

**WENONA THERESA SINGEL**  
**Michigan State University College of Law**  
**405A Law College Building**  
**East Lansing, MI 48824**  
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## **APPOINTMENTS**

Assistant Professor of Law, Michigan State University College of Law  
Associate Director, MSU Indigenous Law & Policy Center  
Faculty Member, American Indian Studies Program, Michigan State University  
Appellate Justice, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court

## **EDUCATION**

A.B., Social Studies, *magna cum laude*, Harvard College, 1995  
J.D., Harvard Law School, 1999

## **EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Professor of Law, Michigan State University College of Law,  
July 2006 – present (on leave July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011)

Associate Director, MSU College of Law Indigenous Law & Policy Program,  
July 2006 – present (on leave July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011)

Assistant Professor of Law, University of North Dakota School of Law,  
August 2005 – May 2006

Fellow, Northern Plains Indian Law Center at UND School of Law,  
August 2005 – May 2006

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of North Dakota School of Law,  
August 2004 – May 2005

Associate, Kanji & Katzen P.L.L.C., Ann Arbor, Michigan,  
August 2001 – August 2004

Associate, Dickinson Wright PLLC, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan,  
March 2000 – August 2001

Associate, Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP, Washington, DC  
September 1999 – March 2000

## COURSES TAUGHT

Federal Indian Law  
Natural Resources Law  
Indigenous Law & Policy Center I and II (an Experiential Learning Course)  
Tribal Economic Development  
Remedies  
Uniform Commercial Code: Sales

### *New Courses*

Advanced Topics in Indian Law: Native American Natural Resources  
Advanced Topics in Indian Law: Indigenous Peoples and International Law

## PUBLICATIONS

*Indian Tribes and Human Rights Accountability*, 49 SAN DIEGO L. REV. \_\_\_  
(forthcoming 2012)

*Indian Country Law Enforcement and Cooperative Public Safety Agreements*, 89-  
FEB MICH.B.J. 42 (2010) (co-authored with Matthew L.M. Fletcher and Kathryn  
E. Fort)

*Introduction: New Directions for International Law and Indigenous Peoples*, 45  
IDAHO L. REV. 509 (2009)

THE INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT AT 30: FACING THE FUTURE (Matthew L.M.  
Fletcher, Kathryn E. Fort, and Wenona T. Singel, eds., MSU Press 2009)  
(collection of 12 essays)

*Introduction: Indian Experience and Randall Kennedy's Mythology*, in THE  
INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT AT 30: FACING THE FUTURE (Matthew L.M. Fletcher,  
Kathryn E. Fort, and Wenona T. Singel, eds., MSU Press 2009) (co-authored with  
Matthew L.M. Fletcher) (collection of 12 essays)

*The Institutional Economics of Tribal Labor Relations*, 2008 MICH. ST. L. REV.  
487 (2008) (symposium)

Contributor, THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORY, Bruce E.  
Johansen and Barry M. Pritzker, eds. (ABC-CLIO 2007)

*Indian Treaties and the Survival of the Great Lakes*, 2006 MICH. ST. L. REV. 1285  
(2006) (co-authored with Matthew L.M. Fletcher) (symposium)

*Cultural Sovereignty and Transplanted Law: Tensions in Indigenous Self-Rule*, 15  
KAN. J. L. & PUB. POL'Y 357 (2006) (symposium)

*Power, Authority and Tribal Property*, 41 TULSA L. REV. 21-50 (2006) (co-authored with Matthew L.M. Fletcher) (symposium)

*Labor Relations and Tribal Self-Governance*, 80 N.D. L. REV. 691 (2004) (symposium)

## **TRIBAL COURT OPINIONS AND RULES AUTHORED**

*Harrington v. LTBB Election Board* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2012)

*Gasco v. LTBB Election Board* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2011)

*Carey v. Espinosa* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2011)

*In the Matter of T.D.S.* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2011)

*In the Matter of A.N.M. and A.M.M.* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2011)

*Harrington v. Perry* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2010)

*In the Matter of D.A.* (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Appellate Court) (2010)

*In the Matter of A.T.* (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Appellate Court) (2010)

*Anderson v. Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians* (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Appellate Court) (2010)

*Cholewka v. Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Tribal Council* (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Appellate Court) (2009)

*Wilson v. The People of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians* (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Appellate Court) (2009)

*Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Gaming Regulatory Commission v. Milligan* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2008)

*Carey v. Victories Casino II* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2008)

*Carey v. Victories Casino I* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2007)

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Mnodaawin Rules (Odawa Peacemaking) (2007)

Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Rules of Civil Procedure (2006)

*In re: Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Request for Advisory Opinion* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Judiciary) (2006)

*McFall v. Victories Casino* (Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Appellate Court) (2005)

## **SEMINAR MATERIALS AUTHORED**

*Default and Foreclosure of Security Interests under the Model Tribal Secured Transactions Act*, Seminar materials sponsored by the Uniform Law Commission and the Tribal Judicial Training Institute for the Training Workshop for the Model Tribal Secured Transactions Act (2008)

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

*Indian Tribes and Human Rights Accountability*

*The Political Economy of Tribal Legal Development: An Empirical Study of Tribal Lawmaking*

## **PRESENTATIONS**

**Indigenous Law and Policy Spring Speakers Series**, Facilitator, “Integrating Spaces: Property Law and Race,” with Kali Murray, East Lansing, MI (January 23, 2012)

**Universal Human Rights Conference**, Presenter, “Indian Tribes and Human Rights Accountability,” George Mason University, Arlington, VA (December 2-3, 2011)

**University of Michigan American Indian Heritage Month**, Presenter, “Indian Tribes and Human Rights Accountability,” Gerald Ford School of Public Policy, Ann Arbor, MI (November 21, 2011)

**Human Rights, Literature, the Arts, and Social Sciences International Conference**, Presenter, “Indian Tribes and Human Rights Accountability,” Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI (November 11-12, 2011)

**Beyond the Tribal Law and Order Act: Indigenous Law and Policy Center Annual Conference**, Moderator, Scholarly Perspectives Panel, East Lansing, MI (October 28-29, 2011)

**Law and Society Association Annual Meeting**, Presenter, “A Proposal for an Intertribal Human Rights Regime,” San Francisco, CA (June 3, 2011)

**36<sup>th</sup> Annual Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference**, Plenary Session Panelist, “A Proposal for an Intertribal Human Rights Regime,” Pojoaque Pueblo, NM (April 8, 2011)

**Fifth Annual Critical Race Studies Symposium: Race and Sovereignty**, Presenter, “A Proposal for an Intertribal Human Rights Regime,” UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, CA (April 1, 2011)

**2011 Native American Critical Issues Conference of the Michigan Indian Education Council**, Presenter, “The History of Tribal Law in Michigan,” East Lansing, MI (March 11, 2011)

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Women and the Law Conference on Gender, Justice, and Indian Sovereignty: Native American Women and the Law**, Presenter, “A Proposal for an Intertribal Human Rights Regime,” Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego, CA (February 18, 2011)

**Workshop and Lecture on Commercial Law and its Role in Indigenous Sovereignty**, Presenter, “Indigenous Nations and Commercial Law Development,” University of Toronto Faculty of Law, Toronto, ON (November 5, 2010)

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Indian Law Clinics Symposium**, Moderator and Commentator, “The Future of Indian Law Clinics: Strengthening our Work with Collaboration and Technology,” Albuquerque, NM (June 21, 2010)

**Repatriation Roundtable: Moving towards the Future**, Presenter, “Repatriation Strategies under NAGPRA’s New Rule for Culturally Unidentifiable Human Remains,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (April 9, 2010)

**Talking Circles with Odawa Women**, Speaker, “Perspectives on Work, Family and Leadership,” Michigan State University American Indian Studies Program, East Lansing, MI (February 16, March 1 and March 16, 2010)

**2010 Native American Critical Issues Conference of the Michigan Indian Education Council**, Keynote Speaker, “Reflections on Life as a Student, Lawyer and Academic by a First-Generation College Graduate and Odawa Woman,” Traverse City, MI (March 6, 2010)

**Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Bmaadiziwin Environmental Project**, Guest Speaker, “Environmental Conservation Activities of Non-Federally Recognized Tribes,” Brutus, MI (September 12, 2009)

**Annual Meeting of the Michigan Indian Judicial Association**, Presenter, “Grant Opportunities for Tribal Courts,” Mt. Pleasant, MI (June 19, 2009)

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Indigenous Law Conference: Forty Years of the Indian Civil Rights Act**, Presenter, “The Irony and Hypocrisy of ICRA’s Property Protections,” East Lansing, MI (October 10, 2008)

**Michigan Indian Day Event 2008: Collaboration with Tribal Nations & Communities – The Importance of Inclusion in University Education, Research and Programming to Enhance the Lives of the Aninshinaabe**, Moderator and Commentator, Panel on Collaborations Between MSU College of Law and Michigan Indians, East Lansing, MI (September 26, 2008)

**Joint Annual Meetings of the Law and Society Association and Canadian Law and Society Association**, Roundtable Participant, “Contestations of Indigenous Property,” Montreal, QC (June 1, 2008)

**33rd Annual Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference**, Presenter, “Innovations in Tribal Commercial Law: Lessons Learned from the Law & Development Movement,” Albuquerque, NM (April 10-11, 2008)

**Training Workshop on the Model Tribal Secured Transactions Act, sponsored by the Uniform Law Commission and the Tribal Judicial Training Institute**, Presenter, “Default, Foreclosure and Good Faith under the MTSTA,” Denver, CO (March 20-22, 2008)

**26<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference**, Presenter, “The Long Simmering Conflict Between Indians and Enviros: The Conflict over Climbing at Cave Rock,” Eugene, OR (March 7-8, 2008)

**2008 AALS Annual Conference, Program of the Section on Indian Nations and Indigenous Peoples**, Presenter, “The Institutional Economics of Tribal Labor Relations,” New York, NY (January 6, 2008)

**Second Annual Great Lakes Tribal Economic Development Symposium**, Presenter, “The Role of the Rule of Law, Judicial Review and Sovereign

Immunity in Tribal Economic Development,” Mt. Pleasant, MI (October 31, 2007)

**Michigan State University College of Law, 4th Annual Indigenous Law Conference, American Indian Law and Literature**, Presenter, “Rebellious Judging,” East Lansing, MI (October 19-20, 2007)

**Michigan State University Freshman Seminar, People of the Crooked Tree (Michigan Anishinaabe)**, Guest Speaker, “Understanding Michigan Indian Treaty Rights,” East Lansing, MI (October 4, 2007)

**Michigan Indian Day Event 2007, Seven Generations (Niizhwaaswi): Planning for the Future of Anishinaabe in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**, Moderator, Tribal Traditional Justice Panel, East Lansing, MI (September 28, 2007)

**University of New Mexico School of Law Symposium and Workshop on Indian Law Clinics and Externship Programs: Pedagogy, Methodology, and Curriculum Design**, Presenter, "Making Space for Scholarship as an Indian Law Clinician," Albuquerque, NM (June 22-23, 2007)

**2006-2007 Nokomis Learning Center Lecture Series on Gender Diversity**, Guest Speaker, “Tribal Law and Same-Sex Marriage,” Okemos, MI (June 5, 2007)

**Michigan State University College of Law, Third Annual Indigenous Law Conference, The Indian Child Welfare Act at 30: Facing the Future**, Presenter, “Walking Blind: Barriers to Measuring and Enforcing State Compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act,” East Lansing, MI (March 16-17, 2007)

**Michigan Indian Education Council 2007 Native American Critical Issues Conference**, Moot Court Judge, Grand Rapids, MI (March 1-3, 2007)

**The New Realism: The Next Generation of Scholarship in Federal Indian Law, Boalt Hall-National Congress of American Indians Conference**, Workshop Participant, Berkeley, CA (Nov. 13-14, 2006)

**Michigan Indian Judicial Association Annual Meeting**, Presenter, “A Primer on the Full Faith and Credit, Comity and the Michigan Court Rule for the Enforcement of Tribal Judgments,” and “Monitoring and Evaluating Tribal Courts: What are the Issues?,” Harbor Springs, MI (November 5-6, 2006)

**Celebration of Native American Alumni/ae Conference at Harvard Law School**, Presenter, “Cultural Sovereignty and Transplanted Law: Tensions in Indigenous Self-Rule,” Cambridge, MA, October 27-28, 2006

**Annual Recognition of Helen Hamilton Day, University of North Dakota School of Law**, Presenter, “What’s Unique about the Same-Sex Marriage Debate in Indian Country?,” Grand Forks, ND, March 31, 2006

**University of North Dakota seminar on Law and Literature**, Guest Speaker, “Tribal Traditional Dispute Resolution as Portrayed in Louise Erdrich’s Short Story, *Shamengwa*,” Grand Forks, ND, November 18, 2005

**2005 Mid-America Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting**, Presenter, “An Introduction to American Indian Law,” Grand Forks, ND, October 8, 2005 (with Matthew L.M. Fletcher)

**2005 Tribal Law and Government Conference, Kansas Law School**, Presenter, “Cultural Sovereignty and Transplanted Law: Tensions in Indigenous Self-Rule,” Lawrence, KS, September 30, 2005

**Indian Law Summit hosted by Project Peacemaker at Turtle Mountain Community College**, Presenter, “An Overview of Indian Gaming,” Belcourt, ND, August 1, 2005

**Indian Law Summit hosted by Project Peacemaker at Turtle Mountain Community College**, Presenter, “Tribal Sovereignty and Tribal Relationships with Local Governments,” Belcourt, ND, August 1, 2005

**First Annual Indian Law Scholars Roundtable at Northwestern School of Law, Lewis & Clark College**, Presenter, “Cultural Sovereignty and Transplanted Law: Tensions in Indigenous Self-Rule,” Portland, OR, July 9, 2005

**UND College of Business and Public Administration seminar on Public Personnel Administration**, Guest Speaker, “The Powers of Tribal Sovereignty: Implications for Human Resources,” Grand Forks, ND, April 20, 2005

**The Federal Bar Association’s 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Indian Law Conference**, Presenter, “The Development of a Model Tribal Secured Transactions Code,” Albuquerque, NM, April 14-15, 2005

**North Dakota Law Review Tribal Economic Development Symposium**, Presenter, “Labor Relations and Tribal Self-Governance,” Grand Forks, ND, April 1-2, 2005

**UND Anthropology Club Meeting**, Guest Speaker, “Federal Recognition of Indian Tribes: Interplay Between Anthropology and the Law,” Grand Forks, ND, December 6, 2004 (with Matthew L.M. Fletcher)

**The Federal Bar Association's Sixth Annual Washington, DC Indian Law Conference**, Presenter, "Tribal Recognition of Same-Sex Marriages," Washington, DC, September 23-24, 2004

## **SERVICE**

### **Service to Scholarly and Professional Organizations**

Chair, Association of American Law Schools Section on Law and Anthropology, January 2012 – January 2013; Executive Committee Member, January 2011 – January 2012

External Reviewer, *American Indian Law Review*, 2010 – present

External Reviewer, *Environmental Justice*, 2010

President and Board Member, Michigan Indian Judicial Association, 2006 – 2009

Chair, Association of American Law Schools Section on Indian Nations and Indigenous Peoples, January 2008 – January 2009

Chair, Federal Bar Association – Indian Law Section Tribal Justice Committee, April 2007 – April 2008

Chair-Elect, Association of American Law Schools Section on Indian Nations and Indigenous Peoples, 2007 – 2008

Secretary, Association of American Law Schools Section on Indian Nations and Indigenous Peoples, 2006 – 2007

External Reviewer, *The Indigenous Law Journal*, 2005 – 2007

Secretary, National Native American Bar Association, 2005 – 2007

Fellow, Northern Plains Indian Law Center, 2005 – 2006 (responsible for assistance with program development and the recruitment and retention of Native students at UND School of Law)

Observer, Native American Liaison Committee, National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, 2004 – 2008

Member, American Bar Association, 2001 – present

Member, Federal Bar Association, 2001 – present

### **Service to University**

Faculty Member, Michigan State University American Indian Studies Program, 2006 – present (on leave July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011)

Member, EAGLE (Educating Anishinaabe: Giving, Learning, and Empowering) (EAGLE is the American Indian Faculty and Staff Association of MSU), May 2007 – present

Member, Michigan State University Press Editorial Advisory Board, 2010 – present

External Reviewer, Michigan State University Press, Fall 2011 – present

Member, Admissions Committee, Michigan State University College of Law, 2011 – present

Member, Law Journals Committee of MSU College of Law, June 2008 – June 2009

Planning Committee Member, Annual Michigan Indian Day Event, “Seven Generations (Niizhwaaswi): Planning for the Future of Anishinaabe in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” 2006 – 2008

Member, MSU College of Law Committee on Faculty Development and Programs, 2007 – 2008

Member, MSU College of Law Curriculum Committee, 2006 – 2007

Member, MSU College of Law Bar Admissions Workgroup, 2006 – 2007

Member, UND School of Law Student Affairs Committee, 2004 – 2006

Judge, UND School of Law Moot Court Competition, 2004 – 2006

Member, UND School of Law Admissions Committee, 2005 – 2006

Member, University of North Dakota Faculty Awards Committee, 2005 – 2006

Faculty Advisor, UND Native American Law Students Association, 2005 – 2006

Member, UND School of Law Anti-Racism Task Force, 2004 – 2005

### **Service to Community**

Appellate Justice and Chief Appellate Justice, Appellate Court of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, 2003 – present

Chief Appellate Judge, Appellate Court of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, 2008 – 2011

Parent Volunteer, Montessori Radmoor School, 2006 – present

North Dakota State Coordinator, Native Vote/Election Protection, 2004 – 2005

Informal Commentator, Detroit Institute of Arts, North American Indian Art Exhibit re-installation, 2005

Vice Chair, Economic Development Commission, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, 2002 – 2004

### **HONORS**

Presidential Nominee, Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, September 2011 (appointment pending Senate confirmation)

### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

State Bar of Michigan  
United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan  
Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Tribal Legal Development  
Tribal Natural Resources Management  
Tribal Justice Systems

### **TRIBAL AFFILIATION**

Member, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians