



Deanna Hartley-Kelso, Chickasaw, is an Assistant Professor with East Central University's Stonecipher School of Business and practices law as a solo practitioner with Hartley Kelso, P.C. In her practice, she provides legal services and consulting for business, transactional, gaming and governmental matters for tribal governments and their business subsidiaries, large and small, primarily in Oklahoma.

Ms. Hartley-Kelso was previously a Senior Partner at the Indian and Environmental Law Group, PLLC, with offices in Tulsa and Ada, Oklahoma. Her practice focused primarily on Indian law matters, including tribally driven litigation and consulting on governmental, business and gaming matters for tribal entities. With other members of the firm, she also participated in Environmental Tort litigation matters on behalf of both tribal and non-tribal clients in federal and state courts and before state administrative agencies.

Ms. Hartley-Kelso has also served as an adjunct professor, teaching Criminal Jurisdiction in Indian Country and Principals of Federal Indian Law in the Masters of Jurisprudence program at Tulsa University College of Law. She previously served as an adjunct professor with East Central University in the Legal Studies Department and the Stonecipher School of Business.

Ms. Hartley-Kelso served as the Attorney General for the Chickasaw Nation, as well as an executive officer and administrator of the Nation's Division of Justice, from 2004-2014. She also served the Chickasaw Nation as its General Counsel from 2001-2004, and its first Legislative Counsel from 1997-2001. During her seventeen year tenure with the Chickasaw Nation, she established an in-house legal department, which later became the Attorney General's office, and spearheaded numerous projects geared toward development of legal, law enforcement and business infrastructure for the Chickasaw Nation including: revising and updating various provisions of the tribal code, key roles in implementing the nation's criminal code, establishing a prosecutor's office, the development and re-establishment of both the tribal law enforcement and the tribal court functions, developing and implementing a juvenile justice program, developing the legal structure under tribal law for a tribally owned bank and a bond placement to construct a tribal hospital, as well as numerous other transactional matters. She also has extensive experience in drafting tribal codes, employment policies, conducting employment related hearings and developing training presentations and materials for tribal employees and public groups.

Ms. Hartley-Kelso is licensed in the courts of the Chickasaw Nation, the states of Oklahoma and Texas, the Northern, Eastern and Western Federal Districts of Oklahoma, the 10<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver, Colorado and the Supreme Court of the United States. As for professional memberships, she serves on the board of trustees for the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, is a Charter Member of the Chickasaw Bar Association, serving as its President in 2013-2014, and has held or holds memberships with the Oklahoma Indian Bar Association, the Native American Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association. She is a Fellow in the College of the State Bar of Texas, an organization recognizing professionalism through education.

Ms. Hartley-Kelso was the 2016 Chairperson and previous chair, vice-chair, treasurer and board member of the Chickasaw Foundation Board of Trustees. She served as a citizen appointee to the Arkansas Riverbed Authority from 2001-2014, as well as numerous other internal boards and committees within the Chickasaw Nation. Ms. Hartley-Kelso was appointed to represent the Eastern Oklahoma region on the advisory board to the Indian Law and Order Commission, and provided testimony related to law enforcement issues in Indian Country. She was appointed by Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry to the Oklahoma Juvenile Affairs Board from 2009-2013, serving as its 2012 chair. She also represented the Chickasaw Nation at the 2004 United Nations Human Rights Working Group on the Draft Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Geneva, Switzerland, and provided subsequent testimony in 2012 to the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights at hearings held on the campus of the University of Tulsa.