

AURENE M. MARTIN

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

PRESIDENT, Spirit Rock Consulting, Inc., Washington, DC (October 2009 – Present)

- Responsible for strategy development and implementation on projects requiring federal action within Congress or at federal agencies.
- Manage political giving budgets for clients.
- Provide federal representation on tribal priority projects, including gaming, fee to trust applications and legislation.
- Advocate Tribal positions with Congress and administrative agencies.

PARTNER, Ietan Consulting, LLP, Washington, DC (December 2007 – December 2009)

- Provide federal representation on tribal priority projects, including fee to trust applications and legislation.

PARTNER, Holland & Knight, LLP, Washington, DC (October 2004 – December 2007)

- Responsible for strategy development on projects requiring federal action within Congress or at a federal agency.
- Provide federal representation on tribal priority projects, including water settlements and fee to trust applications.
- Provide legal review of transactional documents, where Indian tribes are a party.

ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY - INDIAN AFFAIRS, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC (January 2003 - February 2004)

- Oversaw all operations and policy implementation within the Bureau of Indian Affairs, a federal agency with approximately 9,500 employees nationwide.
- Developed all Indian Affairs policy, with specific emphasis on federal recognition, tribal gaming, Indian education, tribal government issues and fee to trust acquisitions.
- Communicated and coordinated with Congressional representatives, tribal leaders and federal agency officials to advance policy agendas of the President of the United States and Secretary of the Interior, including meeting with representatives of Congress and the White House, and testimony before the Senate and House of Representatives.
- Issued final determinations for the Department of the Interior on disputed agency actions, including placing land into trust status, determining to recognize petitioning groups as Indian tribes, and approval of state/tribal gaming compacts.
- Supervised the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Director of the Office of Indian Education and all political staff.
- Determined agency position with regard to litigation and make decisions regarding settlement offers.
- Represented and spoke on behalf of Department of Interior at national conferences throughout Indian Country, including the United South and Eastern Tribes, the National Congress of American Indians, and the Tribal Self-Governance Conference, and the Federal Bar Association Annual Indian Law Conference.

PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY - INDIAN AFFAIRS, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC (July 2002 - December 2002, February 2004 - Present)

- Oversee day to day operations of the agency as chief operating officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- Implement Presidential and Secretarial policies.
- Develop and administer Bureau of Indian Affairs budget and appropriations.
- Oversee operation of Office of Indian Education Programs, which funds the operation of a school system consisting of 184 schools, in 23 states.
- Testify before Congress regarding pending legislation and for oversight hearings.
- Coordinate with the immediate office of the Secretary of the Interior and other federal agencies on intra-departmental policy initiatives.
- Oversee staff of the Office of Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs.
- Directly supervise Office of Legislative Affairs, the Office of Public Affairs, and the Office of Federal Acknowledgement.

COUNSELOR TO THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY - INDIAN AFFAIRS, United States Department of the Interior, Washington, DC (October 2001 - July 2002)

- Worked as senior policy advisor on legislative and programmatic issues for Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior.
- Represented Assistant Secretary in departmental, inter-agency and external meetings.
- Drafted and reviewed testimony for submission to Congress, and review and monitor federal legislation.
- Met and worked with agency staff, affected tribes and Congressional staff to advance issues.
- Advised the Assistant Secretary and other officials on Indian matters, with a particular emphasis on federal acknowledgement, tribal gaming, resource issues, and education.
- Drafted and reviewed regulations and correspondence affecting Bureau of Indian Affairs and Office of the Assistant Secretary.

SENIOR COUNSEL, United States Senate, Committee on Indian Affairs, Washington, DC (January 1999 - October 2001)

- Implemented legislative agenda of Committee Chairman.
- Advised Chairman and Chief of Staff on legislative matters within Committee jurisdiction, with a particular emphasis on self-governance, appropriations, tribal gaming and health care.
- Drafted and prepared legislation for hearings and markup, and track legislation through legislative process.
- Met and worked with Congressional and federal agency staff and other interested parties to develop and move legislative proposals through the congressional process and presentation to the President.

DIRECTOR OF CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, National Indian Gaming Commission, Washington, DC (September 1998 - December 1998)

- Monitored federal legislation regarding gaming and serving as the Commission liaison with congressional offices, federal agencies and Indian tribes.

- Coordinated agency programs and activities related to congressional oversight and legislative affairs.
- Oversaw public relations and Commission interaction with news media.

Key Accomplishment:

- Successfully advocated for the United States Senate confirmation of Montie Deer as Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission.

SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEY, Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, Oneida, Wisconsin (May 1993 - September 1998)

- Litigated all Indian Child Welfare Act cases in state court on behalf of the tribe.
- Oversaw state legislative affairs operations.
- Participated in gaming compact negotiations.
- Provided all aspects of representing of an Indian tribe, including conducting litigation and drafting and review of legal documents.
- Advised and briefed governing body regarding various legal issues including self-governance, gaming, trust funds management and personnel matters.
- Participated in federal legislative affairs, including preparing testimony for United States Senate and House of Representatives.

EDUCATION:

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL, Madison, Wisconsin
Juris Doctor, May 1993

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, College of Letters and Science, Madison, Wisconsin
Year Abroad: Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy
Bachelor of Arts: History, Italian, History of Culture, May 1989

BAR ADMISSIONS:

State Bar of Wisconsin, 1993

Federal District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, 1994