

## Resources at the National Indian Law Library – Transcript of audio

Please stand by for real time captions.

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We will get started in about five minutes.

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I'm giving you those who have just joined us to adjust the volume on your computer from or your speaker, we will get started in about two minutes.

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Hello, everyone want them to the Academy. My name is -- from GPO. Today's webinar is entitled resources from the National Indian Law Library . Represented today is Anne Lucke , she's the director of the national Indian law library at the Native American Rights Fund in Boulder, Colorado. In that position, and that performs research for Native American rights with attorneys, staff and law clerk as well as the general public. She also manages the library's unique collection of Indian law resources and these collections from the law library, travel gateway and for finding wall materials. Any career which includes working in large corporate law firm, federal court a nonprofit legal organization has provided and with expensive extensive experience, working with attorneys, judges, students and the general public. She makes it a priority to share her experience and expertise legal research instruction and training for Native American rights fund And others. That is a bit of housekeeping our present will be sharing her screen. That means that the child is going to disappear. To reactivate the chat what you're going to want to do is look at the blue bar at the top of the screen when you do that, chat will be one of the icons and you will click on that icon to reactivate the chat. With that introduction I will let and take away.

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All right, thank you so much. I'm really excited to be here today to share some information about accessing tribal law and about the resources available at the national the Lawler library which we call in I LL. So I'm going to start by sharing my screen All right. And I'm going to go over to my PowerPoint [ Laughter ] so thanks for bearing with me while I get my bearings. Here's the agenda I'm planning to cover today. I'm going to start by telling you a little bit about the Native American Rights Fund and the National Indian Law Library and the work that we do . And then we will transition to an overview of tribal law how to access it and have access some of the tribal law. We also highlight a new event that NILL is participating in. And before we finished I will make sure you know how to reach us if you have any questions or want to access our resources. We will add some time for questions but please feel free to ask questions the trap, Don is going to monitor that. Help me out so I can make sure to get your questions from the program. It is okay to stop and address something while we are on a particular topic, so please put your questions in the chat and we will get going. First, little background. The Native American Rights Fund is a nonprofit legal advocacy organization that provides legal assistance to Indian tribes, organizations and native individuals nationwide who might otherwise not have adequate legal rep is NARF was founded in 1970 when a group of attorneys working , with individual native people recognize the need for nationwide organization to advocate for rights and tribal sovereignty on a broader scale. Today we work on cases that are of importance to Indian country, and many more cases include tribal water rights, hunting rights and tribal sovereignty. Most recently we've been involved in voting rights cases and advocating for Indian country and the congressional redistricting process. This photo here is our brand-new office in Boulder, Colorado. We moved here in March, so cut about eight months we've been here and we are getting settled in. We also have offices in Anchorage, Alaska and in Washington, DC. These two photos are photos of our library we are still working on decorating greens see we still have some boxes not quite unpacked [ Laughter ]. But this is what the National Indian Law Library looks like in our new location in Boulder. NARF created the National Indian Law Library very soon

after the organization was founded because they recognized that natives people, and lacked access to Tribal Indian law resources. 50 years later the library continues to serve as an essential resource for those working to advance Native American justice. Here NILL our work is to support the attorneys and others at the Native American Rights Fund but we are also in the public and provide resources and basic research assistance with anyone with any of , law or Tribal a question. We work with Tribal court judges, Tribal administrators , childcare administrators, academic students, and just regular people. Some of the highlights of our connection include Tribal self-governance, documents including Tribal constitutions, codes, ordinances, charters, bylaws and intergovernmental agreements. Legal pleadings from important federal law cases, antilock treatises and manuals, Native American rights fund publication and a basic collection of general reference and historical or cultural books about Native Americans. So, let's start with some definitions. Federal Indian law covers how Indian tribes relate to the federal government, the state and other tribes. Sources of this law include treaties, statutes, executive orders, court decisions, and administrative actions. So this is one body of collection development within the national Indian law library, federal Indian law. On the other hand, Tribal law is created by sovereign Tribal governance . There 574 federally recognized tribes in the United States and we will get another loss a little bit more. But each of those tribes has their own laws and these Tribal laws refer to the Tribal territories into their members. There are certain cases when Tribal law applies to nonmembers, and that is a pretty complicated situation so we won't get into too much today. But just to keep in mind the Tribal law generally applies to Tribal members on Tribal land but occasionally does apply to nonmembers. The is not totally accurate I think it can be helpful to compare tribes to states as a jurisdiction under the federal government. And the tribe might have a Constitution, statutes, codified statutes, regulations, and rep. Tribes often have traffic laws, environmental protection laws, food safety laws in any of the other laws and any other jurisdiction might have. They'll might also have a court that issues Tribal opinions. If you've ever tried looking for Tribal law you know it's not always easy to find. And some tribes don't make their lost available to nonmembers at all. There are number of reasons why tribes don't make their loss publicly accessible. First, a lot of tribes are really small and they don't have very many people working for the Tribal governor really just a handful of people worked for the Tribal government so you simply might not have a trade staff person to publish the tribe laws or the person working the Tribal code leads or summaries, there may not available take over the responsibilities. Codifying and publishing and code can be expensive and generally requires an attorney, some tribes just don't have the resources available to high attorney to codify their laws. Do our work. It can be hard to determine who has the authority to say that a tribes laws to be published or shared outside of the tribe. I rented his challenges a lot, sometimes you know, we ask someone if they are tribe that they would like to share their laws on our website and no one has objected but no one wants to be the one person to say yes, so can be kind of complicated to figure out who you need to get in touch to to get that yes. And finally, some Tribal representatives just don't see why nonmembers would need to be the tribes lost, or they are so wishes of what is going to be done with the loss if they are available to people outside of the tribe and I think we all know that several hundred years of reasons why that may be the case. So there are also problems with the collection site of publishing Tribal Law from the publisher side, even if you've knowledge that not all tribes have a published code there still is in one place that you can search all of those that are published. And part of the reason is that there are 574 federally recognized tribes, 574 governance was very levels of sophistication. You would have to have relationships with all of those governments in order to have the comprehensive collection of Tribal laws because they're not all rating system. Sometimes, I think searching for Tribal Law is more analogous , not the state laws as I said earlier but really more searching for a county or municipal Law. You might be able to find those county or municipal laws online somewhere, but even if you did, it is unlikely you will be research more than just a few at a time simultaneously. So where can you look to find the tribe -- Tribal Law that are published, there are number of legal publishers who publish Law on both free and fee-based formats.

Alexis, fax case are major fee-based publishers who do have Tribal Law available . So, Unicode, code publishing, places like that who tend to focus more municipal and county laws they also publish Tribal loss in their platforms. A growing number of tribes publish their laws on their own websites, some published on the website and there are also some regional collections that are published to states or through bar associations. Some of these resources have code, and when I use code in the NILL code kind to me statutes, codified statutes, all that kind of stuff bundled into one thing. Some have court opinions, some have both. Some tribes only publish their code or court opinions in print, either through legal publishers or on their own, but they are only in print so you have to find access to that amount to sum up finding and searching for Tribal Law is a really difficult , but NILL is trying to make a little bit easier so I'm going to show you our resource that Tribal Law Gateway which is our attempt to make a little bit easier to find and search Tribal Law. So with that I'm going to switch over to my browser. And this is the national Indian Law library website, we are going to come back to this later on in the visitation to go more in depth. But now we are going to start with this tab for Tribal Law Gateway. As we discussed there are 574 federally recognized tribes in the United States. But no one place to find Tribal Law and search all at once. It can be confusing to know where to look and that is why we created the Tribal Law Gateway. Gateway is an Apple physical list of tribes using their official names, from the BIAs list of federally recognized tribes. There are also a few state recognized tribes on the list for each individual tribes page describes where to find the code, Constitution, opinions, and other legal materials for the tribe. In addition to this list of tribes you'll notice a search box on the right. And that is how you can search the entire Tribal Law Gateway, and this is what you can use with you are looking for cool revisions on the topic. I will say that as I said before on the collection side it requires constant upkeep on the Tribal Law Gateway to keep it up-to-date. We do have relationships with a number of tribes let us know which time they of date their loss. We also actively look for Tribal Law been published on Tribal websites and elsewhere. And sometimes we even cold call tribes to see if they have multiple like to share with us. But even with all of that, we have three librarians at the national Indian Law lamprey and so even the best of intentions, we can't keep up on anything -- everything, so if you notice a broken link or if you find updated sources of Tribal Law materials, please let us know. We value the feedback from folks are using the Tribal Law gave me to help us keep it his current as possible. Let's start by looking at a tribes page. I'm going to start with the Penobscot nation. So each individual tribes page within the Tribal Law Gateway will follow the same format would you see the tribes name up at the top, there is an audio clip your for pronunciation that you can click on to hear pronunciation of tribes name, which helps folks who are unfamiliar with the pronunciation of a tribes name, just to know how to say it so they can address the tribe. Respectfully. There's a box on the right-hand side of the screen with contact info for the tribe, we try to put the tribes website if they have one, their street address, mailing address and that is different. Their phone number and if they have a Tribal court we try to put information for that as well for each individual tribe, we try to identify informational where to find the tribes code, Constitution and Tribal court opinions. And we also included a link to additional materials within the national Indian Law library collection. So for the Tribal Law Gateway -- Penobscot Nation you can see goes to the website. In this case, sorry -- lost my train of thought, the tribe doesn't have an Constitution that's why it's is not available here. Not available can be a little tricky on the Tribal Law Gateway because it can mean as in this case the tribe does not have a constitution. But it can also mean that we also just don't know they have one or if they have one we don't know where it is. Is one of the things we are working to update as we work through the Tribal Law Gateway is try to make that a little more clear, to describe what we mean in this case, Penobscot Nation has not adopted a constitution. This is where you can find court opinions here, and again, they're not published all in one place and originally. There are a few different places you can look to find some Tribal court opinions from the Penobscot Nation court and then a link to our catalog for additional Tribal materials. So he followed this link to the Tribal code , that will take you to the tribes laws and ordinances on our web sight. The Penobscot Nation is one of the tribes that

publishes their code on her website, this is where they assign people to access the Tribal so in this case, we have PDF documents under each of these, just to show you one so you get an idea. Ignore my message download file here. I want to show you what it looks like. And this is what they generally, what Tribal codes generally look like, just type it using some kind of desktop publishing application. And that's what they usually look like. And there is the Penobscot Nation there. And so, like I said each of these are in PDF we have a search box here so you can search the Penobscot Nation 's laws. We don't have that for every tribe, this is something that Penobscot Nation requested and since we are publishing their laws on our website we wanted to add that for them. I also want to point out this line, which again I will say kind of different things, depending on what has happened with a try. But it's always important when you're doing legal research in any context is important to check date of your materials. In this case our most recent update was received in October 2023, so you can be pretty confident that this code is the date. I was a generally speaking, tribes don't update their loss is often as states do. So it is possible you know, the date might be a couple years old, even several years old and that doesn't mean that the code is out of date. But it is a piece of data you can use when doing your Tribal research to think about whether or not you need to look elsewhere to see if there are additional updates to the code. And then for every page, we also have this disclaimer saying, as much as we are trying to give you the current and information, really the tribe is the official source of their own laws and so you will need to go to them to make sure that you have the most update met updated material and that is something you need. So, the space like I said like all tribes who have a code that we know of we make a Tribal code page with them. So, we do that even for tribes that publish their codes elsewhere. And in that case we link out from this page to the full text of that code, wherever it is published. But we also create a detailed table of contents your in her website that facilitates searching by topic across the entire Tribal Law Gateway. And that is also what we do when you have a tribes code in print, but we don't have permission to publish the full text online. This table of contents enables the researcher to review the code and see the section they want to see for and we can send codes or chapters by email by request even if we don't have permission to publish the entire code online. Back to the homepage of the Tribal Law Gateway. One of the more exciting features of the Tribal Law Gateway is it allows researchers to search across all of the laws that are represented on the gateway, find provisions on a particular topic as I said before, there really is no other place where you can do that. And here it is really simplify system. It is not like searching on Wessler or Alexa, or for-profit database that's very complicated. But it is a way that you can search across the entire gateway to find provisions on a particular topic. And this is popular because it allows people drafting Tribal laws look to other tribes for examples, rather than a lot relying on state or federal laws. And we also assist researchers who are doing comparative Law studies on various tribes. It is the caveat is that this search box up on the right, it is searching Tribal codes and constitutions, but is not searching Tribal court opinions because we haven't integrated that into our system yet. And we will talk about Tribal court opinions little bit more detail in a few minutes. Okay, so from this main page you can type your search into the search box on the right-hand side of the page, so I'm going to use cultural resource" and again, this is very basic Google search box, so use search in Friesen quotes, and you allegedly can use operators and stuff but I wouldn't feel really confident in that search, so I tried twice they just keep it simple when you're doing a search through our website. Can you click search And then, it brings back your results. And we can look at all results, we can narrow this to Tribal laws or to Tribal constitutions , depending on what you're looking for. I'm going to click on the Tribal Law menu see Wiccan click and different code provisions that include the phrase cultural resource. So, some of the topics that are frequently searched and cleared our child welfare laws, environmental laws and firearms laws. And lately, marijuana laws are also getting a lot more attention because tribes are adopting cannabis or marijuana provisions that might be different than the state boundaries they are located within. So, there has been a lot more tension that recently. Okay, and some results here will link you directly to the code on our website. Other cases it will link you to the table of contents on our website

and from there you can link out to the tribes website for content. Or, if it is one of the Tribal constitutions and codes in our collection that aren't available online, you will see only the table of contents on our website but as I mentioned if you would like to see one of those documents that is not available online you can contact us and we will email it to you. All right. I'm going to go back, to a PowerPoint for second just to talk about the digital publication of Tribal laws project. And I want to talk you because the concept of this project that we've been working on is figuring out ways to publish Tribal laws and library collections. In 2019 NILL partnered with the Great Lakes and digital Law center in the open Law library on the digital publication of the digital loss pilot project. It our vision was to create a publication of Tribal laws that would also allow for libraries to hold these laws into the collections and not just link out to them, which we do for many of the Tribal laws in our collection in 2020 we received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library services for the project the first step was the great links indigenous Law center to work and codify their laws, which were then published to the open Law library publishing platform. Open Law library is a nonprofit organization with the mission to make codifying and publishing laws easier for governments. The most prominent client is the city Washington, DC. They also have contract with a handful of tribes to close their laws. And what makes them different is they have a software that simplifies the codification process which is as you recall is one of the berries to publishing Tribal laws that many tribes face. Open Law library also understands that the entity whose laws are being published and owned their own laws, so don't claim copyright over any of the materials, which is different from some of the legal publishers that tribes sometimes work with. So, was a tribes laws were to fight and publish company next step was to create a library five warm the house those laws in the library's website. And we have since implemented that library platform on the national Indian Law library website and also the University Wisconsin's Law school libraries digital repository. So I'm going to show you what it looks like on our website. So you will recognize the tribe page they look the same, here we have the Tribal code you can link out on the NILL website. Come down, click into the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal code you can see the code is on a website. So when you use that website from the beginning and you do a search on the Tribal Law gateway, on this information , all of it comes up because it is held on our website. And the way it gets there is each time the tribes code is updated, we downloaded from get off and uploaded to our website. This saves a lot of staff time and manual method which allows the manual to check for updates. We still have the manual process, is due to security restrictions on our Web server. But it's a fairly simple process for us. The tribe has given us permission and we are able to actually publish their code on our website in a very easy process. And this is what the code looks like the University Wisconsin's digital repository. Right now, you can browse the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Law and it looks almost like it doesn't NILL website which is exactly like it looks like on the Open Law Library , which is hosted by the tribe. You can also search and browse through this way. Our hope is that over time additional tribes will join the Open Law Library Tribal Law publishing platform making mall more lies -- more laws available. Live by variety of tribes that are, gradually there will be the ecosystem of Wisconsin Tribal laws that are searchable through both the new website and the University Wisconsin's website but ultimately our hope is that we will be able to bring in additional libraries that have interest in sharing Tribal laws , too so they can also house the materials on their website and share with their patrons. All right, with our remaining time, I would like to show you some of the other resources that we have available at the National Indian Law Library. The best way to access our resources at NILL on our website, [narf.org /tran06](http://narf.org/tran06). So, let's start with our catalog, which is this link over here on the far right. The catalog is our guide to the materials in our collection. I showed you the pictures earlier we do have one ready book library where books are in the library this order but then downstairs we have our shelving everything that collection is shelved by what we call a NILL number which is just a six digit number that has no meaning, it is just a number. So, really the only way to find something in life, the bulk of our collection is to use our catalog, because you can't browse because they're not organizing any kind of subject matter order. They're just kind of planted randomly and

therefore lack of a better word [ Laughter ]. So, anyway, our library catalog really is the best way to know what is in our collection. In January, we were able to hire technical services librarian, so she has been working really hard to get our catalog up to speed and it is going to be a long haul, but she has started which is modernizing it to make it look better. She has done a wonderful job. You can see from the homepage here it is a modern looking catalog now, we have links to our bulletins to the gateway, to our research guides you can type in a question here and it will go into our reference tracking system and get straight to us. I just wanted to show you here, you are among the first public patrons to see our new logo, our NARF communications team just designed this for us not to long ago it only has been a month or so that we have had it. And we are just so tickled when she showed to us, because we could see the books in NILL and we are very pleased to have our new logo and putting it everywhere that we can. Including on our catalog. So, I will say that we don't loan items outside of our organization, though, for librarians into our federal repository libraries, we will sometimes take an exception in extreme cases. So if it is something you need to see in person and we have it, and is not really available to you anywhere else, let me know and we will work something out. But librarians librarian, but generally, we don't loan out items outside of our organization. But we do have copy documents or even a chapter that is something we have. So we can get the information to you, as quickly as possible. We have a good collection of Law review articles indexed in our catalog, many with links to the article freely available online. This can be a good resource for pro se patrons because they can run searches and research articles without charge and that body of articles is already narrow down to be relevant to Native Indian Law. So they don't run the problem of, the problematic sometimes me Native people in the United States it also means Indian people in the country of India so that can be confusing. And our catalog you should run into that problem very often, anyway. So I will show you what I typically recommend folks do, especially advanced searchers like librarians, it's usually an advanced search, because it gives you more options. You can put in a keyword here, we also search by title, author, publisher, or subject headings -- they are a little bit of a mess, but you can search by subject and that is something you want to try. Then we have different types down here, too. So like I said, you can search for articles here and that -- let's just try "CULTURAL RESOURCE" again. And it will bring up a list of articles, this is our little icon for articles and if you click in many of them, because many libraries are published in open access formats, many of them will have a link to the resource available online. But we do still do put in our table of contents to enable keyword searching. Our new format I was for Mitt with a clear all is, it's always important, isn't it? To make sure you are starting with a fresh slate and you do a search. I'm going to show you one of our most important collections which is our collection of court documents. Most federal courts in the 70s 80s and 90s,, but because this was before pacer most of these are available online anywhere. They are still available in hard copy, somewhere other than NILL, regularly the national archives, that can take a long time to access. And in some cases the court documents have been destroyed, just because everyone has space issues, right? So while we obviously don't have documents from every Indian Law case during that timeframe we do have a surprising amount . Some of them are NARF cases I have handled in that timeframe but some of the largest in the Law cases the library is collecting during the 70s, 80s, 90s. So as I kind of alluded to our catalog records vary in sophistication. So my best advice when searching our catalog is to be creative. Run a variety of searches and don't be too complicated, keep it as simple as you can. So, one search that I like to run, pyramid Lake. And I will come down here and I will choose our court case collection. Now you will see my results back are court case icon here we have a few involving pyramid Lake, click on this just as an example and this is what the lot of our catalog records look like for our court case files. So we will have the name of the case, this one does have the report or citation in the title, something that happens sometimes it doesn't. We often have a summary of the opinion the court, that the case within, docket number and then again report or citation if there are any. The court record is where we sometimes list the documents that are available in our file. This is actually a date so 1988, December and then 00 because

they weren't sure of the date of that, or the day that particular filing. But, that is just to give you the heads up that that is what that is attempting to communicate. Sometimes they just kind of complicated because we might not have the issue filed copy of a document, so that they can be a little hard to identify. So, if you are looking for something that will be filed on December 3, 1980, and our research shows it was in December 4, 1980, there's a good chance it is the same thing you're looking for. And in many of our court record records, we don't have anything listed. It just says to contact the library please don't hesitate to contact the library if you want to know what we have in the case file we are happy to let you know. And again, this is the kind of thing we are happy to make copies and get them to you. We are working in a hybrid environment right now, so sometimes we are in the office and at times we are working from home, so we can always do it immediately, but we will give you what we can soon as we possibly can. There is a West button appear, so if you would like to request this record, all you have to do is type in your email address you know, have you put your name and, this gives us information about the record and down here you can type in any information you might have in addition to that. All right, I'm sorry, I meant to stop and ask if there are any questions there do have any questions in the chat so far?? We do, we got five questions so far. Just to get back to what we were doing, Sue Keller asked, what is the difference between docket and --

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Docket numbers the number the court assigns to the case. So that helps you know that you're looking at the correct case. Let's go back to that. So I can show you. So, right here and what it stands for is 80 the case that the air was file and then it was 1650 case file that you're in a just help you know that you're looking at the right case. Sometimes it can be really confusing when cases are consolidated, they will take two cases that are filed separately in the court will put them together because they have a similar topic. Sometimes, they had kind of-in addition to information to the docket that the case branches off in different directions and they have different phases of the case. So it can be complicated, so it is just the easiest way to know that you're looking at the case that you need to be looking at. It's like a number. Sometimes we have it listed, and sometimes we don't. This one it shows two different case numbers are included in this case file, two different docket numbers, so that seems like one that it doesn't really tell you what happened. They probably started to cases and then got consolidated into one, three case numbers, actually. But yeah, that's what it docket number is.

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Sue also just asked that question, why are there two docket numbers, might we just answer that question. We have for their questions from earlier in the recent patient, not sure if you want me to ask those now if you want to wait until Q&A at the end.

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Should we save them for Q&A at the end?

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Yeah, because some of them will take you back to the beginning of the presentation.? Okay, that sounds good, I'm sorry I forgot, I got going on I forgot it was supposed to check in. So we will come back to this. All right, let me take you next back to our [narf.org/nill](http://narf.org/nill) , let me show you our Indian Law bulletin next. This is our current awareness service. It is a free service and bulletin update emails come out about once a week. Usually on Wednesday, so later this afternoon, we should have an update out for everyone. It includes updates on federal, state, and Tribal court opinions, and U.S. legislation and regulatory information, news and Law reviews. And, they are free. And so I encourage you to sign up, there's a sign of box on the right if India Law is of interest to you. We have over 7500 to scrapers -- subscribers and we send out an email once a week and we won't be spamming you endlessly, so it is not a huge commitment to sign up for the Indy Law bulletins, even something you're interested in. The bulletins archives are also searchable which is also another thing that can be helpful for pro se patrons who are referencing themselves in court and don't have access to a paid legal research service. This is a way that

they can find cases, or other information that be useful to them. There isn't a cited or or another method of indicating with the court decision has been overruled, but it is a place to start. And so, like I said, we have Supreme Court, federal court, Tribal courts, state courts, legislation , regulation, let's look at the legislation real quick here. You can see each week, it's already been updated for today. This is the legislation that has been proposed in the last week, so I always have that at the top so it's easier for folks, particularly folks who are trying to monitor federal legislation, they can find that right at the top. And then as we go down you can get more information, Congress hasn't had a lot going on yet this session [ Laughter ], but they passed one Law , greeted some resolutions and then we have a list of all the proposed legislation by the Senate and the House and in the order bill number. ? I'm going to show you a Tribal courts bulletin. Just like the rest of Tribal Law , Tribal court cases are really difficult to find . There is an one is to search for all of them. And just because our limited capacity haven't really focused on collecting Tribal court cases. But in 2017 we decided that we really should highlight some important Tribal court cases through our Indy Law bulletins, because they are important, you know they are a separate government, that's operating within the United States and people should know about these court decisions that they are citing. So, we get these through our idea places and some legal research services, some Tribal court websites, some Tribal judges who have opinions they think are important or who would like to get more information. So we get the a variety places. Absolutely not comprehensive, but we do include some here. They are in order of publication which again isn't super helpful if you don't know what you're looking for. But we have the Google search box on the right. You will see each one has a blue link in the blue link takes you to the case in full text on our website, or another free resource. And the green link takes you to the case on Westlaw or possibly another paid research resource. But I would say 99% of the time it's going to be Westlaw. So can you can kind of scroll through we try to put a legal topic to help people know what the case is about and which also facilitates the search appear, if you want to try to search by guardianship, or maybe a Tribal Council procedure or something like that, then you can find something that we are working on. We try to make the search a little better, but it is something we started again in 2017. And it is just to provide more recognition of these Tribal court cases that are being published. We also have research guides under this tab at the top. At the top, we do have kind of our former director, David Selden published some guides on research and ending Law , circuit older at this point, but still helpful in getting an overview of researching those areas of Law. And then we have specific topics down below . These are aimed at nonattorney people without access to pay legal research services. So we try to always include free links to get people what they need, and just help them get started. One that is very popular is the Indian Child welfare guide, and many of you have heard about the session that got a lot of attention, so this guide helps you find resources about the Indian Child welfare act. They also have a NARF publication which is a practical guide in question-and-answer format about frequently asked questions about the Indian child wherefore act. I use this a lot is the librarian, I am not an in life. And I can't give legal advice when when someone says who is an Indian child, does this person count as an Indian child under ICWA, I can point them to this resource. Another one that we use frequently is the prisoner issues guide and I'm sure a lot of you in Federal depository libraries also get jail mail on occasion. Obviously, most prisoners don't have access to the Internet, but sometimes I find some that do and if they contact us we send you a link to this page for to begin another NARF presentation is the protections for natural spiritual practices in prison which tell you about hair length, smudging, or burning sage, medicine bottles, sweat lodges and rings like that. But Native folks who are incarcerated might want to have access to and and might have a right to have access to it, depending on circumstances. But that is something I print out and mail out a lot of folks here who write to NILL from prison. Again research guide on a variety of topics we are going to add a few here coming up, too so keep your eye on the space. And then finally I want to show you, ask NILL , and often on pages there will be a red number that takes you to the same place which is a web form that you can fill out to let us know what your question is. This is the very best way to reach is because it goes straight



into our reference tracking system and whichever librarian is on duty can pick it up as soon as they are able to. It's the quickest way to get answer from us. I will show your phone number here in a minute, but again because of how her phone system works in our hybrid work system, where not as good as answering the phone as one might hope. So this is really, the askNILL form is really the best way to get in touch with us. And really, if you could talk about your research question it is hard to put into write-down and were so you just want to talk about it, submit a request and an say when can we set a time to discuss my research question. And we will be happy to do that. All right, and so I will come back here. I put in a bunch of slightly favor slight and reminder sources, so you can see our Tribal Law gateway, our online catalog and our research guides on site, narf.org/nill, sign up for Indian Law bulletin updates if that is of interest you and then use the askNILL link on our website to request assistance. And we look forward to hearing from you. So, all right, that is what I have and I am excited to hear your questions.

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All right, we have several great questions. The first one is related to the Tribal Law Gateway issued earlier. The documents that were dated, what is the better source for date? Is it a date that might be with the document?

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Yes. So, let's go back. To the gateway. I would say dates are extremely confusing, because most of the Tribal Law documents are self published, they don't always have a date on them and that is, is a library that is extremely frustrating. So that is my first for anyone who's interested in publishing their Tribal laws, please, please, for the dates on so we at least know. A lot of them don't have a date, so we will say something like, we obtained this document in 1978. Which was probably a clue that it is not current. Not necessarily, but probably. So, always, it is always a combination and if it is not clear, if we send you a document and it is not clear, reach out to us and we can tell you what we know. Usually, we know when we got the document, even if it is not dated. Sometimes we know if the document is current or not, even if it is older. But again, like always, it's always best practice to go back to the tribe to ask them. Let's see if we can look at another one. Another we know we get updates from his quarterly, the only update their codes in print so they sent to us in the mail periodically and will say yeah we received the last updated December 2022. But, I can't if you want to talk to me I would see I'm fairly confident that this is correct because I know that they send me updates when they update their codes. So if I sent you something and you can see down in here like, this criminal procedures was updated in 2011. But I know that this tribe sends me updates when they up date it, so even if I were to send you a copy this criminal procedures chapter with a 2011. I'm pretty confident it is current, because I know the tribe sends me updates regularly.

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Can you recommend any cases related to murder missing indigenous loss?

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I can't offer it off the top of my head but if you submit a request I'd be happy to do research, I know there have been articles written and maybe even Law reviews that kind of summarized what tribes are doing in that area. So yeah, unfortunately I don't have anything off of the top of my head, but I would be happy to look into that. More closely. So please, submit and ask.

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The next question [ Indiscernible - overlapping speakers ] ? You know, they are. In some tribes are starting to do that. However, most Tribal governments are based off of the United States government, just because of how their constitutions were developed with the heavy hand of the federal government involved in that. There are modern governments, let's say that. So, in many cases like just the words don't exist in the Native language . But I do think that is changing. Some tribes are thinking more about

their traditional style of governance, and how they want to integrate that into their modern Tribal government . A lot of tribes now are doing like peacemaking court instead of traditional -- or not traditional, nontraditional Western-style American-style courts. So I know they're using Native languages as they are developing those cords and how those courts will operate. So, I think that is deftly a good question and it is a space to watch. I think more tribes will start using their Native languages and more tribes are utilizing their languages and teaching in the school to make sure their members can communicate in that language. I think unfortunately most members can communicate in their Native language, at least not in the way that is required when they are talking about laws and legal information. But that is changing. So I think that is a really good question and it will be interesting to see how that developed over time.

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[ Indiscernible - overlapping speakers ] ? Yet. I get that. Well, how do I do?? If you go to participate, you should be able to find it. The next question is going to be do you or anyone else have any research guides for Tribal Law, a.k.a. where treaties are published and how to research certain specialized topics, or how to find good secondary sources?

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We do indeed, a great question. So we will come back to our Tribal Law Gateway. We have been here on the right , some guides to research both in constitutions, court opinions, court rules, compacts, treaties, legal histories. I will say I know that we haven't updated all of those extremely recently, that they are all really good places to start. I know I use that treaties one periodically when I need to find a treaty and I can't remember where to look. So that is a good place. And then I would say kind of or secondary sources, our catalog is a good resource because again, it is already curated to be specific to Tribal Law and federal Indian Law. So, it is a great place to look for secondary source on the topic.

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All right, next question is do you offer access outside of library?

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Unfortunately we don't. It's only available for members of the Native American Rights Fund, however if you have a simple search request I can definitely use Westlaw to reference requests that come in from the public. But we don't have public access. And in fact, our library is not really physically open to the public. We will make appointments with scholars and researchers if you have a need to come into the library and use our resources. But our website and our catalog are really the best way to find out what we have. Again, our IT guy is so concerned about security all the time, so we don't have public computers or anything in our library. We do have a public Wi-Fi, so if someone brings their own computer they can access her computer online through that. But generally speaking, we serve the public virtually through our website and catalog, and then just, talking to folks and emailing them in response to their questions.

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The next question [ Indiscernible - background noise ]

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I would say, let's see, no, I don't -- it is at least 15 years, but I think it is even more than that. I can't remember, yeah, 2003 is when we first started collecting and indexing Law reviews and bar journals. I will say there are occasionally things old that are older than that that are in there for whatever reason. But 2003 is about how far back we go when we were really doing it as part of our Indian Law bulletins update.

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All right, the next question -- thank you. Also we are getting quite a good number of bank use in the chapter the presentations I just wanted to put that the chat, too. The next question is did if you do know

that their resources were building a collection to support federal Indian Law and Tribal Law for academic libraries and institutions that do not have a Law library?

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That is a good question, too and I don't know one. But, you are meant to of the American Association of Law lampreys , they do have a group within their, the Native peoples Law, is which is a wonderful source of librarians. So I might talk with them that we can put together that we can share because it's a really good lesson.

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that's the end of the questions.

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Thank you all for joining me today and do stay in touch. As you can see, askNILL is right there and we are happy to help you and happy to hear from you.

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Thank you all, have a great day. [ Event concluded ] [Event Concluded]