

CURRICULUM VITAE

BIOGRAPHY OF: ELBRIDGE COOCHISE, CHIEF JUSTICE RET.



Elbridge Coochise is an enrolled member (4/4) of the Hopi Tribe in Arizona. Chief Justice Coochise retired 7/14/97 and second retirement 9/30/2011 has been on the bench for 32 years. Semi-retired and owner & operator of Coochise Consulting, LLC, which provides services to tribes and tribal organizations; including lobbying, training, pro-tem judge, judicial services, administrative services and court evaluations.

In Senior-Judge status; He sits on the Cabazon Court of Appeals, and The Intertribal Court of Northern California. He served on the San Carlos Tribal Court as a special judge. He set up the new court for the Shingle Springs Rancheria Band of Miwok Indians in California, 2009 - 2010 and was their Chief Judge; helped start up and sat on the Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa Tribal Court 2005 – 2009; helped start up and sat on the Mohegan Tribal Court 2000 - 2005. Prior to retirement he served as the Chief Justice of the Northwest Regional Tribal Supreme Court 1988 - 1997, served as the Administrator/Chief Judge of the Northwest Intertribal Court System (NICS)(a circuit court system) in western Washington State 1981 - 1997. He was Associate Judge in the Hopi Tribal Court 1976 - 1981. He conducted Tribal/BIA Court Reviews 2004 – 2011 in the United States.

He served four terms as President of the National American Indian Court Judges Association 1988 -1996. He served three terms as President of the Northwest Tribal Court Judges Association 1988 - 1994. He serves on the Board of Directors of the National Indian Justice Center (NIJC), Santa Rosa, CA; served three terms 2000 – 2006, on the Board of Directors of the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), Boulder, CO; on the Board of Directors of the National American Indian Court Judges Association (NAICJA); elected in 2010 to the Faculty Advisory Council of the National Judicial College, Reno, NV and a member of the Advisory Board to the National Tribal Judicial Center in the National Judicial College, Reno, NV. He is an alumnus and joined the faculty of the National Judicial College, Reno, NV in 1993. He was Chairman of the Tribal Governance Committee of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, 1987 - 1997 (a regional tribal governments' organization).

A recognized leader in his field, Justice Coochise received the Presidential Who's Who Among Business and Professional Achievers for 2010 "Consultant of the Year", the Cambridge Who's Who Registry of Executives, Professionals and Entrepreneurs for 2010, the Who's Who Worldwide Award for Leadership and Achievement in his Profession for 1992-1993, received the Who's Who Global Business Leader award for 1993-1994, and in November 1994 he received the Who's Who among Outstanding Americans award. He served as a member of the National Indian Policy Center's task force on Law & Administration of Justice. He currently is a member of the BIA/Tribal Budget Advisory Committee's Judicial Subgroup. He has had the honor of serving on several national committees and panels, has taught for various tribes on American Indian issues in the U.S. and Canada. He was the key proponent in the passage of the Indian Tribal Justice Act, PL 103-176 passed on December 3, 1993.

9/30/2011