



Naomi Y. Bebo

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Bio

Naomi Bebo is an attorney with the Tribal Nations Group at Drummond Woodsum. Naomi has extensive tribal government experience and for the last nine years served as In-House Counsel for several tribes in California and Arizona, where she provided tribal governments, their departments, programs, enterprises, and entities, the tribal councils, committees, and boards, and general membership with direct legal services and legal department management. In contrast to her general counsel work serving as the sole tribal government attorney for a single tribe, working for Drummond Woodsum allows Naomi to represent many tribal nations with the resources of a top-ranking national firm including access to its diverse body of attorney specialists, in both tribal-specific and shared tribal client interests.

Naomi is a registered tribal member of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin as well as a Ho-Chunk Nation descendant. As a tribal individual, she is a dedicated practitioner in federal Indian and tribal law. She is passionate about Nation-building in all its forms, whether supporting essential governmental operations through tribal leadership development, code and contract drafting, elections and voting assistance, and tribal court litigation; cultural, environmental, and natural resources protection, including fee-to-trust projects for ancestral lands restoration as well as the return of ancestors and sacred objects to tribal communities utilizing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and CalNAGPRA process; and assistance with tribal economic development, redevelopment, and expansion projects and day-to-day support for tribal business operations, which ultimately contributes to more financially independent Nations, their ability to self-fund tribal government operations and essential tribal services, and strengthens sovereignty.

Practice Areas

Tribal Nations Law
Federal Indian Law

Admissions

Arizona
California
New Mexico
Morongo Tribal Court

Naomi was the lead attorney for the management of a large fee-to-trust portfolio containing thousands of acres of fee land purchased for placement into federal trust, frequently requiring resolution and removal of complex encumbrances on title. She also successfully implemented and expanded a Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime grant-funded tribal program to provide regional and culturally sensitive, trauma-informed victim support services – including legal assistance – to both tribal and non-tribal clients across Southern California.

Naomi attended the UCLA School of Law's joint degree (J.D. / M.A.) program focusing on federal Indian and tribal law and American Indian Studies. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from UCLA and is admitted to practice in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and the Morongo Tribal Court. She is a member of the Indian Law Section of the Federal Bar Association.

Outside of her legal practice, Naomi was born and raised in Los Angeles and learned dancing and regalia construction as a youth through urban indigenous education programs. Since then, she has toured internationally from South Korea to Australia with various dance performance groups, including the renowned American Indian Dance Theatre.

Naomi is also a diverse arts and beadwork/quillwork artist with works featured internationally, including shows at the Illinois Krannert Art Museum, Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Saskatchewan Dunlop Art Gallery, Quebec Art Mur, Albuquerque Museum, New York UB Art Galleries, Santa Fe Museum of Contemporary Native Arts, and the Minnesota Tweed Museum of Art.

She is the proud mother of three human babies and two fur babies, and the loving wife of Dallin Maybee (Northern Arapaho/Seneca), an artist and law graduate from Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law's Indian Legal Program.

Education

UCLA School of Law, J.D.

UCLA, B.A., Political Science

Memberships

- Federal Bar Association, Indian Law Section,
- New Mexico Indian Law Section (ILS), Albuquerque, NM Board Member, January 2014 – January 2015
- American Bar Association (ABA), Chicago, IL Young Lawyers Division (YLD) National Affiliate Representative and Delegate, April 2013 – April 2014
- National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), Phoenix,

AZ Board Member, April 2013 – April 2014

- California Indian Law Association (CILA), Sacramento, CA
Board Member, September 2012 – October 2014