



Resources at the National Indian Law Library

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Library Director
www.narf.org/nill



Agenda

- Background on NARF & NILL
- Accessing Tribal Law
 - Barriers to Access
 - Available Sources
 - NILL's Tribal Law Gateway
 - The Digital Publication of Tribal Laws Pilot Program
- Additional NILL Resources
 - Online Catalog
 - Indian Law Bulletins
 - Research Guides
- How to Reach us at NILL
- Questions?

NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND





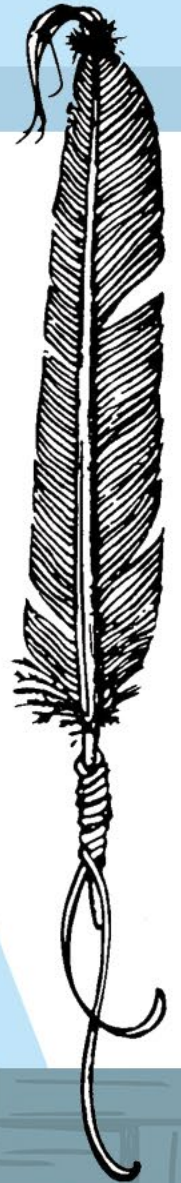
SEEKING JUSTICE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

- Tribal Self-Governance Documents
- Legal Pleadings from Important Indian Law Cases (1970s – 1990s)
- Indian Law Treatises
- NARF Publications
- Basic Collection of Books on Native Americans



Definition of Federal Indian Law

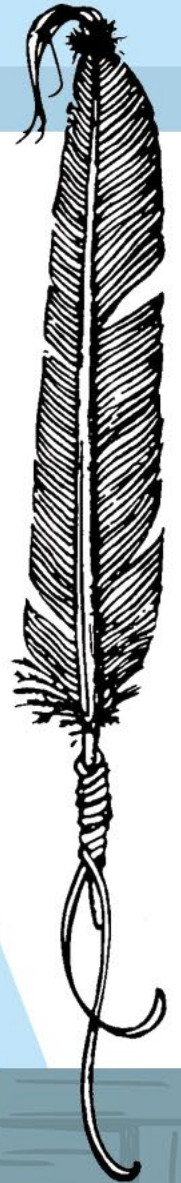
The body of law dealing with the status of Indian tribes and their relationship to other tribes, the states, and the federal government. These complex relationships are defined by treaties, statutes, executive orders, court decisions, and administrative actions.



Definition of Tribal Law

The body of non-Federal law that governs lands and activities under the jurisdiction of a tribe, including ordinances or other enactments by the tribe, and tribal court rulings.

25 CFR § 162.003



Why Isn't Tribal Law More Accessible?

- Lack of Staffing / Staff Turnover
- Lack of Funding (Publishing, Codification, Attorneys)
- Permissions Challenges
- No Perceived Benefit / Distrust



Why Isn't Tribal Law More Accessible?

- 574 federally recognized tribes, each with their own government
- No centralized system for collecting and publishing laws





Sources of Tribal Law


(including codes, constitutions and court opinions)

- Tribe's website
- Legal Publishers (free or fee-based)
- Nonprofit or Bar Association website
- Government website (federal or state)



NILL's Tribal Law Gateway

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TRIBAL LAW GATEWAY

Find Tribal Law Materials by Tribe

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [Z](#)

- Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Accohannock Indian Tribe (state recognized)
- Affiliated Ute Citizens of the State of Utah (not recognized)
- Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove
- Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation, California
- Ak-Chin Indian Community
- Akiachak Native Community
- Akiak Native Community
- Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas
- Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town
- Alatna Village
- Algaaciq Native Village (St. Mary's)
- Allakaket Village
- Alturas Indian Rancheria, California
- Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor
- Angoon Community Association
- Anvik Village
- Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
- Arctic Village
- Asa'carsarmiut Tribe
- Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, Montana

SEARCH TRIBAL CODES AND CONSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE IN OUR COLLECTION

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HOW TO FIND TRIBAL...

[Codes & Constitutions](#)
[Court Opinions](#)
[Court Rules](#)
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[Treaties](#)
[Legal Histories](#)

Article: [Researching American Indian Tribal Law](#) by David Selden, National Indian Law Library. (2014)

SELECTED ONLINE RESOURCES



TRIBAL LAW GATEWAY | PENOBSCOT NATION

Penobscot Nation



Formerly known as: Penobscot Tribe of Maine

TRIBAL CODE:

At NILL's website.

See NILL catalog records for the tribal code.

TRIBAL CONSTITUTION:

None Available.

TRIBAL COURT OPINIONS:

At court website. Court dockets, forms, etc.

At Fastcase (\$\$\$). Selected opinions of the Penobscot Nation Judicial System Appellate Division. 1983-

At Indian Law Reporter. 1991-1994. See NILL's cumulative index of tribal court cases in the ILR. (Abbreviations: Penob. Tr. Ct., App. Div.)

OTHER LEGAL MATERIALS:

See NILL catalog records for other tribe materials.

CONTACT INFO

www.penobscotnation.org

207-827-7776

Tribal Court:

www.penobscotnation.org/departments/tribal-court

12 Wabanaki Way
Indian Island, Maine 04468

207-817-7327

RESEARCH TOOLS

United States Tribal Courts Directory. By A. Schwartz and M.J.B. Hunter.

Tiller's Guide to Indian Country: Economic Profiles of American Indian Reservations. Tiller Research, Inc. (see older version online at the Internet Archive)



[TRIBAL LAW GATEWAY](#) | [PENOBSHOT NATION](#) | [TRIBAL CODE](#)

PENOBSHOT NATION - LAWS AND ORDINANCES

Most Recent Update Received: October 2023

Disclaimer: Although every effort is made to present current and accurate information, if you need an official version of the tribe's laws, please contact the tribe.

Search the full-text of the Penobscot Nation's Laws and Ordinances:

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[Cover Page and Table of Contents](#)

[Chapter 1. Members Civil Rights \(Reserved\)](#)

[Chapter 2. General Meeting Law](#)

[Chapter 3. Elected Officials](#)

[Chapter 4. Tribal Election Law](#)

[Chapter 5. Census Maintenance](#)

[Chapter 6. Settlement Trust Fund \(Reserved\)](#)

[Chapter 7. Inland Fish and Game](#)

[Chapter 8. Penobscot Nation Judicial System](#)

[Chapter 9. Land and Residency Laws](#)

[Chapter 10. Land Use / Comprehensive Plan](#)

[Chapter 11. Adrian's Law \(Presence of Non-Members\)](#)



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About 1,880 results (0.32 seconds)

Cultural Resource Management Code 2006-02

[narf.org](#) > [nill](#) > [codes](#) > [rosebudcode](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat

A Inherent authority over **Cultural Resources**. By virtue of its aboriginal rights, treaty guarantees, and sovereign status, the Tribal Government has the ...

Labeled [Tribal Laws](#)

TITLE 40 LUMMI NATION CODE OF LAWS **CULTURAL** ...

[www.narf.org](#) > [nill](#) > [codes](#) > [lummi](#) > [40Cultural_Resources](#)



File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat

TITLE 40. LUMMI CODE OF LAWS. **CULTURAL RESOURCES** PRESERVATION CODE. Table of Contents. Chapter 40.01 Title, Findings, Purpose, and Definitions.

Labeled [Tribal Laws](#)

SWINOMISH TRIBAL CODE, Title 21 – Archaeological and **Cultural** ...

[narf.org](#) > [nill](#) > [codes](#) > [swinomishcode](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat

(A). "Archaeological resource" means any material remains of human life or activities that are of archaeological interest. This shall include all sites, ...

Labeled [Tribal Laws](#)

HO-CHUNK NATION CODE (HCC) TITLE 7: **CULTURAL** AND ...

[narf.org](#) > [nill](#) > [codes](#) > [hochunkcode](#)



File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat

TITLE 7: **CULTURAL** AND NATURAL RESOURCES. SECTION 4 – HO-CHUNK NATION LANGUAGE AND. CULTURE CODE. ENACTED BY LEGISLATURE: March 17, 2015. Last Amended and ...

Labeled [Tribal Laws](#)

Untitled

[narf.org](#) > [nill](#) > [codes](#) > [sisseton_wahpeton](#) > [Chapter73](#)

File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat

Digital Publication of Tribal Laws Project

The project is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

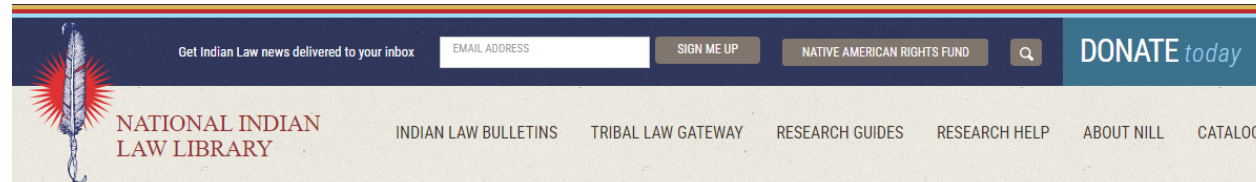


The project's goal is to create a platform that allows libraries to subscribe to each tribes' digital updates, download them, authenticate them, and integrate them into their existing collections to provide a unified searching and browsing experience free to the public.



Stockbridge Munsee on the NILL Website

<https://www.narf.org/nill/triballaw/us/nsn/mohican/council/code/>



[TRIBAL LAW GATEWAY](#) | [STOCKBRIDGE MUNSEE COMMUNITY, WISCONSIN](#) | [COLLECTION](#) | [STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE TRIBAL CODE](#).

STOCKBRIDGE MUNSEE COMMUNITY, WISCONSIN - TRIBAL LAW

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

Current through

February 16, 2022

Last codified resolution

[Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council Res. No. 026-22](#)

Disclaimer: Although every effort is made to present current and accurate information, if you need an official version of the tribe's laws, please contact the tribe.

To contact the Stockbridge Munsee Community, visit the tribe's website.

Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Code.

[Title GOV – Government](#)

§§ GOV.01.01 – GOV.04.05

[Title ADM – Government Administration](#)

§§ ADM.01.01 – ADM.03.12



Great Lakes Tribal Law Collection

<https://repository.law.wisc.edu/s/uwlaw/page/tribal-law>



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Great Lakes Tribal Law Collection

Presented here is a compilation of Tribal law documents sourced from select Indigenous Nations within Wisconsin and the broader Great Lakes region and shared with their permission. This repository encompasses a range of materials, including constitutions, bylaws, codes, resolutions, charters, and other legal documents. The collection continually grows as Tribes revise and update their documents. Each time a document is created or revised, a new version is archived and added to the collection.

This collection is ideal for accessing archived legal records. To search the current body of law, visit the Tribe's website (see original source link below) or the [Tribal Law Gateway](#) from the National Indian Law Library.

Tribes

[Browse Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Law](#)

[Search Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Law](#)

Original Source: <https://law.mohican.com>



www.narf.org/nill



The screenshot shows the top portion of the website. At the top left is the NARF logo, a feather with red and blue rays. To its right is the text "NATIONAL INDIAN LAW LIBRARY". The top navigation bar is dark blue and contains the text "Get Indian Law news delivered to your inbox" followed by an "EMAIL ADDRESS" input field, a "SIGN ME UP" button, a "NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND" button, a search icon, and a "DONATE today" button. Below this is a light-colored navigation bar with links for "INDIAN LAW BULLETINS", "TRIBAL LAW GATEWAY", "RESEARCH GUIDES", "ASK NILL", "ABOUT NILL", and "CATALOG". The main banner features a photograph of a seated statue of Lady Justice in front of a classical building with columns. The text "JUSTICE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE" is overlaid on the right side of the banner.

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Law and Economics in Indian Country

A PRACTICE GUIDE TO THE CLEAN WATER ACT

Decision Making Guide: Options for Tribal Education: Department of Education, Native Self-Determination, and Education Programs

OBSTACLES AT EVERY TURN

A Brief Historical Survey of the Expropriation of American Indian Remains

EXTERNAL EVALUATION FINAL REPORT

ROSEBUD SIOUX

TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT & TRIBAL EDUCATION CODE

CONGRESS MUST PASS MEASURES TO PROTECT NATIVE VOTING RIGHTS!

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Catalog record for a case file



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Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Indians v. U.S. Dept. of Navy, 898 F.2d 1410 (1990). (1988-)



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Other Titles: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Indians v. United States Department of Navy, et al.

Imprint: 1988-

Notes: OPINION: In action, brought by tribe against Department of Navy on grounds that department had violated fiduciary duty to conserve tribe's fishery by developing program for leasing buffer zone water rights to farmers that otherwise would flow into lake, the court held that outlease program did not violate Endangered Species Act or fiduciary duty to tribe.

COURT: United States. Court of Appeals (9th Circuit)

COURT-RECORD:

19881200 Brief for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Indians (63 pgs) Robert Pelcyger, Fredericks & Pelcyger

19890222 Brief for the Federal Appellees (61 pgs) Donald Carr, Fred Disheroon, Robert Klarquist, Elizabeth Peterson, U.S. Attorney General; Stephen Banks, General Counsel; Thomas Ledvina, Commander, Office Judge Advocate General

19890300 Reply Brief for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of Indians (31 pgs) Robert Pelcyger, Fredericks & Pelcyger

19900319 Opinion (12 pgs)

DOCKET-NO: No. 88-1650

CITATION: 898 F.2d 1410 (1990), 20 Env'tl. L. Rep. 20,572

LOWER COURT INFORMATION (NILL collection does not include documents from the district court case, but information is provided for reference. Also, as of 6/21/2017 these records are no longer available from the district court as the case files have been disposed of.):

COURT: United States. District Court (Nevada)

COURT-RECORD:

Complaint and First Amended Complaint (March 1986)

Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law (December 18, 1987)

Order entering Final Judgment for the Navy (December 29, 1987)

DOCKET-NO: CV-R-86-115-BRT, CV-N-86-0115-BRT

Subjects: [Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nevada](#) (23); [Reserved water rights - Indian Country \(U.S.\)](#) (313); [Nevada](#) (70); [Fisheries - Protection](#) (27); [Water diversion](#) (11); [United States. National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 - Cases](#) (35); [Trusts and trustees](#) (458); [United States - Claims vs](#) (92);











Indian Law Bulletins

INDIAN LAW BULLETINS

Indian Law Bulletins are a current awareness service of the National Indian Law Library. The purpose of the Indian Law Bulletins is to provide succinct and timely information about new developments in Indian Law. See the "about" page for each bulletin for specific information on monitoring, content selection criteria, and timeliness of publication.

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<p>US LEGISLATION</p>  <p>CURRENT BULLETIN</p> <p>ARCHIVES</p>	<p>US REGULATORY INFORMATION</p>  <p>CURRENT BULLETIN</p> <p>ARCHIVES</p>	<p>LAW REVIEW / BAR JOURNAL ARTICLES</p>  <p>CURRENT BULLETIN</p> <p>ARCHIVES</p>	<p>NEWS BULLETIN</p>  <p>CURRENT BULLETIN</p> <p>ARCHIVES</p>

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Tribal Courts Bulletin

INDIAN LAW BULLETINS | TRIBAL COURTS

2023 Tribal Courts Cases

Last updated: October 25, 2023

Next Update Should be Ready by: November 1, 2023

RECENTLY ADDED CASES:

Patwell v. Mohean Tribal Gaming Authority
--- Am. Tribal Law ---, 2023 WL 6890762
7 G.D.R. 73
DOCKET NO. GDTC-T-20-101-JAC
Mohegan Gaming Disputes Trial Court.
October 9, 2023
Legal Topics: Mohegan Torts Code; Negligence

OLDER CASES:

DECEMBER

NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER

In re T.J.S.
Case No.: SC-2023-01
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court
October 5, 2023
Legal Topics: State Guardianship Order; Tribal Court Standing

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| [November](#) | [December](#)

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The Tribal Court Bulletins are a collaboration of the National Indian Law Library and the American Indian Law Clinic at University of Colorado, Boulder.





Research Guides

RESOURCES FOR RESEARCHING SPECIFIC INDIAN LAW TOPICS:

TRIBAL RECOGNITION

TRIBAL ENROLLMENT

INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION

INDIAN TRUST RESPONSIBILITIES

TRIBAL EDUCATION

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE (ICW)

REPATRIATION

INTERNATIONAL INDIGENOUS
RIGHTS

INDIGENOUS PEACEMAKING

JURISDICTION IN INDIAN COUNTRY

CITIZENSHIP & BORDERS

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