

INDIAN LAW RESOURCE CENTER

601 E STREET, SOUTHEAST, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003 • (202) 547-2800

December 16, 1983

Dear Friends:

I am happy to send you the enclosed announcement of the conference on Indian Law which we will be holding on February 11 and 12, 1984, in connection with the mid-year meeting of the American Bar Association in Las Vegas, Nevada. Practically all the other Indian rights organizations in the country are co-sponsoring this conference.

The theme of the conference is New Directions. Our focus will be on the legal battle for change: change in the law and change in the ways that we advocate and protect Indian rights.

This is the first time that all of these organizations have agreed to come together to talk about Indian rights issues. It is a very exciting and very positive development. We should be able to carry on some extremely important discussions.

The conference is for lawyers and others involved with legal work. Conference participants will be very active in the discussions. I hope that you can attend and take part in what we expect will be a very serious reexamination of both the law respecting Indian rights and the need to develop new strategies for better advocacy of Indian rights.

Please plan to be with us. You may wish also to attend the meeting of the Council on Individual Rights and Responsibilities, which will be held on February 10 and 11 at the same location. The ABA mid-year meeting will begin the Monday after our conference.

Best regards for the holiday season.

Sincerely,



Robert T. Coulter
Executive Director

Enclosure



NATIONAL LEGAL
AID & DEFENDER
ASSOCIATION

1625 K STREET, N.W.
EIGHTH FLOOR
WASH., D.C. 20006
(202) 452-0620

ANNOUNCING CONFERENCE ON

Indian Rights for the 1980s: New Directions in Law and Management

***February 11th and 12th, 1984
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, Nevada***

Sponsored by

**American Bar Association, Committee on the Problems of American Indians
American Indian Bar Association
American Indian Law Center
American Indian Lawyer Training Program
Indian Law Resource Center
National Legal Aid and Defender Association, Indian Section
Native American Indian Legal Services
Native American Rights Fund**

Indian nations and tribes are still denied rights established by treaties and basic constitutional rights enjoyed by others. Probably no other people in the United States face such immense legal obstacles to securing a future for their nations, cultures and religions.

The urgency of seeking basic justice for Indian tribes and the need to carry on a legal battle to change old doctrines and establish enforceable Indian rights has never been greater. For the first time, the leading Indian legal rights organizations are joining together to consider the future of Indian rights and the legal work we must do.

We must establish new directions and new legal strategies if we are to protect the basic rights of Indian nations and tribes. We are reaching out to private attorneys, Legal Services attorneys and others to join us and discuss with us these urgent issues.

For Legal Services attorneys and managers there will be a concentrated training program on delivery of high-quality representation, especially in Indian programs.

Presentations and discussions will be held on a range of subjects including:

- Land Rights and Land Claims**
- Water Rights**
- Limiting the "Plenary Power" of Congress**
- Establishing Basic Constitutional Rights for Indian Nations and Tribes**
- The Abuse of the Trust Relationship**
- The Administration of Tribal Justice and Tribal Courts**
- The Need for Basic Change in the Law of Indian Affairs**

Speakers will include leading attorneys from the sponsoring organizations and other authorities on Indian law. The Interior Department has also been invited to make a statement on Indian policy. Further details of the Conference program and speakers will be announced in January.

The Conference will be held in conjunction with the American Bar Association's Mid-Year Meeting and the meeting of the Council of the ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities, also meeting at the Las Vegas Convention Center, on February 10-11.

For information, contact:

**Indian Law Resource Center
601 E Street, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 547-2800**

**Native American Rights Fund
1506 Broadway
Boulder, Colorado 80302
(303) 447-8760**

Accommodations assistance is available through the American Bar Association only if you plan to register for the ABA Mid-Year Meeting. For information on registration fees and travel arrangements, please call or write the ABA's Meetings Department, 1155 East 60th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637 -- (312) 947-4103. The ABA's deadline for housing arrangements requests is January 6, 1984 and the deadline for advance registration for the Mid-Year Meeting is January 20. The Las Vegas Convention Center is located about five minutes walking distance (across a large parking lot) from the Las Vegas Hilton. The Hilton's address is 3000 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109. You can find a local number in your phone book for nationwide Hilton reservations. They have no "800" toll-free number.

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Please let us know if you plan to attend by mailing this form to:

**Sue Corrigan, Management Specialist, National Legal Aid and Defender Association,
1625 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006**

Name: _____

Address: _____

A registration fee of \$25.00 will be charged at the Conference. Waiver requests will be considered.