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The Tribal Youth Court is a division of the Intertribal Court of Southern California

# *Tribal Youth Court* *Periodical*

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## *Our Mission*

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*Tribal Youth Court, TYC, aims to cultivate wellness-based responses to low status offenses. The TYC centers on educating tribal youth about tribal restorative justice practices and empowers them to engage in these practices in service of their communities.*

## *Greetings,*

We are proud to congratulate our Chief Judge at the Intertribal Court of Southern California, the Honorable Devon Lomayesva (Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel), on her appointment to the California State Judiciary. Judge Lomayesva has been a steadfast advocate for Native communities for over 30 years. Her career includes serving as a practicing attorney and a member of the California State Bar, an instructor at San Diego State University, the Executive Director of California Indian Legal Services, and Chief Judge of the Intertribal Court of Southern Ca.

Her commitment extends to her work within her own community as a former Tribal Council member, attorney, and Char of the Santa Ysabel Gathering Committee.

Judge Lomayesva's contributions to our communities are immeasurable, and while she will be deeply missed as our Chief Judge, we celebrate her new position, recognizing that Tribal and Native representation on the state bench is a profound step forward. We are so proud of Judge Lomayesva as she becomes one of the first California tribally enrolled Native women to serve on the judiciary. Congratulations on the extraordinary achievements and enduring dedication to our communities! We look forward to see what lays ahead for her!!

If you would like to know more about this event, please contact Dianne Daniels at [ddaniels@intertribalcourt.org](mailto:ddaniels@intertribalcourt.org).

# Here's what to look for in October:

## October 5<sup>th</sup>: *National Be*

*Nice Day* While this should be a daily practice, we all have days that challenge our patience. This day is an opportunity to focus on how we treat others, and see how our behavior can affect others. On this day, commit to walking in the light of positivity all day long.

## October 14<sup>th</sup>: *Indigenous Peoples Day*

This day is celebrated on the second Monday of October. It is a day to honor the cultures and histories of Indigenous people. In some states, this day is still recognized as Columbus Day, but the violent history associated with European explorers, has called for many states to celebrate the people who sustained successful life long before their arrival.

October 15<sup>th</sup>: *National Pug Day* While there are many pet, animal, and dog observances throughout the year, this one happens to be my favorite! As a pug owner and lover, I appreciate the purpose and sentiment of this day. Ultimately, let's remember to treat all of our four-legged friends, with the same amount of love they share with us, but on this day, appreciate the pugs in all their silly, loud, snuggly glory!

## October 22<sup>nd</sup>: *Make a Difference Day*

Everyone can participate in this day and take opportunities to help your fellow man. Whether you reach out to someone you know who might need a little extra support, or volunteer at your local animal shelter, use this day to remember that your actions really can make a difference.



October 31<sup>st</sup>: *Halloween* Halloween originated with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain, intended to ward off ghosts with bonfires and costumes on the last day of their calendar year. A combination of Samhain and All Saints Day, 11/1, has led to Halloween as we know it. Pumpkins, candy, costumes, and fun frights is how we celebrate Halloween today, and we love it! 🎃

## Month of October: *Italian-American Heritage Month*

Since 1989, October has been designated as "Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month." It is celebrated to honor the contributions of Italian immigrants and their descendants living in the United States. Events are held throughout the month to celebrate Italian-American history and culture.



## *Coordinator's Corner*

October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Domestic Violence Awareness Month was first introduced by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence in 1981. It was created to bring awareness to others, as well as to connect and unify the many victims affected by domestic violence. Domestic violence can show itself in many different forms, and it affects millions of people every year. We often think only women are victims of domestic violence, but men and children of all different races, backgrounds, cultures, and social statuses are affected too.

Over four out of five Native American and Alaska Native men and women have experienced violence at some point in their lives, and over a third have experienced violence just within the past year, according to a new report from a National Institute of Justice-funded study.

If you or someone you know needs help, please contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1(800) 799-7233 or TTY 1(800)787-3224



## *Current Events>>>* *Law in the News*

★ Governor Newsom announced judicial appointments on October 9, 2024. Governor Newsome announces his appointment of 18 Superior Judges.

In California, judges are appointed through a process intended to ensure qualified and fair-minded individuals preside over the state's judicial system. For the California Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal, the governor appoints judges, but those appointments require confirmation by the Commission on Judicial Appointments. Superior Court Judges, who serve at the county level, are usually elected by voters in nonpartisan elections, but may be appointed by the governor if a vacancy arises before an election. Once appointed or elected, judges serve a six-year term in the Superior Court and a twelve-year term in the appellate and Supreme Courts.

The responsibilities of California judges vary by the level in which they serve, but all judges share the fundamental duty of ensuring justice is fairly and impartially administered. At the Superior Court level, judges handle a wide array of cases, including criminal, civil, family, and juvenile cases. They interpret and apply California's laws, oversee court procedures, rule on motions, and manage trials. Superior Court judges play a key role in sentencing in criminal cases. By fulfilling these responsibilities, California judges uphold the rule of law and maintain public confidence in the state's judicial system.

# Tribal Youth Court

## What's Happening in October

See below for some important dates!

### - Calendar Events for October:

- Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>- UCSD Intro to Tribal Legal Studies Course begins
- Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> – Court will be closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day
- Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> - Annual AIR Banquet honoring AIR/TYC Honors Program students
- Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>- Halloween 🎃 Court will close at 3:30pm



## Intertribal Court of Southern California

*The Tribal Youth Court is a division of the Intertribal Court of Southern California (ICSC). Please refer to this section to find current news and updates about the court.*

### About the Court...

The ICSC serves as a consortium of tribes from across Southern California. ICSC currently serves the thirteen of its member tribes hearing cases on public safety issues, tort claims, family law, conservatorships and more. We highlight one of our member tribes below.

Please visit [www.intertribalcourt.org](http://www.intertribalcourt.org) to learn more.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Ask the court >>>



**Question:** What is a status offense?

**Answer:** A status offense is an action that is prohibited only to a certain class of people, and most often applied to offenses committed by minors. In short, these offenses are not illegal if committed by an adult. Examples of status offenses include truancy, breaking curfew laws, running away from home, and possession and/or consumption of alcohol. The basis for status offenses is that these acts are harmful to minors, and courts need to protect them.

# Final thoughts...

## ***Fun Law Fact:***

**In Belleville, Illinois, a law on "Halloween Solicitation" forbids anyone above eighth grade to go trick-or-treating. The city also requires anyone over 12 to get "permission of the Mayor or Chief of Police" to wear a mask or disguise on days other than Halloween.**

## **Court Humor, with a Spooky Twist:**

**What is the witch's favorite crime show?**

- *America's Most Haunted*

## ***Announcements:***

- **Next month, Tribal Youth Court is holding a Peer Decision Maker Training Workshop. Completing this training qualifies all participants to sit as Peer Decision Makers at youth court hearings. If you'd like more information, please contact [tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org](mailto:tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org).**



**Coming Soon >>>**

## ***November Issue***

*TYC and ICSC Updates*

*PDM Honors Project- Course*

*Midway Meeting*

*PDM Training Workshop*

*Monthly Newsletter Features*

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Please email the youth court to submit a question for the "Q & A" section to be answered in an upcoming issue or inquire about a monthly newsletter subscription. Contact information below.

If you'd like more information on our Tribal Youth Court, please contact us at [tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org](mailto:tribalyouthcourt@intertribalcourt.org) or call (760) 751-4142 ext. 105