

received
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file

Charles Jakosa
2893 Knox Avenue South, #516
Minneapolis, MN 55408

October 1, 1993

Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller
Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma
Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465

Dear Chief Mankiller:

I am a third year student at the University of Minnesota Law School and an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation who is interested in practicing Indian Law in Washington, D.C. after graduation. Joe Membrino at Hall Estill suggested that I contact you for advice and assistance.

As you will see from my enclosed resume, I have a demonstrated interest in representing Indian Nations. My experiences at the Native American Rights Fund, Dorsey & Whitney and Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse & Endreson have afforded me a varied perspective on the types of work, both legal and policy-oriented, which tribes require. From these experiences, I believe that someday I would like to do general counsel work for tribes.

However, I am unsure where to begin my career and would appreciate your input regarding this. I have applied to the Department of Justice where I would hope to work in the Indian Resources Section. Although this position offers incredible litigation experience, it may insulate me from many of the concerns of tribal governments. I have also applied to the Solicitor of the Interior's office. Again, my client would be the United States and not tribal governments. I have contacted almost all the "Indian Law" firms not only in Washington, D.C., but throughout the United States. I will also apply to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Joe Membrino suggested that I should apply to Patton, Boggs & Blow to gain lobbying experience. He thought that you particularly could advise me in that area.

This job selection dilemma could ultimately prove pointless because all of these positions are very competitive. There are only a handful of positions and many applicants for each of them. Kim Teehee mentioned to me that you attempt to support tribal members who seek careers in federal Indian policy. As Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation and a respected individual, any support you could give me would be both helpful and greatly appreciated. I realize, though, that you do not know me and may feel uncomfortable giving such support. If you wish, I could arrange to meet with you in Tahlequah, I often go home to Bartlesville anyway, or feel free to call me at any time. My home number is 612-822-0794.

Handwritten notes:

- Joe Membrino*
- Pat: call & tell him I would be happy to talk with him.*
- Minneapolis*
- November 1st*
- St. Paul*
- Patton, Boggs & Blow*
- we can meet there*