

Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing to express my interest in becoming an Executive Committee At-Large Member of the Indian Law Section. The Indian Law Section recognizes the importance of tribal representation, both for practitioners in the field but also for those impacted by the legal system. I would be honored to be selected for this role.

I am a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. Native Americans make up less than one-half of the legal community. Though our legal population is small, our voices, representation, and dedication to our communities is great. Over the last year, I worked as the Tribal Liaison with the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Western District of Washington. My job was dedicated to working with the 25 federally recognized tribes within the Western District of Washington. Every week I traveled across our beautiful state, meeting with Tribal Prosecutors, Police Chiefs and Tribal Council. I listened to their needs, I tried cases that greatly impacted their communities, and I advocated on their behalf to the U.S. Attorney. Ultimately, though I loved my work at the U.S. Attorney's Office, I missed consistent work in the Courtroom and recently accepted a job back at the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (KCPAO). I will be working as the Senior Trial Deputy in the Domestic Violence Unit. Previously, I worked at the KCPAO for just over seven years, handling thousands of cases, including homicides, sexual assaults, and domestic violence. I also acted as a supervisor for new attorneys. My work with tribal communities and my ability to juggle high intensity caseloads every day will benefit the Indian Law Section. I will be able to maintain close relationships with tribal leadership and easily handle multiple tasks.

In addition to my professional work, I am also an active member in the community as a mentor and Washington Leadership Institute (WLI) Fellow. I am currently a mentor through the Joint Minority Mentorship Program. I work with a first-generation student providing professional guidance and support. I also attend monthly community meetings with WLI learning from community leaders how to best give back to the community. I hope to use these connections in the legal community increase the Indian Law Section's reach and create more events for both attorneys and students.

I look forward to discussing my experience and why I believe I would be an asset to the Indian Law Section.

Jocelyn Cooney

JOCELYN COONEY

EXPERIENCE

APRIL 2024- PRESENT

SENIOR DEPUTY PROSECUTOR, KING COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- Domestic Violence Unit, *Present*

JANUARY 2023- APRIL 2024

ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE WD OF WASHINGTON

- Indian Country Liaison, *July 2023-April 2024*
 - o Responsible for assisting and working with the 25 Federally Recognized tribes within the Western District of Washington to ensure their voices are heard and represented.
 - o Review, investigate, and maintain heavy caseloads involving offenses that include, but are not limited, to involuntary manslaughter, sexual assault, assault, narcotics, and fraud.
 - o Completed one 23 count human trafficking, forced labor and money laundering trial.
- General Crimes Unit, *January 2023-July 2023*
 - o Responsible for complex investigations and the prosecution of white-collar crime, sexual assault, narcotics, firearms, and threats to federal officials.

JANUARY 2022- PRESENT

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

- Trial Advocacy
 - o Develop lesson plans and teach law students on how to prepare and present a trial.
 - o Work one-on-one with students to provide constructive feedback on their presentations.

OCTOBER 2015- JANUARY 2022

SENIOR DEPUTY PROSECUTOR, KING COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- Sexually Violent Predator Unit- *May 2022-January 2022*
 - o Responsible for reviewing thousands of pages of discovery related to sexually violent predators.
- Sexual Assault Unit- *Dec 2021-May 2022*
 - o Conducted interviews of witnesses, met with victims, reviewed discovery, negotiated plea agreements, and prepared for trial.
- District Court Team Leader- *Jan 2021-Dec 2021*
 - o Supervised new attorneys, Rule 9 interns and externs in Seattle, Redmond, and Kent District Court. Reviewed court filings and observed trials. Negotiated plea agreements on countless cases and staffed negotiations with new deputies.
- Domestic Violence Unit- *July 2019-Dec 2020*
 - o Worked in a highly demanding environment, with a heavy caseload of domestic violence trial cases. Met with victims, advocates, officers and opposing counsel to reach the best outcomes in cases ranging from no contact order violations, assaults, residential burglary, and harassment.
- Felony Trial Unit- *June 2018- July 2019*
 - o Worked professionally with fellow attorneys, support staff and law enforcement agencies to prepare cases for trial, including but not limited to cases of theft, animal cruelty, possession with intent to distribute, threats to bomb and assault.
- Domestic Violence Court- *Sep 2017-Jun 2018*
 - o Prepped and completed misdemeanor domestic violence cases.
- Involuntary Treatment Act Division- *Oct 2015- Aug 2017*
 - o Worked independently, completing over 200 bench trials requiring interviews of medical professionals and the thorough review of thousands of medical records.

- Extensively researched and wrote five Appellate briefs and completed two oral arguments in front of Division I Court of Appeals.

FEBRUARY 2022- APRIL 2023

COMMISSIONER, WASHINGTON STATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

Appointed by Governor Jay Inslee to a board of five commissioners. Entrusted with setting PDC policy and interpret and enforce campaign finance law and public disclosure laws.

SEPTEMBER 2015-OCTOBER 2015

JUDICIAL LAW CLERK, TULALIP TRIBAL COURT

AUGUST 2014-DECEMBER 2014

EXTERN, U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE WESTERN DISTRICT

Assisted AUSAs in human trafficking cases and cases that took place in Indian Country.

August 2013-December 2013

JUDICIAL EXTERN, KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE BOWMAN

Attended court proceedings, researched legal topics and wrote legal memos.

EDUCATION

JURIS DOCTORATE, SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW 2012-2015

- Awards
 - Native American Scholar 2015
 - Order of the Barristers 2015
 - Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Scholarship 2012-2015
 - Washington Indian Gaming Association Scholarship 2012-2015
 - CALI award in Criminal Procedure- Fourth Amendment Law and Street Law
- Law Journal
 - Editor-in-Chief American Indian Law Journal 2015- helped to obtain accreditation
- Leadership
 - President of the Native American Law Student Association
 - Area 7 Representative of the National Native American Law Student Association
- Advocacy
 - Third Place National Native American Law Student Association Moot Court Competition
 - First Place Seattle University School of Law In-House Mock Trial Fall & Spring 2013 & 2014

PRE-LAW SUMMER INSTITUTE GRADUATE, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO SCHOOL OF LAW 2012

Attended the Pre-Law Summer institute for Native American Students.

BACHELOR OF ARTS- SOCIOLOGY & MUSIC, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON 2007-2012

- Awards
 - Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Scholarship 2007-2012
 - Husky 100 2012
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation Leadership Scholarship 2009
 - Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity Endowment Scholarship 2009
- Leadership
 - Vice President of the Associated Students of the University of Washington 2012
 - UW Leaders Director 2011
 - Committee Organizing Rape Education Director 2010
- Performance
 - Lead role in Undergraduate performance of Hansel & Gretel