

Snell & Wilmer



Heidi McNeil Staudenmaier

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Main Bio

Heidi McNeil Staudenmaier is nationally recognized in the areas of Native American Law, Gaming Law and Business Litigation. She represents tribes, tribal entities and businesses who engage in commercial transactions in Indian Country, including gaming licensing, compacting, economic development, and governmental matters.

Education

- University of Iowa, College of Law (J.D., with Distinction)
- University of Iowa (B.A., Journalism and Broadcasting (double major), with Distinction)

Professional Memberships & Activities

- International Masters of Gaming Law, Past President
- Executive Editor, Gaming Law Review and Economics
- International Association of Gaming Advisors
- State Bar of Arizona
 - Indian Law Section, Founding Member and Past Chairperson
 - Young Lawyers Division, Past Executive Officer
 - Arizona High School Mock Trial Program, Past State Legal Counsel Coordinator
- Maricopa County Bar Association
 - Board of Directors, Past President
 - Young Lawyers Division, Past President
- Native American Bar Association of Arizona, Founding Member
- ABA Business Law Section:
 - Secretary (2023-2024); Council (2003-2008, 2019-Present); Co-Chair, "Business Law Today" Editorial Board, Co-Chair, ABA Relations Committee; Past Chair & Member of Committee Support & Resource Board (2020-2023); Co-Chair of State/Local/Affinity Bar Task Force (2020-2021); Chair, Committee on Strategic Planning (2004-2006) and Member (2003-2004); Committee on Committee Support and Structure (2006-2008); Nominating Committee (2003-2004, 2019-2020)

- Business and Corporate Litigation Committee, Chair (2016-2019); Annual Review Co-Author, Tribal Litigation Chapter; Past Chair, Publications Subcommittee; Past Chair, Tribal Court Litigation Subcommittee
 - Editorial Board of "Business Law Today," (1997-2004); Editor-in-Chief (2001-2004)
 - Co-Chair, Fellows Program (2000-2002)
 - Fellow (1998-2000)
- ABA Young Lawyers Division:
 - Fellows of the Young Lawyers Division (1998-Present)
 - Cabinet and Executive Council (1993-98); Officer (1995-1998)

Representative Presentations & Publications

- "[Navigating Sovereign Immunity in Employment Termination Case](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (May 17, 2024)
- "[Alaska Supreme Court Extends Tribal Sovereign Immunity: A Landmark Decision with a Far-Reaching Impact](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (May 13, 2024)
- "[Louisiana Bans Prop Bets for Betting Integrity and Athlete Safety](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (April 15, 2024)
- "[Property Owned by Non-Indians and Located on Tribal Land Is Subject to Property Tax](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (March 26, 2024)
- "[A New Solicitor Opinion Revisits Tribal Jurisdiction Over Alaska Native Allotments](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (March 21, 2024)
- "[Tribal Sovereign Immunity Upheld: Texas Federal Court Dismisses Tribal Business Contract Dispute](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (February 8, 2024)
- "[United States District Court Finds California Failed to Negotiate Gaming Compact in Good Faith](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (March 11, 2024)
- "[The Ninth Circuit Affirms Tribal Court Jurisdiction Over Insurance Provider](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (March 7, 2024)
- "[Arizona Attorney General Concludes Historical Horse Race Betting Would Trigger Exclusivity Provision in Amended Tribal-State Gaming Compact](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (March 5, 2024)
- "[Department of the Interior Issues Final Rule for Review of Class III Tribal-State Gaming Compacts](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (February 27, 2024)
- "[New Mexico Tribal Courts Have Jurisdiction Over Casino Patron Tort Claims](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (January 22, 2024)
- "[BIA Regulatory Changes Seek to Streamline Land-Into-Trust Process](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (January 3, 2024)
- "[Gambling Laws and Regulations USA - Arizona 2024](#)," Co-Author, Global Legal Group (December 2023)
- "[Arizona District Court Finds Tribally Co-Owned Wireless Provider Not Entitled to Sovereign Immunity](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (July 11, 2023)
- "[Native American Tribes Celebrate SCOTUS Decision Upholding ICWA](#)," Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 21, 2023)

- "A Sure Bet: Essentials and Updates for Legalized Gaming in the United States and Canada," Presenter, ABA Business Law Section Spring Meeting (April 28, 2023)
- "[Sports Book Advertising: Past, Present & Future Regulatory Environment](#)," Co-Author, IMGL Magazine (April 21, 2023)
- "[Massachusetts District Court Judge Rules U.S. Department of Interior Acted Legally in Mashpee Wampanoag Decision](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (February 28, 2023)
- "[Rincon Band Withdraws From State Regulatory Oversight Under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (February 17, 2023)
- "[The Impact of Historic Land Acquisition on Tribal Gaming in Alaska](#)," Co-Author, International Masters of Gaming Law Magazine (January 2023)
- "[Arizona Taxation of Tribal Work Performed Under Federal Contracts Upheld by U.S. Supreme Court Precedent](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (January 23, 2023)
- "[Supreme Court Grants Certiorari to Determine Whether the Bankruptcy Code Waives Sovereign Immunity of Native American Tribes](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (January 20, 2023)
- "[U.S. Department of the Interior Announces Historic Land Acquisition in Alaska](#)," Co-Author, S&W Legal Alert (December 1, 2022)
- "[Federal Court Holds That DOJ Cannot Prosecute Company for Non-Sports Betting Under Wire Act](#)," Co-Author, S&W Legal Alert (October 10, 2022)
- "[To Tax or Not To Tax? Why Won't the Supreme Court Answer the Question?](#)", Co-Author, Gaming Law Review (Sept. 20, 2022)
- "Gambling in the United States? You bet!", Speaker, ABA Business Law Section's Annual Meeting (September 15, 2022)
- "[Seventh Circuit Holds That States Cannot Tax Reacquired Tribal Land](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (August 30, 2022)
- "[Ninth Circuit Holds California Negotiated State-Tribal Gaming Compacts in Bad Faith](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (August 18, 2022)
- "[Supreme Court Holds State Has Concurrent Criminal Jurisdiction Over Non-Indians in Indian Country](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert
- "Online Sports Betting: Its On-Going Expansion, Legislative Challenges, and More," Presentation, International Association of Gaming Advisor's International Gaming Summit (June 27, 2022)
- "[Texas Racing Commission to Cease Exporting and Importing Pari-Mutuel Simulcast Signals of 'Covered Horseraces' Under the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act as of July 1, 2022](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 27, 2022)
- "[Divided Supreme Court Says Texas Cannot Regulate Tribe's Electronic Bingo](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 22, 2022)
- "[Crimes Committed on Tribal Land May Be Subjected to Being Prosecuted Twice](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 20, 2022)
- "[First Circuit Joins the Ninth Circuit by Holding That Section 106\(a\) of the Bankruptcy Code Waives Tribes' Sovereign Immunity](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (May 19, 2022)
- "[Arizona Supreme Court Confronts Applicability of State Ad Valorem Tax on Tribal Land](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (April 28, 2022)

- "[Recent Developments in Tribal Court Litigation 2022](#)," Co-Author, American Bar Association Business Law Section (February 4, 2022)
- "[Osage Nation Announces Plans For a Casino and Hotel Near The Lake of the Ozarks](#)," Mentioned, Osage News (October 30, 2021)
- "[Tribal Sports Betting](#)," Co-Author, International Masters of Gaming Law Magazine (October 2021)
- "[What's in the Cards For Tribal Sports Betting in 2021 and Beyond?](#)" Co-Author, Gaming Law Review (September 2021)
- "[Arizona-Tribal 2021 Gaming Compact Amendments – What You Need to Know](#)," Co-Author, Arizona Attorney Magazine (July/August 2021)
- "[Alaska Native Corporations Are Considered Indian Tribes Under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (July 14, 2021)
- "[Ninth Circuit Determines Tribal Corporation May Be Subject to State Taxation Laws](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (July 2, 2021)
- "[U.S. Supreme Court Issues Unanimous Decision Supporting Tribal Sovereignty Rights](#)," Episode Host, CalCurrent Podcast (July 1, 2021)
- "[U.S. Supreme Court Denies Review of County's Tax Dispute With Cayuga Nation](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 15, 2021)
- "[U.S. Supreme Court Issues Unanimous Decision Supporting Tribal Sovereignty Rights](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 4, 2021)
- "[Kentucky Derby Winning Trainer Avoids Filing Temporary Restraining Order Challenging Due Process Violation](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (May 12, 2021)
- "[Tribal Court Litigation](#)," Co-Author, 2021 Annual Review of Developments in Business & Corporate Litigation, ABA Business Law Section (May 10, 2021)
- "[Arizona Court of Appeals Holds State and Local Property Taxes Assessed Against Permanent Improvements Located on Leased Trust Land Are Preempted](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (May 7, 2021)
- "[Department of Interior Memorandum Removes Bar to Secretary's Land Into Trust Authority in Alaska](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (May 3, 2021)
- "[Secretary of Interior Decentralizes Processing of Requests for Non-Gaming Off-Reservation Fee-to-Trust Land Acquisitions](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (April 29, 2021)
- "[Federal Lawsuit Joins Another Challenging the Constitutionality of Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (April 28, 2021)
- "[Arizona Legislation Expands Gaming to Include Sports Betting, Fantasy Sports, Keno, and Mobile Lottery Games](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (April 21, 2021)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- Outstanding Women in Business, Phoenix Business Journal (2024)
- [Top 40 Most Influential Women in iGaming](#) (2024)
- Top 100 Lawyers in Arizona, AzBusiness Magazine (2024)
- Who's Who Legal: Telecoms Media & Entertainment (2024)
- Who's Who Legal: Sports & Gaming (2014-2023)

- AZ Business Leaders, AZ Business Leaders Magazine (2020-2024)
- Business Today, Top 10 Influential Native American Law Attorneys in Arizona (2023)
- Top 25 Attorneys of Arizona, Attorney Intel (2023)
 - Native American Law, Gaming Law, and Business Litigation
- The Best Lawyers in America®, Gaming Law, Native American Law, Commercial Litigation (2005-2024)
 - Phoenix Native American Law “Lawyer of the Year” (2015, 2017, 2024)
 - Phoenix Gaming “Lawyer of the Year” (2011, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022)
- Chambers USA: AMERICA’S LEADING LAWYERS FOR BUSINESS®, Gaming & Licensing (only AZ lawyer) (2009-2023)
- Chambers Global: AMERICA’S LEADING LAWYERS FOR BUSINESS®, Native American Law, Gaming & Licensing (among select group of US lawyers) (2012-2023)
- Southwest Super Lawyers®, Native American Law (2015-2022)
- Arizona Capitol Times, Inaugural Women Achievers of Arizona (2019)
- Maricopa County Bar Association, Hall of Fame Inductee (2019)
- Jean Allard Glass Cutter Award, ABA Business Law Section (2019)
- Phoenix Greater Chamber ATHENA Awards Finalist (2019)
- University of Iowa College of Law Alumni Service Award (2019)
- AZ BUSINESS Most Influential Women (2016)
- Top Ten Great Women of Gaming (2006)
- First American Leadership Award, National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (2001)
- Valley Influential-Law, Phoenix Business Journal (1999)

Community Involvement

- Women’s Leadership Council for Valley of the Sun United Way, Inaugural Member
- Tocqueville Society, Valley of the Sun United Way
- Maricopa County Justice Museum & Learning Center, Founding Member
- Arizona Women Lawyers Honoring Justice O’Connor, Founding Member
- University of Iowa College of Law Foundation, Lifetime Honorary Director
- ASU Native American Law Students, Mentor
- Arcadia Cares: Food for Kidz Packathon Committee

Bar Admissions

- Arizona

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of Arizona
- United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
- United States District Court, District of Arizona

- Various Tribal Courts