

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Resource Directory

Over the past decade, a number of ICWA resources and guides have been published. Some provide guidance on the federal law, some provide a history of the ICWA while others share sample forms or official tribal contact information. Many are available online.

This chapter provides an overview of these ICWA resources. Emphasis is given to those sites that provide free resources.

A. Government Sites

1. **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)**

Site: <http://www.doi.gov/bia/>

Three common references are available at this site. These references are updated roughly every year to two years:

- a. List of Federally Recognized Tribes:
Link: http://www.doi.gov/bia/docs/FR_73-18553_Fed_Rec_Ind_Tribes_04-04-2008.pdf
- b. List of Designated Agents for Service of Process:
Link: <http://frwebgate1.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/PDFgate.cgi?WAISdocID=09874539056+0+2+0&WAIAction=retrieve>
- c. Tribal Leaders Directory:
Link: <http://www.bia.gov/idc/groups/public/documents/text/idc-001866.pdf>
[The Directory normally includes the latest lists of references (a) and (b) in its appendix section as well.]

2. **California Administrative Office of the Courts**

Site: www.courtinfo.ca.gov

The California courts website provides a number of ICWA-related resources. Among those are:

- a. Judicial Council Forms found at:
Link: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms/>
[Use drop down screen & look for Indian Child Welfare Act.]
- b. Judicial Review and Technical Assistance Projects' ICWA Initiative:
Link:
<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/programs/description/jrta-ICWAResources.htm>

This initiative was created by the California Courts' Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) and provides a number of ICWA resources such as:

- a. ICWA Laws, Regulations & Rules (including the Rules of Court)
- b. Bench Handbook: Indian Child Welfare Act (March 2008)
- c. ICWA Job Aids for State Courts and Agencies
- d. California ICWA Expert Witness List
- e. Services & Resources Directory of Indian children & families
- f. FAQ about the Indian Child Welfare Act
- g. Articles & video presentations on the Indian Child Welfare Act

B. Public Sites

1. California Indian Legal Services (CILS)

Site: www.calindian.org

CILS remains the only California statewide non-profit corporation organized to provide legal assistance and representation to Native Americans. This Benchguide, along with other ICWA self-help handouts, are available online. Among the ICWA-related self-help packets include “What is the Indian Child Welfare Act?,” “What is an Indian Custodian?,” and “Unsealing birth records (for adult Indian adoptees).” In addition to the Benchguide, CILS staff often provide ICWA trainings for tribes, social services, county and private attorneys, CASA workers and judicial officers.

Contact information for each of the field offices:

Bishop Office

873 N. Main Street, Suite 120
 Bishop, CA 93514
 Tel:(760) 873-3581 or toll free:(800) 736-3582
 Fax: (760) 873-7461

Counties Served:

Alpine, Inyo, Kern, Mono, Tuolumne

Escondido Office

609 S. Escondido Boulevard
 Escondido, CA 92025
 Tel: (760) 746-8941 or toll free: (800) 743-8941
 Fax: (760) 746-1815

Counties Served:

Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura

Eureka Office

324 F Street
Eureka, CA 95501
Tel: (707) 443-8397 or toll free (800) 347-2402
Fax: (707) 443-8913

Counties Served:

Del Norte, Humboldt, Lassen, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Trinity

Sacramento Office

3814 Auburn Boulevard, Suite 72
Sacramento, CA 95821
Tel: (916) 978-0960 or toll free (800) 829-0284
Fax: (916) 978-0964

Counties Served:

Alameda, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Kings, Lake, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Benito, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sierra, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Yolo, Yuba

2. Native American Rights Fund (NARF)

Site: <http://doc.narf.org/icwa/index.htm>

NARF's 2007 Benchguide is not focused on any one state. Instead it provides a general treatment of the ICWA – with case law examples from various jurisdictions.

3. Tribal Court Clearinghouse

Site: <http://www.tribal-institute.org>

Tribal Court Clearinghouse still sets the standard with its collection of tribal codes and court information. It provides the most comprehensive, free source of tribal court materials in the country. Their ICWA Resources page, link: <http://www.tribal-institute.org/lists/icwa.htm> provides not only the ICWA and BIA Guidelines but also the General Accounting Offices' study on the implementation of the ICWA and a number of scholarly articles regarding the impact of the ICWA.

C. Additional Reading Materials

For those with a desire to learn more about the ICWA, below is a short list of other ICWA publications. CILS does not make any representations about the information or opinions expressed in these publications. The list is merely offered as a sample of other ICWA reading materials.

The Indian Child Welfare Act Handbook: A Legal Guide to the Custody and Adoption of Native

American Children, (2008) B.J. Jones, American Bar Association

The Indian Child Welfare Act: Case and Analysis, (2009) Oklahoma Indian Legal Services

The Indian Child Welfare Act: the need for a separate law, (1995) B.J. Jones, General Practice Magazine American Bar Association

National Indian Child Welfare Act (NICWA) – various publications: *Indian Child Welfare Act; Cross-Cultural Skills in Indian Child Welfare: A Guide for the Non-Indian; Module I: Basic Skills in Indian Child Welfare*