



THE NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION # GOV2024-07

TITLE: Creation of the Intellectual and Cultural Property Committee

WHEREAS, the National Native American Bar Association (“NNABA”) was founded in 1973 and serves as the national association for Native American attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students, and NNABA promotes and addresses social, cultural, political, and legal issues affecting American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans are drastically underrepresented at the intellectual property bar, with potentially fewer than 20 identifying Native Americans practicing in that area; and

WHEREAS, Native Americans suffer lack of protections and abuses to the intangible aspects of their cultural property and traditional knowledge due to insufficient protections in law; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need for change addressing these issues, on May 10, 2023 the NNABA Board of Directors created the Intellectual Property, Cultural Property, and Traditional Knowledge Committee at a regular meeting of the board at which quorum was reached and more than a majority of board members present voted in support as reflected in the minutes for that meeting;

WHEREAS, the Committee convened throughout the 2023-2024 NNABA bar year and took important action including leadership on NNABA’s behalf engaging in the United States Patent and Trademark Office’s first ever tribal consultation by attending webinars in January 2024, submitting written comments in February 2024, and participating in two lengthy discussions with government staff regarding the comments in April and May 2024;

WHEREAS, the Committee has proven to be an asset for NNABA that it would benefit the Association and its mission to have mature and grow;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NNABA Board of Directors supports and approves the renaming of the committee to the “Intellectual and Cultural Property” (“Committee”) as part of NNABA’s governing and organizational structure as permitted by the NNABA Bylaws; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NNABA directors to serve on the Committee for the 2024-2025 NNABA bar year are Makalika Naholowaa and Geneva E. B. Thompson who shall serve one-year renewable terms as permitted by the NNABA Bylaws;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following NNABA members shall serve one-year renewable terms for the 2024-2025 NNABA bar year as permitted by the NNABA Bylaws:

- [Anthony Wingrove](#) (Cherokee), Co-Chair
- [Chante Westmoreland](#) (Choctaw)
- [Aaron Jones](#) (Tulalip)
- [Nicole Grigg](#) (Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake)
- [Samantha Wauls](#) (Lower Brule Sioux Tribe-Lakota); and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that additional members will be appointed by the sitting NNABA President from time to time as the NNABA Bylaws permit; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Committee will serve as leaders for the association to develop and make recommendations to the NNABA Board regarding programming and policy positions to (i) uplift Native American inclusion in intellectual property roles and (ii) improve the law as necessary to protect intangible Native American cultural property, traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions, and genetic resources.

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CERTIFICATE OF CORPORATE SECRETARY

I, Jordan Oglesby, do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the National Native American Bar Association (**NNABA**);

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY THAT Matthew Archer-Beck, Makalika Naholowaa, Rani Williams, Andrea Snowball, Thomas Pack, Geneva E. B. Thompson, Eldred Lesansee, Paulene Abeyta, Torey Dolan, Sunshine Nicholson, Blair Tarman, Brian Garcia, Alexander Mallory, Kori Cordero, Veronica Newcomer, and I are the currently serving directors of NNABA; and

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY THAT attached hereto as is a true and complete copy of a resolution titled "Creation of the Justice is Medicine Annual Meeting Committee," duly adopted according to NNABA's Bylaws by the Board of Directors of NNABA at regular meeting of the NNABA Board of Directors on May 8, 2024 and effective as of that same date;

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY THAT said resolution has not been altered, amended, or rescinded and is now in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name on this 8th day of May, 2024.



Jordan Oglesby
Secretary, National Native American Bar Association