



LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR  
CIVIL RIGHTS  
UNDER LAW



National  
Congress of  
American  
Indians



**NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING RIGHTS COALITION  
SOUTHWESTERN VOTING RIGHTS FIELD HEARING  
MARCH 9, 2018**

University of New Mexico School of Law  
50 Years of Indian Civil Rights Act Symposium  
Isleta Resort & Casino, Premier Ballroom

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**Martin Aguilar**

Martin Aguilar is a member of the San Ildefonso Pueblo. He serves as the Native American Election Information Program (NAEIP) Liaison to the New Mexico Secretary of State and has been involved with the NAEIP program for the past 26 years. In 2008, Aguilar served as San Ildefonso's Governor after serving eight years as a tribal Councilman. He has also served as the tribe's Tribal Administrator. He has a degree in Journalism and Public Relations from New Mexico State University.

**Amber Carillo**

Amber Carillo serves on the board of the Native American Voter Alliance. She previously served as the first Native American Vote Director for the Campaign for Change in 2008, leading the campaign to elect President Obama in the Native American communities of New Mexico. She has also worked as an Affordable Care Act Coordinator, coordinating the outreach and education of the Affordable Care Act to tribal leaders, constituents, CEO's of Indian Health Service facilities, policy leaders, health care professionals, and the general public. Carillo has an MBA in Tribal Governance and Administration from the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and a Masters of Arts in City, Urban, Community, and Regional Planning from the University of New Mexico. She has a Bachelors in Political Science and Government Economics from the University of New Mexico as well as a Bachelors in English Professional Writing and a minor in Native American studies.

**Everett Chavez**

Everett Chavez is a member of the Kewa Pueblo (formerly known as Santo Domingo Pueblo). He is a former three time Governor for his Pueblo. He currently serves as Tribal Programs Administrator for the Tribe. Prior to his work in public service, he was the Superintendent of Santa Fe Indian School and the National Executive Director for the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). He is a graduate of Chicago's DeVry Institute of Technology and the University of New Mexico in Electronics and Electrical Engineering, respectively. He has worked for the All Indian Pueblo Council, the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, and the Santa Fe Indian School in various technical and managerial positions. He also serves as the Chairman of the Indian Pueblos of Federal Development Corporation and Kewa Business Enterprises, Inc.

**Debra Haaland**

Debra Haaland is a member of the Laguna Pueblo. Haaland is the former Chair of the Democratic Party of New Mexico, a position in which she garnered national recognition as the first Native American woman elected to chair a major state party. Haaland was also the first Native American

Democratic candidate for Lieutenant of Governor of New Mexico in the 2014 elections. Haaland is a graduate of UNM and the UNM School of Law. She is the former Chairwoman of the Laguna Development Corporation (LDC) Board of Directors. As the first woman elected to the Chair position in LDC history, Haaland helped to oversee the business operations, strategies and initiatives of the second largest tribal gaming enterprise in New Mexico. Haaland is a former tribal administrator who has advocated for Indian issues for many years. Haaland is a proud mother of another UNM graduate, her daughter Soma. Haaland is currently a 2018 Democratic candidate seeking election to the US House to represent the 1st Congressional District of New Mexico.

### **Wilfred Jones**

Wilfred Jones is a member of the Navajo Nation. He was born and raised in San Juan County, Utah and has worked in the oil fields in San Juan County for over 30 years. He is the cofounder of Utah Navajo Health System, which aims to address the disparity in health care of the Navajo people that San Juan County and Indian Health Service have failed to address. Today, the Utah Navajo Health System proudly operates an over \$30 million health facility and is the largest employer in San Juan County.

### **Secretary of State Maggie Toulouse Oliver**

Secretary Oliver has spent her career as a public official working for greater transparency and ethics in government, fair and efficient elections, and increased voter access. First elected in 2016, Secretary of State Toulouse Oliver is focused on providing increased transparency in financial disclosure and campaign finance reporting, modernizing the online campaign finance system, encouraging New Mexicans to get registered and vote, and advocating for good government and stronger ethics legislation. A lifelong New Mexico resident, Secretary of State Toulouse Oliver previously served as Bernalillo County Clerk from 2007 to 2016. She attended Albuquerque Public Schools and earned both her BA and MA in Political Science from the University of New Mexico. Currently living in Santa Fe, the Secretary of State is the proud mother of two sons.

### **Helen Padilla**

Helen B. Padilla is a member of the Isleta Pueblo. Since 2007 she has served as Director of the American Indian Law Center. Padilla has served as Senior Staff Attorney for the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, Assistant Regional Counsel for the Social Security Administration Office of General Counsel in Denver, Colorado, General Counsel of the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department, and General Counsel for the Pueblo of Tesuque. She is licensed to practice in CO, NM, and CT. Ms. Padilla earned her bachelor's degree, M.B.A., and J.D. with an Indian Law Certificate from the University of New Mexico. She has served on various boards, serving as Chair of the Indian Law Section of the State Bar of New Mexico, as member of the Laguna Pueblo Gaming Control Board, and as Secretary of NM Indian Bar Association. She currently serves as Treasurer on the Federal Bar Association's Executive Board for the Indian Law Section, Secretary-Treasurer of the Board for the American Indian Law Center, Inc., and as Vice-Chair for the AISD Oversight Commission, overseeing the governance of tribally owned and operated property of the 19 NM Pueblos. She has been an adjunct faculty member at UNM School of Law, where she taught State-Tribal Relations and currently serves on the Indian Law faculty committee.

### **Leon Reval**

Leon Reval is a member of the Jicarilla Apache Nation. He is currently serving in his second term as a Jicarilla Apache Nation Legislative Councilman. Under his six years of stewardship, the Nations bond rating from Fitch rose to the AAA status resulting in the appropriation of \$154M in bonds. He was involved in the gross receipt tax cooperative agreement with the state of NM, and

helped launch a 50 year term lease of a portion of the Nations water rights to the City of Santa Fe, NM. Prior to serving as Councilman, Mr. Reval held various leadership positions representing the Nation in the Public Relations, Marketing, and Accounting sectors. At the New Mexico State level, he has served on several boards most notably the Tribal Economic Development Board and the Indian Affairs Department's Tribal Infrastructure Fund Board. He holds an Associate of Arts in Audio and Video Production and a Bachelors of Science in Marketing and Business Management from the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

### **Shirlee Smith**

Shirlee Smith is a member of the Navajo Nation. She serves as the Voting Rights Coordinator of Bernalillo County. In this capacity she has worked with the Pueblo tribes (Isleta, Sandia, Laguna) and the Navajo tribe (ToHajiilee Band of Navajo) and the Urban Indians for twenty (20) yrs. Shirlee helped establish NAEIP in 1998 which at that time was aimed at providing election information to Native American voters. The Program assists and educates Native American citizens on County, State and Federal elections and language interpretation for Keres, Tiwa, Navajo and Spanish. Shirlee interprets all election materials in Navajo and translate materials in Navajo.

### **Laurie Weahkee**

Laurie Weahkee is Diné, Cochiti and Zuni Pueblo. She currently serves as the Executive Director for the Native American Voters Alliance, which seeks to build an active and informed Native American electorate. Laurie has led numerous issue and civic engagement strategies in Native American communities for over 25 years. Weahkee received a Cultural Preservation Award from the NM Department of Indian Affairs for her work to protect Native American sacred sites. In 2008 she was elected to be the 12th NM Super-delegate to the National Democratic Convention. She currently serves on the Legislative Committee for the All Pueblo Governors' Council and is a Commissioner for the City of Albuquerque's Commission on Indian Affairs and is a member of the Native American Voting Task Force for the state of NM.

### **Terry Whitehat**

Terry Whitehat is a member of the Navajo Nation. Whitehat lives in San Juan County, Utah. He has a Paralegal Training Program certificate and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Utah. He most recently worked as an Accounting Technician for the Tuba City Regional Healthcare Corporation. He has previously served on the Board of the Utah Navajo Development Council and the Navajo Mountain Water User's Association.

### **Linda Yardley**

Linda Yardley is a member of Taos Pueblo. Yardley is a believer in volunteerism and is committed to land conservation for the future of our children and grandchildren. She is the Vice-Chair of the Taos Pueblo-Picuris Health Board and Chair of Precinct 13 of the Taos Democratic Party. Linda is Regional Coordinator of the National Tribal Development Association, whose goal is to increase economic development opportunities in farming and ranching for Indian tribes and individuals. She is a graduate of Taos High School and attended the University of New Mexico and University of Colorado. She is a trained mediator and worked for the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center for many years.

### **Lt. Governor Max Zuni**

Lieutenant Governor Max Zuni is a member of the Isleta Pueblo. He has served four terms as Lieutenant Governor and has been in office for eight years. He assists the Governor in managing the everyday functioning of the 35 tribal departments and nearly 500 employees. He oversees

employee issues and concerns and helps the Casino & Resort with contracts and programs. He has assisted in elections for the past 5 years. He has worked on federal, state, county, school board, and UNM elections. He has worked as a Tiwa interpreter and translator for all elections. He visits the elderly and schools to interpret the ballot in Tiwa. He also broadcasts on KNAW 81.9 for all elections in Tiwa. He is retired from 32 years working for various companies that contracted at the Kirtland Air Force Base.