

Charmaine McDarment

Charmaine McDarment is General Counsel for the Tule River Tribal Council. In addition to everyday duties, she attends meetings, as needed, representing the Tribe in certain inter-tribal organizations, including but not limited to the National Indian Gaming Association and California Nations Indian Gaming Association, and has served on the following Tribal Committees: Tribal Water Rights Negotiation Team, Law Enforcement, Natural Resources, National Congress of American Indians, Council of Energy Resources Tribes, California Nations Indian Gaming Association, National Indian Gaming Association, and Tribal-State Regulators Association.

Prior to joining the Tule River Tribal Council, Ms. McDarment served as a Law Clerk for California Indian Legal Services in Eureka, California. There she conducted client intakes, researched the areas of tribal trust land transfers, Indian water law, Indian sacred sites on federal public lands, and the Indian Land Consolidation Act, communicated with clients and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Northern California Agency Office, helped clients to file and amend child custody and guardianship forms, drafted and executed Wills for estates under \$10,000, attended Tribal Council meetings, and assisted organizing and drafting Tribal Constitutions.

In 2002, Ms. McDarment also worked as a Law Clerk for C.A. Bowerman Esq., in Albuquerque, NM. During this time she completed federal and New Mexico State Indian gaming legal research and wrote memoranda regarding personal injury.

In 2001, Ms. McDarment worked as a Research Assistant to Professor Christine Zuni-Cruz, UNM School of Law, Albuquerque, NM, where she worked independently on research projects concerning Indian law and developed power point presentations for professor Zuni-Cruz to use in conjunction with various Indian law presentations.

Also in 2001, Ms. McDarment worked as a Tutor for the American Indian Law Center, UNM School of Law, Albuquerque, NM. There, she tutored students in the Pre-Law Summer Institute Program, in the areas of Torts and Advocacy, and assisted students with legal research and provided staff, and computer support.

Prior to her career in law Ms. McDarment worked in Education, as a Substitute Teacher, a Long-Term Resource Specialist Paraeducator, and a G.A.T.E. Test Administrator.

Education

Ms. McDarment became interested in law during college. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy, from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Juris Doctrate Degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Interests

- Member, Porterville Breakfast Rotary Club (2006).
- Rotary International, Indigenous Group Study Exchange Team Member, Australia (2005).
- Organized and served as Powwow Coordinator for the Porterville Powwow (2003 -2005). Served as Powwow Committee Staff (2006-2007).
- Web-Editor, Tribal Law Journal, University of New Mexico, School of Law (2001-2003).
- Developed high school curriculum on NAFTA, and the World Trade Organization, in conjunction with the Society of American Law Teachers (2001).
- Two-year recipient of scholarship program—Native Americans into Medicine, Summer Biomedical Internship, University of Minnesota School of Medicine, Duluth, MN (*“Early Life and Conception”* and *“The Central Nervous System,”* 1996 & 1998).
- Completed a biomedical internship titled *“Value of Imaging the Upper Urinary Tract in Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy,”* with the University of California San Francisco-Fresno Foundation, Fresno CA (1993).
- Skilled Clarinet Player (13 years).