscal, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander in Phoenix, Arizona. Possessing a juris doctorate from Georgetown University Law Center, he is admitted to practice law in Arizona, the District of Columbia, and before the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as several U.S. circuit courts of appeals and tribal courts.

KELLER GEORGE

A member of the Oneida Indian Nation of New York, Mr. George is the Wolf Clan Representative to the Nation's Men's Council. Before retiring in 2006, George served an unprecedented six consecutive terms as president of United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET), an intertribal organization of 25 federally recognized Indian nations. George helped USET gain national influence and stature during his tenure as chairman — in part by travelling over 300,000 miles per year on behalf of Indian Country — and was recently recognized for that work when the USET Board of Directors appointed him President Emeritus of the organization. Among other roles, George has also been a delegate and officer for both the National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Gaming Association, and he has served as the chairman of the Oneida Nation Gaming Commission. Currently he is on the Board of Trustees for the National Museum of the American Indian.

RONALD "BUZZ" GUTIERREZ

A member of the Spokane Tribe of Indians located in Washington State, Mr. Gutierrez has twice been elected to the tribe's council and once served as a tribal police officer. He possesses significant and multifaceted experience with the tribal gaming industry.

After becoming a blackjack dealer early in his professional life, Gutierrez went on to build his own casino in the mid-1980s. Although the Spokane Tribe declined to enter into gaming at that time, its constitution allows for the authorization of individuals to endeavor in tribal activities. Accordingly, with a license granted by the tribe, Gutierrez built the Double Eagle Casino in 1984 and '85 and opened it in the summer of '86. After the *Cabazon* decision was handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1987, Gutierrez worked with Spokane Council Member John Kieffer to bring gaming to the Spokane Reservation. The Double Eagle Casino, one of the older Indian gaming facilities, operated until 2005.

RON HIS HORSE IS THUNDER

Mr. His Horse Is Thunder is a member of the Hunkpapa-Lakota Oyate and currently serves as the tribal chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. In this capacity, he also is the chairman of the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association. He received his juris doctorate from the University of South Dakota School of Law and a bachelor's of science degree from Black Hills State University. His Horse Is Thunder began his career by serving in several professional capacities, e.g., as an attorney, director, and grants evaluator on the Rosebud and Standing Rock Sioux reservations. His Horse Is Thunder served as president of Standing Rock College, going on to serve as president of the American Indian College Fund, based in New York, New York. He then accepted the position of president at Little Hoop Community College in Fort Totten, North Dakota, later returning to the presidency of Sitting Bull College (formerly Standing Rock College) where he served in this capacity until his election as tribal chairman in 2005.

PHILIP N. HOGEN

Mr. Hogen, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, is chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission. Prior to this appointment, he was associate solicitor for the Division of Indian Affairs, Office of the Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). Before commencing private practice of Indian law in Rapid City, South Dakota, where he was affiliated with the national law firm of Holland & Knight LLP, Hogen served as an associate member and the vice-chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission. Hogen was the first director of the DOI's Office of American Indian Trust. Prior to having been named to that post, he served 10 years as the United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota. Hogen earned his law degree at the University of South Dakota and his undergraduate degree at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

ELIZABETH LOHAH HOMER

Elizabeth Lohah Homer, a member of the Osage Nation of Oklahoma, completed a three-year term of appointment as vice chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission before establishing Homer Law, CHTD. She has served as the director of the Office of American Indian Trust at the U.S. Department of the Interior, as well as in several U.S. diplomatic delegations to the United Nations and the Organization of American States. Her legal career began at the Office of the District Attorney for the Second Judicial District of New Mexico before she joined the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. Homer received her bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Colorado in Boulder and earned her juris doctorate from the University of New Mexico School of Law. She is a member of the State Bar of New Mexico and the Bar of the District of Columbia as well as the American Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, and Native American Bar Association.

SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE

The son of Japanese immigrants, Senator Inouye was born and raised in Honolulu. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Inouye, who had medical aid training, rushed into service as the head of a first-aid litter team for his Honolulu neighborhood. In March

1943, 18-year-old Inouye, then a freshman in pre-med studies at the University of Hawaii, enlisted in the U.S. Army's famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team, losing his right arm in service to his country. On May 27, 1947, he was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain and returned home with a Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest award for military valor, along with a Bronze Star, Purple Heart with cluster, and 12 other medals and citations. He was later awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. With financial assistance from the G.I. Bill, Inouye graduated from the University of Hawaii and the George Washington University Law School. Returning to Hawaii from Washington, Inouye served as a deputy public prosecutor for the City of Honolulu. When Hawaii became a state in 1959, he was elected the first congressman from the new state and was re-elected to a full term in 1960. He was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1962 and is now serving his eighth consecutive term. Inouye has served as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs among many other positions of Senate leadership.

TIM JOHNSON

While currently focused on his work at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, Mr. Johnson has launched or remodeled four of the leading and most influential American Indian publications in the country. These include: *Indian Country Today*, *American Indian*, *Celebrating Native Traditions & Communities*, and *Native Americas*. Prior to his service as a publishing advisor to *Indian Country Today*, Johnson was the founding assistant director for community services at the National Museum of the American Indian. In addition, his book, *Spirit Capture: Photographs from the National Museum of the American Indian*, was published in 1998 by the Smithsonian Institution Press. Previously, Johnson worked as executive manager for communications and development at Cornell University's Akwe:kon Press. He holds a bachelor's degree in communications from State University of New York College at Buffalo. With his wife, Lisa (Oneida), and their two children, Chelsey and Ryan, Johnson (Mohawk) lives in Six Nations of the Grand River.

GAY KINGMAN

Just before the National Indian Gaming Association was officially incorporated in 1993, Ms. Kingman was appointed as its public relations director, and her husband, S. Timothy Wapato, became its executive director. With Richard Hill having been recently elected as NIGA's chairman, the new team fought its first major PR battle — against a Donald Trump-backed bill — largely out of the Kingman-Wapato household in Washington, D.C.. Subsequently, Kingman's work at NIGA during the mid-'90s, helped establish the organization as a robust political force in Washington D.C. and a national voice for Indian Country. Prior to her work with NIGA, Kingman, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of South Dakota, had been the executive director of the National Congress of American Indians. Recently, she has served as the executive director of the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association in Rapid City, South Dakota.

J. KURT LUGER

Mr. Luger is currently executive director of the Great Plains Indian Gaming Association (GPIGA), which includes tribal nations with gaming compacts from the state of Kansas north to the Canadian border. Born in Fort Yates, North Dakota, on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, he is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. He has served on the staff of Senator Tom Daschle (D-SD) and as economic advisor to Wendell Chino, revered president of the Mescalero Apache Nation. Luger has served as chief of staff for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, the Quinault Indian Reservation, and the Red Lake Indian Reservation. He has also served with the Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest and the National Congress of American Indians. Luger attended Oklahoma Panhandle State University on a rodeo scholarship before attending the University of New Mexico.

ANTHONY MIRANDA

Mr. Miranda is currently the chairman of the California Nations Indian Gaming Association, a position in which he has served since December 2003. Prior to that date, he was the Association's executive secretary for two years. A member of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, Miranda began his career in the banking industry with Wells Fargo. At the age of 25 he ran for and won a seat on the Pechanga Economic Development Committee (later the Pechanga Development Corporation). He would later serve as the Development Corporations' vice president and president. With a degree in administration studies from the University of California at Riverside, Miranda played a critical role in developing both the Pechanga Band's first casino and years later, the significantly larger Pechanga Resort & Casino. He was also a central influence in the passage of Proposition 5 and Proposition 1A in California. As a recognized industry expert with over two decades of related experience, Miranda regularly addresses forums convened by the Global Gaming Expo, the National Indian Gaming Association, and other gaming organizations.

SHEILA MORAGO

Ms. Morago, a member of the Gila River Indian Community, is currently executive director of the Arizona Indian Gaming Association (AIGA). Her career in tribal gaming began in 1994 when she became director of marketing for the Gila River Casinos. Over the next four years, she developed the marketing department of the multimillion-dollar enterprise and helped to open two successful tribal casinos. In 1999, Morago moved to Washington, D.C., to serve as the National Indian Gaming Association's public relations director. She returned to Arizona as the tribal liaison for the successful Proposition 202 campaign (Arizonans for Fair Gaming & Indian Self Reliance), and played a critical role, coordinating efforts between the campaign office, the 17 tribal coalition members, and tribal casino operations. Between the ending of the campaign and joining AIGA, Morago worked for Initial Impressions, based in Tempe, Arizona, as its vice president of national relations. Morago studied business and public administration at the University of Arizona College.

CLINTON PATTEA

Mr. Pattea was born in the 1930s on the lands of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation northwest of Phoenix, Arizona. At a time when farming and cattle were the only economy, he grew up in an adobe house without floors, electricity, or running water. Thanks largely to Pattea's efforts during his nearly 50 years of service on the tribal council, of which he is currently president, conditions at the Nation have changed. First elected to the council in 1960, Pattea's leadership would prove crucial during the Nation's 1970s campaign to prevent the federal government's planned construction of the Orme Dam, which would have flooded the majority of the Nation's lands. Having staved off floods, Fort McDowell opened a bingo hall in the early '80s in attempt to generate much needed revenue and economic development. Following passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act in 1988, Fort McDowell and other Arizona gaming tribes encountered strong resistance when they attempted to negotiate gaming compacts with the state of Arizona. In May 1992, federal agents conducted raids of Indian casinos across Arizona. Pattea helped lead the Fort McDowell Yavapai in a blockade around the Nation's casino, successfully preventing the law enforcement agents from removing the casino's machines. Pattea then negotiated a 10-day "cooling-off" period during which he helped lead a grassroots public relations campaign. Negotiations began on a tribal-state compact and were finalized within six months. In April 2009, the National Indian Gaming Association awarded Pattea its highest honor — the Wendell Chino Humanitarian Award — for his decades of leadership on behalf of the Fort McDowell Yavapai and Indian Country.

ROBERT "SONNY" PEACOCK

A member of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

located in Minnesota, Mr. Peacock was chairman of the Reservation Business Committee, the tribal governing council, for 16 years. Prior to becoming chairman, he served as executive director for six years between 1980 and 1986. As chairman, Peacock helped open the Fond-du-Luth Casino in downtown Duluth, Minnesota, before introduction of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act in 1988. The Fond-du-Luth, which was the first off-reservation tribal casino in the country, has provided the city of Duluth with 19 percent of its slot machine revenues. Today, Peacock is the president of White Earth Tribal & Community College in Mahanomen, Minnesota. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and sociology and a master's degree in educational psychology, both from the University of Minnesota.

ANTHONY R. PICO

Beginning with his election in 1982, Mr. Pico served for over two decades as chairman of the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians of San Diego County, California. Under Chairman Pico's leadership, the Viejas Band built and developed the Viejas Casino along with multiple other business enterprises, achieving state and national recognition as leaders in tribal economic development and diversification. Pico was a driving force and spokesman for 1998's successful Proposition 5 California ballot campaign, helping to break a 10-year stalemate for tribal-state gaming compacts. He then served as co-chair of the subsequent Proposition 1A campaign initiative, which amended the California State Constitution to secure gaming rights for tribes statewide. Pico is currently on the board of directors of the Native American Rights Fund. He is a former chairman of the California Nevada Indian Gaming Association (now the California Nations Indian Gaming Association) and served for many years on the National Congress of American Indians Tribal Gaming Task Force. He possesses an associate's degree from Grossmont College in El Cajon, California, and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Long Island University, New York. Pico received a number of Distinguished Services medals during his service as an Army Paratrooper in Vietnam.

MARK POWLESS

Mr. Powless is a member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin. Before his professional involvement with the Oneida Tribe, Powless was a political activist with the American Indian Movement (AIM) during the 1970s. Then in 1978 he was elected to the first of three consecutive three-year terms on the Oneida Council, serving until 1987. In that capacity, he became involved in gaming issues at the tribal, state, and national levels. During the mid-1980s he became chairman of the National Task Force on Gaming on Indian Reservations, an organization tasked with taking a national inventory of the gaming enterprises that existed in Indian Country at that time. The Task Force's work and recommendations during the 1980s helped lead to the development of the National Indian Gaming Association, and Powless is recognized as one of the co-founders of that organization. During his time as chairman of the Task Force, Powless testified before the United States Congress on numerous occasions concerning pending legislation. A Vietnam veteran, he has recently worked for the Tule River Tribe's Gaming Commission (California) and the Oneida Gaming Commission.

VICTOR ROCHA

Coming out of high school, Mr. Rocha held two passionate interests, music and politics. After pursuing the music side of that duet for many years, he began to focus on the politics of Indian gaming when his tribe — the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians (California) — developed their casino in the mid-'90s. Rocha bought himself a computer and began sending emails containing relevant news stories to tribal leaders in California. As California's Proposition 5 campaign heated up in 1998, Rocha — after teaching himself how to use website design software — built and developed Pechanga.net, which has subsequently evolved into a vast source for Indian gaming,

non-tribal gaming, and more generalized Native news stories. Rocha's website now receives more than a million hits per month.

CHAD SMITH

The Cherokee people elected Chadwick "Cornassel" Smith as principal chief in 1999. Prior to his service as principal chief, Smith taught Indian law at Dartmouth College, Northeastern State University, and Rogers State University. He has written college curriculum in tribal operations and authored a 600-page course book on Cherokee legal history. Smith holds a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Georgia, a master's degree in public administration from the University of Wisconsin, and a juris doctorate from the University of Tulsa. He also served with two previous Cherokee Nation administrations as director of tribal planning, legal historian, attorney, tribal prosecutor, director of justice, and advisor to the tribal tax commission. He is a descendant of the leaders of the original Keetoowah Society who fought to keep tribal traditions and culture alive. Smith's wife, Bobbie Gail, is a full-blood, bilingual Cherokee from the Rocky Mountain community in Adair County.

ERNEST L. STEVENS, JR.

Chairman Stevens, a member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, was first elected to lead the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) in 2001. Since then he has served four consecutive two-year terms. During his tenure as NIGA chairman, Stevens has testified before the U.S. Congress on numerous occasions regarding pending legislation, leading multiple campaigns against legislation that aimed to curtail Indian gaming rights or tribal sovereignty. Prior to his NIGA service, Stevens was an elected councilman for the Oneida Tribe from 1993 to 1999. He is also a former first vice president and treasurer of the National Congress of American Indians. As a respected leader in Indian Country, Stevens has served on the Executive Board of the Native American Rights Fund, the National Indian Child Welfare Association, and the Boys and Girls Club of America (Native American Advisory Board). Stevens' father, Ernest Stevens, Sr., worked for years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, was a member of the Nixon administration's American Indian Policy Review Commission, and served as a leader of the Oneida Tribe. Chairman Stevens' mother was a grassroots activist and member of the American Indian Movement (AIM). Today, Chairman Stevens leads an industry that brings in more than \$25 billion in annual revenues and provides over 600,000 jobs across the country.

ROSS SWIMMER

Mr. Swimmer grew up in the Oklahoma City area, graduating from the University of Oklahoma with a bachelor's degree and a juris doctorate. Mr. Swimmer worked for a small law firm in Oklahoma City until 1972 when he was recruited by then Principal Chief Keeler to help with Cherokee land title work for the tribal housing authority. In 1975, Ross was elected principal chief. His first act was the presentation of a draft constitution for a vote of the people. It was overwhelmingly adopted in 1976. His leadership included bringing a new Indian hospital to Tahlequah, restoring tribal ownership of historic downtown Tahlequah properties, building a new tribal complex, and establishing several businesses to employ Cherokee people. Swimmer stepped down as principal chief in 1985 to become the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior (DOI). He transitioned to private practice in 1989 before returning to the DOI in 2001 to help with the reform of land trust issues.

THELMA THOMAS

Ms. Thomas is a member of the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska. After opening a small casino in an effort to increase employment in an economically depressed region of Nebraska, the Santee Sioux Tribe found itself in an eight-year legal battle. The case went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled that the tribe could legally

operate Class II machines without a tribal-state compact. During the legal battle, Thomas, as a tribal council member and manager of the Ohiya Casino, helped lead her tribe. Thomas' other professional experience includes serving as president of Nebraska Indian Community College, as a Nebraska Indian Community College instructor, and as the program director and chair of the Indian Studies Department of Morningside College. Thomas was honored with NIGA's 2004 John Kieffer award.

S. TIMOTHY WAPATO

Mr. Wapato, a member of the Colville Confederated Tribes located in Washington State, served as the first executive director of the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) from its official incorporation in 1993 through its formative years in the mid-1990s. Working alongside his wife, Gay Kingman, who was the organization's public relations director at the time, Wapato was able to defeat several prominent pieces of anti-gaming legislation while developing NIGA into an organization with extensive political lobbying capabilities. Before working at NIGA, Wapato was the executive director of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, the U.S. commissioner for the Pacific Salmon Commission, and commissioner for the Administration for Native Americans in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Wapato was awarded NIGA's Wendell Chino Humanitarian Award in 2006 for his decades of service to Indian Country. Mr. Wapato passed away in April, 2009.

W. RICHARD WEST, JR.

A citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma and a Peace Chief of the Southern Cheyenne, Mr. West has devoted his professional life and much of his personal life to working with American Indians on cultural, educational, legal, and governmental issues. He is the founding director of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) and retired in 2007. Before his work at NMAI, West was a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson and subsequently in the Indian-owned Albuquerque law firm of Gover, Stetson, Williams & West, P.C. He earned his bachelor's degree in American History from the University of Redlands, a master's in American History from Harvard University, and his juris doctorate from Stanford University School of Law where he was the recipient of the Hilmer Oehlmann, Jr., Prize for excellence in legal writing and served as an editor and note editor of the *Stanford Law Review*.

PATRICIA ZELL

For the past 23 years, Ms. Zell has served as the editor of the *Indian Law Reporter*, a monthly legal publication providing non-evaluative summaries of federal, state, tribal and administrative law rulings in the field of federal-Indian law. She served for 25 years as democratic staff director on the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and 19 years in the capacity of chief counsel working for many of them with the chairman and vice chairman of the committee, Senator Daniel K. Inouye. Prior to her Senate service, Zell worked for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, the American Indian Policy Review Commission, and the American Psychological Association. In 2005, she and her husband, Michael Cox, became the founding partners of Zell and Cox, P.C. A graduate of Georgetown Law School, Zell is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.