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May 19, 2009

Arizona Supreme Court
1501 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Support for Petition to Include Indian Law on the Arizona Bar Exam

Dear Justices of the Supreme Court:

I write to support the petition of the State Bar of Arizona to amend Rule 35(b) of the Rules of the Supreme Court to include Indian law as one of the subject areas which may be tested on the Arizona bar exam.

I have practiced as an attorney for an Indian tribal government in Arizona for fourteen years. We recruit our attorneys from the graduates of Indian law programs in a number of states. These new attorneys are well versed in Indian law because of their academic training. What we find, however, is that attorneys practicing with law firms and in state, county and municipal law offices, do not have academic training or experience in Indian law. Our practice is made more difficult by this inexperience in the attorneys with whom we deal. I believe that making Indian law one of the subject areas on the Arizona bar exam will improve the knowledge of Indian law among new attorneys and attorneys moving to Arizona. As Indian tribes expand into commercial endeavors, more and more attorneys will need to gain experience in Indian law in order to deal with the activities of these tribes.

For these reasons I believe that Indian law should be one of the subject areas on which applicants may be tested on the Arizona bar exam.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan L. Jantzen".

Jonathan L. Jantzen
Attorney General