

Luis Ochoa

PARTNER

Tucson Office Managing Partner

Tucson

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About Luis

Wide-ranging, experienced counsel on Indian and tribal law

Luis Ochoa has more than 25 years of legal experience in real estate, Indian law and policy, tribal housing, gaming, business entity formation, real estate development, leasing on non-tribal fee land, tribal trust and allotted land, the application of federal and state tax law to tribal activities, and economic development activities undertaken by tribes, tribal members and non-Indian business clients.

Experience in Action

- **Represents two of the nation's largest tribally designated housing entities.**
- **Advises on compliance with the requirements of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).**
- **Navigates federal and state gaming law**, with emphasis on Indian gaming and Arizona and National Indian Gaming Commission regulatory issues.
- **Represents tribal gaming commissions/offices and casino management entities in regulatory and operations matters.**
- **Counsels nonprofit entities regarding corporate and tax issues**, including obtaining and maintaining tax-exempt status, unrelated business income tax planning and compliance, fundraising registration and risk management issues.

Education and Honors

The University of Arizona
James E. Rogers College of
Law (J.D., 1986)

The University of Arizona
(B.S., 1983)

Bar Admissions

Navajo Nation

Arizona

Court Admissions

Pascua Yaqui Tribal Court,
2006

Tohono O'odham Nation
Tribal Court, 2006

Tonto Apache Tribal Court,
2005

U.S. Tax Court, 1987

U.S. District Court, District
of Arizona, 1986

Navajo Nation Supreme
Court





Successes

- Representation in all phases and successful closings of five Arizona Department of Housing low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) financed housing projects on tribal trust lands. Representation also involved securing BIA-approved master leases of tribal trust land for each project between each of the tribes and their respective tribally-designated housing authorities, together with LIHTC project subleases for project site control requirements.

Capabilities

Real Estate

Acquisitions and Dispositions

Indian Law & Policy

Banking & Financial Institutions

Land Use, Zoning and Development

Leasing

Real Estate Finance

Professional Recognitions

- *Chambers USA*[®] (2018–present: Native American Law)
- University of Arizona College of Law Distinguished Alumnus Convocation Award (2008)
- *Best Lawyers in America*[®] (2007–2012, 2024: Gaming Law, Native American Law; 2007–present: Non-Profit/Charities Law)
- ABA Pro Bono Publico Award (2002)
- Arizona Bar Foundation / State Bar of Arizona “William E. Morris Pro Bono Service Award” (2001)
- Arizona Community Legal Foundation Attorney of the Year, Southern Arizona Legal Aid / Volunteer Lawyers Program (2000)
- Arizona Community Legal Foundation Attorney of the Year, Southern Arizona Legal Aid / Volunteer Lawyers Program (1999)
- Bankruptcy Clinic Attorney of the Year (Southern Arizona Legal Aid / Volunteer Lawyers Program (1997, 1998)
- Martindale-Hubbell AV[®] Peer Review Rated
- *AZ Big Media* “Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona” (2022)

Professional & Civic Activities

- University of Arizona Intercollegiate Athletics committee (2008–present)
- Board of Directors, 88-Crime (Crimestoppers)
- Southern Arizona Legal Aid, volunteer Lawyers Program: Advisory committee
- William Morris Foundation, board of directors





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- Governor's Character Education Commission, commissioner (1999-2003)
 - Tohono Chul Park, board of directors (2000-2006)
 - Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, vice president and board of directors (October 1998-2004)
 - Crime Prevention Council, board of directors (1996-2002)
 - Tucson Centers for Women and Children, board of directors (1989-1992)

