



## Michael-Corey F. Hinton Attorney

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### Bio

Corey Hinton, Leader of the firm’s Tribal Nations Practice Group, advises Tribal Nations, Tribe-owned entities, and entities that interface with Tribes on federal Indian law and policy, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, employment matters, economic development, environmental and natural resource issues, and the fee-to-trust process. A citizen of the Passamaquoddy Tribe (Sipayik), Corey draws from a uniquely deep well of experience to deliver significant value to his clients.

Corey has substantial experience with the commercial, transactional, and resource management issues related to natural resources – including Tribal and non-Tribal owned Improved Forest Management (IFM) carbon offset projects. In 2016, he assisted the Passamaquoddy Tribe to establish an IFM that was recognized in California for removing 3.8 million tons of greenhouse gases in furtherance of California’s “cap-and-trade” program.

Corey has represented clients before a variety of federal administrative agencies including Indian Health Service, Environmental Protection Agency, and Department of the Interior (including National Indian Gaming Commission, Office of Indian Gaming, Bureau of Indian Education, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Reclamation). Corey also regularly represents clients in government-building, ethics and employment policies, negotiation and administration of Public Law 93-638 programs, and real estate transactions.

A separate focus of Corey’s work is with non-profit entities that serve indigenous, socially-disadvantaged, and under privileged communities. Corey advises non-profit clients on a wide range of subjects including

### Practice Areas

Business & Corporate  
Environmental & Natural  
Resources  
Litigation  
Tribal Nations Law

### Admissions

Arizona  
Maine  
Penobscot Nation Tribal Court  
U.S. District Court for the  
District of Columbia

strategic planning, internal governance issues, employment matters, fundraising, programmatic development, and transactional issues.

Prior to joining Drummond Woodsum, Corey spent time at the National Indian Gaming Commission and the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. He is the former president of the Native American Bar Association of Washington, D.C. He's also a former Iroquois Nationals Lacrosse team member.

In his free time, Corey enjoys spending time with his family, their dog, and two cats. He takes Passamaquoddy language classes, organizes sports/life skills camps for Tribal Nations youth, and volunteers for the Maine Justice Foundation and the Abbe Museum. Corey also serves on the Executive Committee for the Thompson Brothers' 4 the Future Foundation, which inspires youth by creating community-based opportunities at the intersection of culture and healthy lifestyles (<https://www.4thefuturefoundation.org/>).

## **Education**

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, J.D., 2011

Colgate University, B.A., 2008

## **Recognition**

Chambers & Partners, USA Guide, *Nationwide, Native American Law, Band 3*

Best Lawyers "Ones to Watch" – Native American Law

Rising Star, Native American Law, Super Lawyers

2018 Indian Legal Program (ILP) Emerging Leader Award presented by the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University (ASU)

Mentor of the Year, Native American Bar Association of Washington, D.C.

City Year, Idealist of the Year

Akin Gump, Pro Bono Associate of the Year

Dean's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Law School

## **Publications**

*Symposium Keynote: "Isolation and Restraint: Maine's Unique Status Outside Federal Indian Law"*, 75 Me. L. Rev. 226 (2023)

*Eli-Tpitahtomek Tpaskuwakonol Waponahkik (How We, Native People, Reflect on the Law in the Dawnland)*, 74 Me. L. Rev. 209 (2022)

Co-Author, *Supreme Court 2015 Term in Review: Indian Law Cases* (2016)

## **Memberships**

Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik  
*Member*

State Bar of Arizona  
*(Inactive)*

Washington, D.C. Bar Association  
*Member*

## **Community/Public Service**

4 the Future Foundation  
*Executive Committee Member*

Abbe Museum  
*Trustee*

Sports and life skills camps for Native American youth  
*Grassroots organizer*

Native American Bar Association of DC  
*Former President*

Maine Justice Foundation, Racial Justice Fund  
*Advisory Committee Member*