

## WIZIPAN GARRIOTT LITTLE ELK

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### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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**Executive Director, Rosebud Economic Development Corporation CEO, Rosebud Electronic Integration Corporation** Rosebud Indian Reservation, SD (April 2012 – Present)

Direct all aspects of REDCO to achieve goals identified by the corporate board of directors. Ensure sound financial management of company. Manage senior corporate staff and general managers of subsidiary companies. Direct economic policy development on behalf of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. Manage strategic direction of organization's nonprofit community development initiatives.

**Director, Office of Program Analysis, Rosebud Sioux Tribe,** Rosebud, SD (September 2011 – April 2012)

Provide consultation to improve programs and operations of the Tribe. Coverage areas include: financial analysis; tribal enterprise improvement and development; management improvement analysis; policy and legislative analysis and development; intertribal, federal, and state government relations, and; comprehensive planning and priority setting.

Advise and assist Tribal leadership in a wide variety of matters, including: securing of federal funds, working with the federal government; representing the Tribe at meetings and official consultation sessions; drafting of talking points, letters, position papers, and memoranda; community outreach, and; other duties as assigned by the Tribal Council and President.

**Deputy Chief of Staff and Policy Advisor, Office of the Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior,** Washington, DC (March 2009 – May 2011)

Carry out the Department's priorities for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, and other offices administered by the Assistant Secretary.

Manage senior staff overseeing approximately 9,000 employees. Assist in developing and managing annual budget of approximately \$2.5 billion. Indian Affairs' coverage area includes: providing services to 1.9 million American Indians; working with 565 federally recognized tribes; managing 55 million acres of land, and; educating 42,000 students in 183 schools and two colleges.

Advise the Assistant Secretary on policy, political, budget, and management matters in the areas of: public safety; education; economic development; natural resources; Alaska Native affairs; housing; public health; social services; government-to-government consultation, and; public, congressional, tribal, and state relations.

Draft and edit written materials for the Secretary of the Interior, Assistant Secretary, and senior staff, including: information and decision memoranda, congressional testimony, talking points, press statements, letters, newsletters, brochures, media ads, and various internal communications.

**First Americans Public Liaison, Office of the President Elect, Obama-Biden Transition Team, Washington, DC (November 2008 – January 2009)**

Coordinated efforts with senior transition staff, Agency Review Teams, Policy Teams, and Indian Country to write the Indian Transition Plan for the incoming Administration; Advised Transition Team on political and policy issues, including: presidential appointments, public safety, education, economic and energy development, natural resources, federal recognition, tax, Alaska Native concerns, housing, transportation, agriculture, historic preservation, trust reform and litigation, gaming, labor, health, social services, water rights, and international indigenous rights; coordinated outreach efforts with tribes, tribal organizations, and other stakeholders.

**First Americans Vote Director, Obama for America, Chicago, IL (Summer 2007; May 2008 – November 2008)**

Directed Obama for America's Native American campaign strategy resulting in record setting Native American voter turnout and participation rates. Duties included: development of Native American policy platform; coordination of political, field, and media activities; drafted memoranda and talking points for candidate Obama; managed over 10 staff and hundreds of volunteers throughout Indian country.

**Summer Associate, Perkins Coie, LLP, Washington, DC (Summer 2006)**

Drafted legal memoranda on issues pertaining to federal and state campaign law, civil procedure, and tribal land claims; Updated report on renewable energy portfolio standards; Provided analysis on case law for antitrust matter; Provided research analysis for Supreme Court Amicus Brief in the case of *Massachusetts v. EPA*.

**Legislative Assistant for Government Affairs, Olsson, Frank and Weeda, P.C., Washington, DC (January 2005 – May 2005)**

Assisted and advised clients in developing strategies for advocacy before Congress and the Administration, including the Department of Interior, U.S. Department of

Agriculture, and Department of Justice; Monitored, researched and analyzed legislation concerning appropriations, agriculture, and Indian affairs.

**Special Assistant for Economic Development and Indian Affairs, Office of U.S. Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, Washington, DC (August 2003 – December 2004)**

Researched, monitored and analyzed legislation related to Indian affairs with a focus on appropriations, economic development, housing, and education; Assisted in drafting, introduction, and passage of legislation; Drafted numerous statements, memoranda, constituent correspondence, and letters.

**Regional Office Director, Campaign Office of Senator Tom Daschle, Rosebud, SD (September 2004 – November 2004)**

Managed five field staff and over 100 volunteers in organizing voter registration, outreach, and election day activities; Assisted in achieving record-setting voter turnout rates for every reservation-based county in South Dakota.

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**EDUCATION**

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**University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, Tucson, AZ  
J.D., May 2008**

- Research Assistant, Indian Legal Studies, Professor James Hopkins
- Andrew Silverman Community Service Award
- Arizona State Bar Association Essay Contest Winner
- Runner up, National Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition
- National Native American Law Students Association Board of Directors, Public Relations Director
- Native American Law Students Association, University of Arizona: Treasurer, Vice President
- Accenture Corporation Fellowship
- Law College Association Scholarship
- Law College Academic Achievement Scholarship
- Rae Royer Memorial Scholarship
- Arizona State Bar Association Scholarship

**American Indian Law Center, Albuquerque, NM**

Certificate of Completion of Pre-Law Summer Institute, Summer 2005

- Class Rank: 1 of 36
- Completed courses in Indian Law, Torts, Property, and Legal Writing.

**Yale University**, New Haven, CT

Bachelor of Arts in American Studies, May 2003

- Ezra Stiles College Rita Lipson Cup (for work and dedication to student advocacy)
- Class Simulation Award: U.S. Congress, Best Public Interest Lobbyist
- Fred Danforth Scholarship
- Stone Trust Corporation Scholarship
- Kayleen Young Memorial Scholarship
- Frank LaPoint Memorial Scholarship
- Rosebud Educational Society Scholarship
- Lakota Nation Invitational Scholarship
- The Association of Native Americans at Yale: Vice President, President

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**REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS**

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www.Wizipan.Com, custom content website. Articles include:

- [COVID-19 Response Revealing Economic Inequity In Indian Country](#)
- [Doing Right By Women's Equity](#)
- [What An All Native Cabinet Could Look Like](#)

*From Poverty to Prosperity: A National Strategy to Cut Poverty in Half*, Report and Recommendations of the Center for American Progress Task Force on Poverty, (April 2007, served as task force member).

*Unlawful Taxation*, The Arrow (Fall 2006).

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**REPRESENTATIVE TESTIMONY, PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS**

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Panelist, Investing for Climate Change and Social Infrastructure in Indian Country, Sorenson Impact Center, Winter Innovation Summit, Salt Lake City, Utah, February 4, 2020.

Panelist, Social Investment with Indigenous Communities – Part II, SOCAP Conference, San Francisco, CA, October 24, 2019.

Verbal and Written Testimony, Recruitment, Hiring, Training, and Retention of Law Enforcement Officers in Indian Country, U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Washington, DC, March 18, 2010.

Panelist, Seizing Our Energy Future and Opportunities for Inter-Tribal Cooperation, Renewables on Tribal Homelands Conference, Rosebud, South Dakota, April 30.

Panelist, Juvenile Justice and Youth Wellness: Developing Early Assessment and Intervention Programs, National Congress of American Indians Midyear Conference, Rapid City, South Dakota, June 22, 2010.

Panelist, Opportunities for Supporting Healthy, Successful Native American Children, Native Americans in Philanthropy Conference, Denver, Colorado, April 22, 2010.

Panelist, Potential Impact of Energy and Climate Change Initiatives on Indian Trust Resource Management, Intertribal Monitoring Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, November 12, 2009.

Moderator, Consultation Sessions for BIA Office of Justice Services, Rapid City, April 29, 2010, South Dakota; Albuquerque, New Mexico May 4, 2010; Portland, Oregon, May 11, 2010.

Moderator, Consultation Sessions for Department of Interior regarding development of Consultation Policy, Minneapolis, Minnesota, January 5, 2010; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, January 7, 2010.

Keynote Address, Tribal Listening Conference, U.S. Attorney's Office – South Dakota, South Dakota U.S., Oacoma, South Dakota, February 4, 2010.

Keynote Address, St. Francis Indian School Teacher Training, St. Francis, South Dakota, August 18, 2004,

Keynote Address, Youth 2000 Leadership Conference, Rapid City South Dakota, April 16, 2004.

Speaker, Making it Work in Indian Country, Native American Development Corporation Conference, Billings, Montana, August 13, 2009.

Speaker, Native American Caucus, National Democratic Convention, Denver, Colorado, August 27, 2008.

Speaker, Sinte Gleska University Graduation Commencement, Mission, South Dakota, August 27, 2004.

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**TRIBAL AFFILIATION**

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Sicangu Lakota, enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe

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**REFERENCES**

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*Wayne Boyd*, Secretary, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, 101 Legion Avenue, Rosebud, SD 57555,  
[Wayneboyd4@hotmail.com](mailto:Wayneboyd4@hotmail.com), (605) 441-9889

*Senator Tom Daschle*, DLA Piper, 500 Eighth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20004,  
[tom.daschle@dlapiper.com](mailto:tom.daschle@dlapiper.com), (202) 799 4370

*Robert Williams*, E. Thomas Sullivan Professor of Law and American Indian Studies &  
Director of the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program, University of Arizona  
James E. Rogers College of Law, P.O. Box 210176, Tucson, Arizona 85721,  
[williams@law.arizona.edu](mailto:williams@law.arizona.edu), (520) 621-5622