

Tracy, Mary

From: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 9:17 AM
To: Tracy, Mary
Subject: FW: Amend APR 8: Limited Admissions

Mary-is this for you?

From: Brandelle Whitworth [mailto:bwhitworth@sbtribes.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 9:14 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Amend APR 8: Limited Admissions

To the Honorable Washington Supreme Court,

I fully support and encourage the implementation of the proposed rule change in Washington, which is intended to waive certain requirements for out of state attorneys who seek to engage in the limited practice of law in Washington State to represent an Indian tribe in an ICWA proceeding.

I have been employed as an in-house attorney with my tribe, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho, for nearly 18 years and during that time have appeared in Indian Child Welfare Act cases in approximately 17 different states. In fact, in 2005, I chose to become licensed in Washington for the sole purpose of appearing in ICWA cases involving Shoshone-Bannock Tribal children and have appeared in several Washington ICWA cases through the years.

I can attest that bar licensure, pro hac vice fees, and/or the hiring of local counsel can be very cost prohibitive and often act as a bar to full participation of the very Indian tribes who's rights were meant, in addition to the rights of the affected Indian children, to be protected by the Indian Child Welfare Act. To that end, I encourage your approval and implementation of the proposed amendment of APR 8 to better enable Indian tribes' participation in these types of cases in the great State of Washington.

Sincerely,

Brandelle Whitworth

General Counsel
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
WA Bar No. 36542

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