

Chloe Thompson Villagomez

Principal | Seattle

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Overview

Chloe focuses her practice on advising Native American tribes and tribal entities. She is a dedicated advocate for tribal sovereignty, tribal self-determination and tribal economic development.

Chloe represents Native American tribes and tribal entities in a broad range of governmental and business matters, including commercial transactions, business operations, governmental operations, intergovernmental relations and agreements, civil litigation, employment matters, construction issues, the development of laws, regulations and policy, and more. Chloe has particular interest in tribal economic development, tribal sovereign immunity, civil jurisdiction in Indian country, employment law, tax law, gaming, liquor and cannabis regulation, recognition of tribal court judgments, and issues involving the applicability of federal and state laws in Indian country.

Prior to joining Foster Garvey, Chloe served as the Tribal Attorney for the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, Associate General Counsel for Port Madison Enterprises (an agency of the Suquamish Tribe) and in private practice with a boutique Indian law firm in the Minneapolis area. Her clients have included a number of tribal gaming operations, hotels, convenience stores and liquor stores, as well as a tribally owned construction company, golf course and event center.

Chloe has also served as an adjunct professor at Seattle University School of Law, where she has taught Federal Indian Law, Indian Gaming Law, and Tribal Law.

Areas of Focus

- [Litigation](#)
- [Intellectual Property Licensing & Transactions](#)

- [Labor, Employment & Immigration](#)
- [Tribal Governments & Enterprises](#)

Admissions

- Washington, 2011
- Minnesota, 2004
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan, 2021
- U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota, 2005
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington, 2021
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, 2012
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit, 2022
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, 2021
- Puyallup Tribal Court, 2020
- Snoqualmie Tribal Court, 2018
- Suquamish Tribal Court, 2010

Education

- J.D., University of Minnesota Law School (*cum laude*), 2004
 - *Law & Inequality: A Journal of Theory & Practice*, Managing Editor
 - Indian Child Welfare Clinic
- B.A., University of Oregon, Clark Honors College (with honors), 1999 (with distinction), 1996

Honors & Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Native American Law, 2025

Languages

- Spanish, Proficient

Professional Activities

- Law360, Native American Editorial Advisory Board, 2023-2024
- Minnesota American Indian Bar Association, 2003-present
- Tribal In-House Counsel Association, Member, 2013-present
- Washington Department of Revenue, Tribal Tax Advisory Group, Member, 2014-2019
- Washington State Bar Association, Indian Law Section, Member, 2011-present

News & Insights

News

[71 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among the 2026 Best Lawyers in America; Paul Trincherro Named 'Lawyer of the Year'](#)

[08.21.25](#)

[65 Foster Garvey Attorneys Selected to The Best Lawyers in America® 2025, Three Named 'Lawyer of the Year'](#)

[08.15.24](#)

[Foster Garvey Promotes Six Attorneys to Principal](#)

[01.03.22](#)

[Foster Garvey Adds Strength to Native American Law Practice with Addition of Chloe Thompson Villagomez](#)

[04.02.20](#)

Events

["Easements in Oregon," The Seminar Group 2026](#)

[06.12.26](#)

["Negotiating and Drafting Dispute Resolution Provisions in Tribal Contracts," Tribal In-House Counsel Association](#)

[03.19.25](#)

["Cooperative Inter-Governmental Plan Development When There Are Potential Impacts on Tribal Treaty Rights or Other Tribal Interest from Off Reservation Land Use Project," Law Seminars International](#)

[10.10.24](#)

["Requirements for sovereign-to-sovereign Tribal consultation," 2023 Washington's Growth Management Act](#)

[11.16.23](#)

["Arm-of-the-Tribe Sovereign Immunity," Lawline CLE Webcast](#)

[10.09.23](#)

["Eliminating Barriers to Use of Arbitration by Tribal Government," 25th Annual Dispute Resolution Spring Conference](#)

[05.11.23](#)

["Exploring Barriers to the Use of Arbitration by Tribal Governments," Indian Gaming Tradeshow & Convention 2023](#)

[03.28.23](#)

["Negotiating and Drafting Dispute Resolution Provisions in Tribal Contracts," Tribal In-House Counsel Association - Lunch in Indian Country CLE Seminar](#)

[09.28.22](#)

["Washington Indian Tribes and the GMA: Sovereign-to-Sovereign Consultation as a Necessary Part of Inclusionary Regional Planning," Law Seminars International 29th Annual Comprehensive Conference](#)

[09.22.22](#)

["Tribal Sovereign Immunity Update," WSBA Indian Law Section's 34th Annual Indian Law CLE Seminar](#)

[06.16.22](#)

["The Indian Law Outlook," Quimbee CLE Seminar.](#)

[06.10.22](#)

["Indian Law Basics," National Association for Legal Support Professionals \(NALS\) of Washington Annual Meeting](#)

[04.02.22](#)

["Tribal Sovereign Immunity Update: The Tribe Can Do No Wrong, But What About Its Subordinate Entities, Officials, and Employees?" LawPracticeCLE Webinar](#)

[01.14.22](#)

["Analyzing Recent Indian Law Decisions at SCOTUS: Is this a New Era?" - Lawline](#)

[09.21.21](#)

["Tribal Employment Law Challenges: Returning Employees to the Workplace"](#)

[5.8.20 and 5.11.20](#)

["Current Tax Issues in Indian Country," 31st Annual Washington State Bar Association Indian Law Seminar](#)

[05.10.19](#)

[Legal Basics](#)

[05.01.16](#)

[Contract Policy](#)

[03.01.16](#)

[Tribal Employment Law](#)

[02.01.16](#)

[Tribal Governance](#)

[10.01.15](#)

[27th Annual Washington State Bar Association Indian Law Seminar](#)

[06.11.15](#)

[“2023 SCOTUS Update: Federal Indian Law,” Quimbee CLE Online Course](#)

[09.22.25](#)

[Contract Training](#)

[November and December 2018](#)

[Sovereignty and Contracts](#)

[May and November 2016](#)

Legal Alerts

[Patent Office Raises IP Questions for Tribes](#)

[11.29.23](#)

[Washington’s Cap-and-Invest Program Creates Opportunity for Tribes to Combat Climate Change and Generate Governmental Revenues](#)

[05.04.23](#)

Publications

[“Law School’s Missed Lessons: Appreciating Civil Procedure,” Law360 Expert Analysis](#)

[06.11.25](#)

["Commentary on U.S. v. Rickert," Feminist Judgments: Rewritten Tax Opinions, Bridget J. Crawford & Anthony C. Infanti eds., Cambridge University Press 2017](#)

[12.01.17](#)

["The Sovereign Immunity of Tribal Officials and Employees after Maxwell v. County of San Diego," WSBA Indian Law Newsletter](#)

[03.20.13](#)

["New NLRB Rule Presents an Unwelcome Choice for Tribal Businesses," Indian Country Today](#)

[10.22.11](#)

["Exercising and Protecting Tribal Sovereignty in Day-to-Day Business Operations: What the Key Players Need to Know," Washburn Law Journal, Vol. 49 No. 3, p. 661-716](#)

[03.20.10](#)

["A Legacy of Public Law 280: Comparing and Contrasting Minnesota's New Rule for the Recognition of Tribal Court Judgments with the Recent Arizona Rule," Co-author \(with Kevin Washburn\), William Mitchell Law Review, Vol. 31 Issue 2, p. 479-526](#)

[01.01.04](#)

["Contracting Recommendations for Tribal Entities," Indian Gaming](#)

[01.01.00](#)

["State Workers' Compensation Laws: Unenforceable Against Tribal Employers Both On and Off Reservations," WSBA Indian Law Newsletter](#)

[01.01.00](#)

Connect with Chloe

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