

Volume 6 Issue 1

www/ptla.org/wabanaki/wabanaki.htm A Newsletter of Pine Tree Legal Assistance

Winter 2002

Craig Sanborn to Leave Pine Tree

Craig Sanborn will be leaving his position as an attorney for the Native American Unit at the end of February. Craig has just been appointed as the Executive Director for Housing for the Penobscot Nation. Craig will be greatly missed and the Staff at Pine Tree wishes him the best in his new endeavor!

The Pine Tree Native American Unit will continue to be staffed by Attorney Mike Guare, Paralegal Danny Mills and Directing Attorney Eric Nelson. Pine Tree will be actively searching to replace Craig in order to maintain a significant staff presence in Native American issues. Call 1-800-879-7463 if you are a low-income Native American with civil legal problems

Discrimination Case Settled; Teachers to Receive Sensitivity Training

In December of 2000, Native American Unit Attorney Craig Sanborn filed a complaint in Superior Court on behalf of Diane Clement, a Shead high school student and member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe. complaint alleged discrimination against Ms. Clement by The Maine Human Rights a school bus driver. Commission, in a case handled by Craig, had previously ruled in Ms. Clement's favor. The case was later turned over to Attorneys Ivy Frignoca and Sam Rudman from the Portland law firm of Lambert, Coffin, Rudman and Hochman. The case has now been settled.

Under the terms of the settlement, all elementary and high school teachers in the city of Eastport will receive cultural sensitivity training from Patricia Neptune, a member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe who works with Maine Indian Education. The settlement achieves Ms. Clement's goal of creating more sensitivity regarding Native American culture.

If you have questions about federal and state anti-

discrimination Native Pine Tree Legal 1980



laws, please call the American Unit of at 1-800-879-7463.

Free Legal Help with Tax Problems

Pine Tree Legal Assistance can help low-income taxpayers, in any controversy with the IRS, including audits. In addition, clinics are being planned to help low-income Native American taxpayers prepare their taxes for the first time and to help with any questions more For about the Earned Income Credit. information, call Paul Harrison at 1-800-879-7463.





Pine Tree Case Summaries



he following are summaries of some of the cases Pine Tree Native American Unit attorneys have handled over the last six months. You can call attorney Mike Guare or paralegal Danny Mills at 1-800-879-7463.

Case One: Property Taxes

The Native American client called Pine Tree Legal Assistance after the town where she lived had already foreclosed on her home for failing to pay her property taxes The town was in the process of evicting her from the premises. We were able to intervene and negotiate a payment plan with the town officials. The town agreed not only to allow the client to stay in her house will be past property laxes were paid oil, but also agreed to reconvey ownership of the property back to the client once the past property taxes were paid in full.

Case Two: Parental Rights and Responsibilities

This Native American client had been represented by Pine Tree a few months earlier in a case involving a modification of parental rights and responsibilities. The client called again to report another substantial change of circumstances. As in the prior case, both parties again hotly contested this matter. The Court, in light of its past experience with the parties, had already waived mediation and was proceeding directly to hearing. Nevertheless, in the process of preparing for the hearing, Craig was able to negotiate a "win-win" solution to the parties' difficulties that was later accepted without revision by the Court. The Court praised the parties for having put the best interests of their children before their own, and for working together to solve their problems rather than having to rely on the authority of the Court to impose a decision for them.

Case Three: Personal Property

The client came to Pine Tree when his previous landlord refused to return his personal property after the client had vacated the premises. We initiated a Personal Property Forcible Entry and Detainer action against the landlord and, after the hearing, were able to get most of the client's property back to him. We and the client are currently evaluating bringing a small claims suit against the landlord for the items that were "lost."





Native American Legal Briefs

--Tribal Jurisdiction --

In its June 2001 term, the United States Supreme Court issued two decisions in cases involving tribal jurisdiction. In both cases, the Supreme Court reversed the lower courts and found that the Tribes lacked jurisdiction. These decisions have been viewed with concern as a shrinking of the jurisdiction of Indian Tribes over the conduct of non-Indians.

The first case is Atkinson Trading Company v. Shirley. In that case, the Court held that the Navajo Nation could not tax guests staying at a non-Indian owned hotel located on land owned by a non-Indian in fee (called "fee land") but within the boundaries of the reservation. The second case, Nevada v. Hicks, held that tribal courts do not have jurisdiction to hear civil claims against state officials who entered tribal land to execute a search warrant against a Tribe member suspected of having violated state law outside the reservation.

Both rulings discussed a 1981 decision of the Supreme Court called Montana v. United States. In Montana, the Court held that a Tribe is presumed to lack jurisdiction to regulate non-Indian conduct on fee land owned by a non-Indian. However, the Court noted two exceptions. The first was that there could be tribal jurisdiction if a non-Indian consented to a relationship with a Tribe or its members. The second was that a Tribe may exercise civil authority over the conduct of non-Indians on fee land when that conduct threatens or has some direct effect on the Tribe's political integrity, economic security, or health or welfare.

In Atkinson, the Court noted that tribal jurisdiction is limited. "For powers not expressly conferred them by federal statute or treaty, Indian tribes must rely upon their retained or inherent sovereignty." Congress had not authorized the hotel tax through either a statute or a treaty. Therefore, the Court concluded, the ruling in Montana applied in this case, unless the Tribe could show that the case fell within one of the two exceptions.

The Court concluded that there was no consensual relationship between the hotel guests and the Navajo Nation. The Court stated that such a relationship must come out of commercial dealings, contracts, leases or The Nation argued that the other arrangements. relationship existed because the hotel benefits from a number of services provided by the Nation, such as emergency medical services and fire protection. The Court concluded that the Nation perhaps had a right to charge for these types of services, but that the mere availability of these services was not enough to give civil authority over nonmembers on non-Indian fee land.

The Nation also argued that there was a consensual relationship because the hotel was an "Indian trader" which had gotten the required license to do business with the Nation. The Court did not decide whether being an "Indian trader" was enough to justify a tax on activities arising out of that relationship. It decided instead that the relationship in question was between the Nation and the guests at the hotel. The fact that the hotel itself may have had a relationship did not imply that the guests had the same relationship. The Court noted that the guests could reach the hotel over non-Indian public rights of way.

In Hicks, the Court held that the general rule of Montana applies to both Indian and non-Indian land. The Court also decided that state authorities have "inherent" power to enter tribal lands for investigative purposes. addition, the Court found that tribal courts have no jurisdiction over claims arising under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (federal civil rights claims).

Analyzing the Montana issue, the Court stated:

The ownership status of land...is only one factor to consider in determining whether regulation of the activities of nonmembers is 'necessary to protect tribal self-government or to control internal relations.' It may sometimes be a dispositive factor....But the existence of tribal ownership is not enough to support regulatory jurisdiction over nonmembers.

The Court concluded that when state interests outside the reservation are involved. States may regulate the activities of Tribe members on tribal land. In this case, the State's interest in executing a search warrant is "considerable," while allowing the State to execute the warrant does not harm the Tribe's ability to govern itself any more than federal enforcement of federal law hurts state government.

Domestic Violence Telephone Numbers

Native American Services:

Pleasant Point:	853-2600, ext 250	
ask for Nan-	cy Soctomah Lewey	
Hotline:	853-2613	
Or call the Tribal Police:	853-2551	
♦ Houlton Band of Maliseets:		
During Office Hours (M-F 8-4):	532-6401	
After hours:	441-9214	
Or call the Houlton Police:	532-2287	
Other Domestic Violence Services:		
Penobscot County (Spruce Run)	947-0496	
	1-800-863-9909	

Washington County (Peaceful 255-4785 Choices) 1-888-604-8692

Aroostook County (Battered Women's Project)

1-800-439-2323

Prescription Drug Share Card Program

The Pfizer Company has announced a new program to help low-income people who are on Medicare or who are 65 years or older pay for Pfizer prescription drugs. Enrollment will begin on February 1. Cards can be used at participating pharmacies starting March 1. information, call 1-800-717-6005 or visit the Pfizer website at www.pfizerforliving.com.

Claim Your Earned Income Credit

The following information has been prepared by the Pine Tree Legal Assistance Low Income Taxpayer Clinic.



What is the EIC?

The earned income credit (EIC) is a tax credit for certain people who work and have earned income under \$32,121. A tax credit usually means more money in your pocket. It reduces the amount of tax you owe. The EIC may also give you a refund.

Can I Claim the EIC?

To claim the EIC, you must meet certain rules.

Rules for everybody

- 1. You must have a valid **Social Security** number that allows you to work.
- Your filing status cannot be "married filing separately."
- 3. You must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien all year.
- 4. You cannot file form 2555 or form 2555-EZ (relating to foreign earned income).
- Your investment income must be \$2,400 or less.

You must have earned income*.

*Earned income is salaries, wages, tips, professional fees, and other amounts received as pay for work you actually perform, including income from self-employment.

Rules if you have a qualifying child:

- Your child must meet the relationship, age, and residency tests.
- Your qualifying child[†] cannot be the qualifying child of another person with a higher modified Adjusted Gross Income.
- You cannot be a qualifying child of another person.

†Qualifying Child:

Relationship Test: Your child must be your son, daughter, adopted child, grandchild, stepchild, or eligible foster child. The child may also be your niece or nephew that you raise in your home as your own child. A foster child must live in your home for the entire year. A foster child must also have been placed in your home by an official placement agency unless the child is your brother or sister's child.

Age Test: Your child must be:

- 1) Under age 19 at the end of the year,
- 2) A full-time student under age 24 at the end of the year, or
- Permanently and totally disabled at any time during the year, regardless of age.

Residency Test: Your child must have lived with you in the United States for more than half of 2001 (all of 2001 if an eligible foster child). If you are a resident alien with children living in Canada or Mexico, your children do not qualify you for EIC. You may claim them as dependents, but you may not claim them as qualifying children for the EIC.

Rules if you do not have a qualifying child

10. You must be at least age 25 under age 65.

Pine Tree Legal
Assistance
Assistance
people with civil (non-criminal)legal problems

Due to federal budget cuts, Pine Tree has lost some staff. As a result, Pine Tree has had to limit the types of cases that it handles. We have given high priorities to the following kinds of case:

Eviction from public housing

Home foreclosures

Domestic violence

Problems with Medicare or Medicaid

Loss, reduction or denial of government benefits (food stamps, TANF, Social Security, etc.)

X Tax Problems

If you are low-income and need legal help in one of these areas, call the nearest Pine Tree office. If you are a farmworker with employment problems, call the Farmworker Unit at 1-800-879-7463.

Pine Tree also has a Native American Unit in Bangor. The number is 1-800-879-7463. Call the unit if you are a low-income Native American with civil legal problems.

きかいまかいない あきかいかい

- 11. You cannot be the dependent of another person.
- You cannot be a qualifying child of another person.
- 13. You must have lived in the United States more than half of the year.

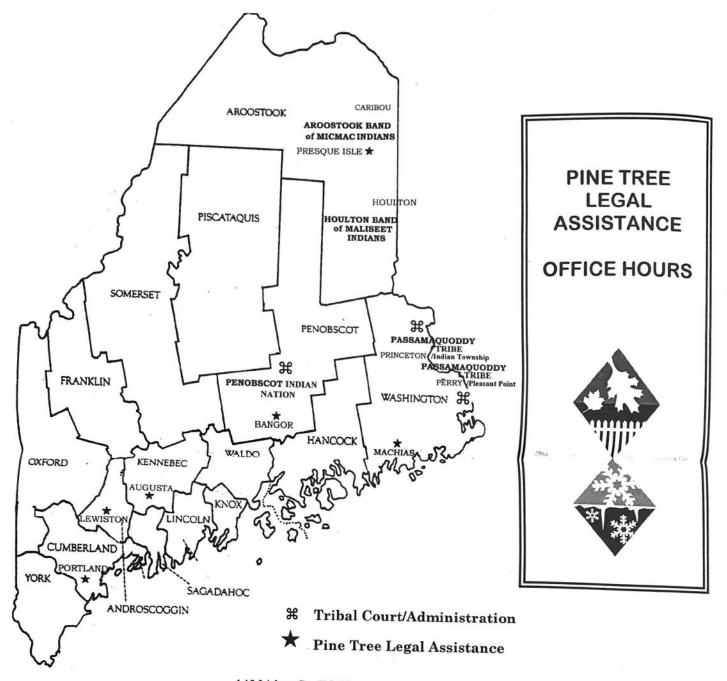
What if I'm divorced or legally separated?

If you are divorced or legally separated from your spouse, your income tax filing status will be either "single" or "head of household." You and your ex-spouse will file income tax returns in-dependently of each other and your separate incomes will determine each one's eligibility for the EIC. If there are children of the marriage, only the parent who has "primary residence" of the children may claim them as qualifying children for EIC eligibility. This is true even if your ex-spouse pays child support and claims the children as dependents. Figuring and claiming the EIC

- 14. Your earned income in 2001 must have been less than:
- \$32,121 if you have more than 1 qualifying child
- * \$28,281 if you have one qualifying child
- \$10,710 if you do not have a qualifying child
 - 15. Your Modified AGI* also must be less than the above amounts.

*Adjusted Gross Income is calculated on the income tax return as part of calculating your income tax. MAGI is AGI plus certain gains and losses, principally losses from self-employment. For most people, MAGI and AGI are the same.

(Continued on page 5)



OFFICES

39 Green St., Augusta, ME <u>Phone Intake</u>: 622-4731 <u>Hours</u>: M-F 9-5 (closed at noon) e-mail: augusta@ptla.org

61 Main St., **Bangor**, ME

<u>Phone Intake</u>: 942-8241

<u>Hours</u>: M-F 8:00-12:00 &1:00-3:00
e-mail: Bangor@ptla.org

145 Lisbon St., 7'th Floor **Lewiston**, ME <u>Phone Intake</u>: 784-1558 <u>Hours</u>: M, Th, F 8:30-4:30 T 8:30-12:30; W 8:30-12:30 & 3-4:30

1 School St., **Machias**, ME <u>Phone Intake</u>: 255-8656 <u>Hours</u>: M-W 8:00-12:00

88 Federal St., **Portland**, ME Phone Intake: 774-8211 Hours: M-F 8:30-12:30 e-mail: info@ptla.org

373 Main St. **Presque Isle**, ME Phone Intake: 764-4349 Hours: M-F 8:30-12:30 e-mail: pi@ptla.org

Native American Unit 61 Main Street Bangor, ME Intake: M-F 8:00-4:00 1-800-879-7463

Farmworker Unit 61 Main Street Bangor, ME Intake: M-F 8:00-4:00 1-800-879-7463

Volunteer Lawyers Project 88 Federal Street Portland, ME 774-4348 or 1-800-442-4293

We cannot respond to e-mail requests for legal advice or representation



("EIC" continued from page 3)

What if I receive pubic assistance?

Money received from the EIC is not income for TANF, food stamps, SSI, or federally assisted housing programs. It can, however, count as a resource if it is not "spent down" within 2 months (12 months for food stamps). In rare instances, unspent EIC money might put a person above the resource limit for a program.

What if the IRS denies me the EIC?

If you have claimed the earned income credit and the IRS has denied your claim, the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic can help you file a protest if you think the denial was incorrect. If you have received notice from the IRS that you are being audited (for any reason) or that some other person has claimed your children as qualifying children for the EIC or as dependents, call the nearest Pine Tree Legal Assistance office and say that you have an income tax problem. A clinic representative will contact you. Clinics for low-income Native Americans will be scheduled in the near future. For more information, call Paul Harrison at 1-800-879-7463.

Child Tax Credit

he Child Tax Credit is a federal tax credit, worth up to \$600 per child in 2001, for families with dependent children



under age 17. Congress has made changes that make the credit available to millions more low- and moderateincome working families for the first time. This credit is now refundable, which means that you can get the credit even if you owe no income tax.

To be eligible for the credit you must:

- ✓ Be able to claim an exemption for a dependent child under age 17 on your tax return;
- Have taxable earned income above \$10,000;
- Have a social security number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number.

You must file form 1040 or 1040A, but NOT 1040EZ. You must also file form 8812. The credit will first be used to reduce or eliminate any income tax liability. Any remaining credit will be sent to you as a refund. This credit does not affect your ability to take the EIC and will not reduce any benefits you can get from the EIC.

In the past, if you had three or more children, you could qualify for an "Additional Child Tax Credit." Under the new rules, you may find that the credit you are entitled to is greater with the Additional Child Tax Credit than under the new Child Tax Credit. Beginning this year, you will be allowed to take the credit amount that is the highest. You can get free copies of tax forms by calling the IRS at 1-800-TAX-Form.



The Child and Dependent Care Credit

ou may also qualify for another federal tax credit. I The Child and Dependent Care Credit is a tax benefit that helps you pay for child care you need in order to work or look for work. The credit is also open to you if you must pay for the care of a spouse or an adult dependent who cannot care for him or herself.

You can claim this credit as well as the Child Tax Credit. In fact, by claiming this credit, you may be able to get a higher Child Tax Credit refund.. You should know, however, that if you earn too little to pay federal income tax, you cannot get this credit. This is different from the EIC. You can claim the EIC even if you are earning too little to pay income tax.

You can claim this credit if

You paid for care in 2001 for a child under age 13 or for a disabled dependent (adult or child) who lived with your family, and

X You needed the child or dependent care in order to work or look for work (In a two-parent family, both spouses must have needed care available in order to work or look for work, unless one spouse was a fulltime student or unable to care for him or herself), and

X You paid over half the cost of keeping up your home (such as rent, food, etc), and

X You paid less for your dependent care than your 2001 income. If you are married and filing jointly, the income of the spouse with the lowest income must be more than the amount you paid for care. There are special rules for figuring the income of a spouse who was a full-time student or disabled.

If you meet all of the qualifications, you can reduce your tax bill by up to \$720 if you have only one child. If you have two or more children and you qualify, you can reduce your tax bill by up to \$1440.

To claim the credit, file Form 1040 or 1040A. Specific instructions are included with the forms. If you file form 1040, fill out form 2441; if you file form 1040A, fill out Schedule 2. For help, contact the VITA site nearest you. For free information about any tax matter, call 1-800-TAX-1040.



Increase Your Take-Home Pay With The EIC Advance Payment Option

ost workers get their EIC in one large check from the IRS after they file a tax return. You have another choice. Your employer can add part of your EIC to every paycheck. You get the rest of your credit after you file your return.

In order to qualify for this program, you must be a worker with at least one "qualifying child" and you must expect your 2002 income to be less than \$29,201. The rules for 2002 about who qualifies as a qualifying child have changed somewhat.

Any child who meets all three of the following conditions is a "qualifying child":

✓ The child is your:

- > Son, daughter, adopted child, stepchild, grand child or foster child or
- > Brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, or a child or adopted child of one of these, but only if you cared for that person as your own child.

(Continued on next page)

- ✓ ("Advance EIC" continued from page 5)
 ✓ The child is under age 19 at the end of 2002, or is under age 24 at the end of 2002 and is a full-time student, or is any age and is permanently and totally
- ✓ The child lives with you in the United States for over half of 2002.

If you are not raising a child in your home, you are not eligible for advance payments. You are not eligible if you are a farmworker who gets paid day to day; or if you have no federal income tax, Social Security tax, or Medicare taxes withheld from your pay.

In order to get the advance payment, just fill out a W-5 form called the "Earned Income Credit Advance Payment Certificate" and give the bottom part to your employer. You should be able to get the form from your employer. You can also get the form off the internet at http://www.irs.gov/forms_pubs/forms.html. You can file a W-5 any time during the year, but you must file a new W-5 at the beginning of every year in order to continue getting advance payments.

It is recommended that you not ask for advance payment if you hold more than one job; if you expect to get married during the year and you both work; if you expect your income to increase a lot during the year; or if you have a spouse who also works, unless you both take advance payments. If something happens during the year that would change the amount of the EIC you should be getting, such as getting married or getting a big raise, you can ask your employer to stop putting advance payments in your paycheck. Just fill out another W-5 form and give it to your employer.

If you get advance payments during the year, you must file a tax return at the end of the year and include the total amount you received as an advance payment. You must also complete Schedule EIC and attach it to your return

Get FREE Help Filing Your Taxes!

ITA, a program of the IRS, helps people fill out their tax forms for free. To find a VITA site near you, call Pine Tree's Paul Harrison at 1-800-879-7463. You can



also find VITA sites on our web page at http://www.ptla.org/vita.htm. Or you can 1-800-829-1040. IRS at Remember: paying for tax preparation takes money away from YOUR refund.

The articles in this paper are meant to give information, NOT to give legal advice. No one should interpret any law without the help of an attorney who has been told all the facts.





We Want To Hear From You!

If you have comments, articles or ideas on how this Newsletter can be helpful to you, please let us know. Please send articles or letters to:

> Wabanaki Legal News, Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Coe Building, 61 Main Street, Room 41, Bangor, ME 04401.

Or you can send e-mail to csamp@ptla.org.



The Wahanaki Legal News is published by Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Inc.

The views expressed by individual authors in this Newsletter are not necessarily shared by Pine Tree Legal Assistance or its staff

Executive Director of PTLA:

Nan Heald, Esq.

Native American Unit:

Directing Attorney:

Eric Nelson, Esq.

Staff Attorney: Paralegal

Mike Guare, Esq.

Danny Mills Editor: Cushing Pagon Samp



INDEX of COMMUNITY RESOURCES



CRISIS

(available 24 hours a day)



Child Abuse/Neglect Adult Abuse/Neglect

1-800-452-1999 1-800-624-8404

Domestic Violence:

1-800-863-9909 Penobscot 1-800-439-2323

Aroostook Washington

1-800-432-7303

Infoline Emergency Social Services Referral:

1-800-204-2803

Mental Crisis Hotline:

1-888-568-1112

Poison Control Center:

1-800-222-1222

Rape Crisis:

1-800-310-0000

Youth Crisis Stabilization:

1-800-499-9130





HOME HEATING ASSISTANCE

The Federal Fuel Assistance Program administered by the Maine State Housing Authority gives fuel assistance money to states to distribute to residents who need help with fuel bills. To find out if you qualify, call your nearest Community Action Agency or the Maine State Housing Authority (1-800-452-4668). The TTY number

Website: http://www.mainehousing.org/homerepair.html

The following Community Action Programs offer emergency fuel assistance (LIHEAP) in your area: 768-3053 or 1-800-585-3053

Washington/Hancock Counties Penquis/Bangor

1-800-828-7544

973-3630 If you can't pay your heating bill, check to see if you can get onto a payment plan. Your electric utility offers special payment plans for low income customers during

LEGAL SERVICES (Other than Pine Tree):

Maine Lawyer Referral and Information Service:

For a \$20.00 fee, you can be referred to a lawyer in your area for a one half-hour consultation or review of your

Telephone: 207-622-1460 or 1-800-860-1460

Website: http://www.mainebar.org/referral.html

m Tel-Law:

Tel-Law has a number of different recorded messages to answer your basic questions about the law. It operates 24 hours a day. There is no fee other than the fact that it is a toll call outside the Augusta calling area.

Telephone: 207-622-1470

Website: http://www.mainebar.org/tel-law.html

Volunteer Lawyers Project:

If you meet the Pine Tree eligibility requirements, the Volunteer Lawyer's Project can give you legal advice or informational materials for free, or will refer you to a private lawyer who may handle your case without charge. There is a telephone helpline on Wednesday evenings to help you with family law questions.

Telephone: 207-774-4348 or 1-800-442-4293

Website: http://www.vlp.org/

Legal Services for the Elderly:

If you are age 60 or over, Legal Services for the Elderly can give you free legal advice or limited representation.

Telephone: 1-800-750-5353 Website: http://www.mainelse.org/

Penquis Law Project:

This group gives legal representation to low and moderate income residents of Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties in the following kinds of cases: Protection From Abuse, Divorce and Separation, Child Support Enforcement, Alimony, Parental Rights and Responsibilities, Wills, and Powers of Attorney. The fee depends on several factors, including your annual income and the complexity of your Telephone: 207-973-3671

Website: http://www.penquiscap.org/penquis.nsfwebpages/Law+Project

University of Maine Student Legal Services:

If you are an undergraduate student at the University of Maine at Orono, you can get free or reduced cost civil legal services.

Telephone: 207-581-1789

Chief Advocate, Department of Corrections:

The Advocate refers civil cases of inmates of the State correctional system, including the Maine State Prison and Maine Correctional Center, to attorneys under contract with the Department of Corrections. This office also gives paralegal and advocacy services for Maine State Prison inmates and works to resolve complaints

Telephone: 207-287-4393

Patient Advocate, Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services:

The Advocate refers civil cases of patients at state mental institutions or clients of the Bureau of Mental Health and Retardation to attorneys under contract with the Bureau. Telephone:

Penobscot and Washington Counties: Aroostock County;

207-941-4180 207-554-2132

SOCIAL SECURITY (State-wide)

1-800-772-1213

Website: http://s3abaca.ssa.gov/pro/fol/fol-home.html

Bangor Area 990-4530 Presque Isle Area 764-3771

DISCRIMINATION:

Housing Discrimination 1-800-827-5005

Website: http://www.hud.gov/complaints/housediscrim.cfm

Human Rights Commission 624-6050 Website: http://www.state.me.us/mhrc/indexshtml

ME Civil Liberties Union

774-5444 Website: http://www.mclu.org/

DISABILITIES:

Disability Rights Center Website: http://www.drcme.org/

1-800-452-1948

CONSUMER RESOURCES: **%** Consumer Mediation Service:

The Attorney General's Office gives this service free of charge. If you want to file a consumer complaint against a business call between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. weekdays. Or write to: Department of Attorney General, Public Protection Division, Consumer Information and Mediation Service, 6 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0006.

Telephone: 626-8849

Website: http://www.state.me.us/ag/consumer.htm

& Lemon Law Arbitration:

If you buy a car that has serious defects, the Attorney General's Lemon Law Arbitration Program can help you.

Telephone: 626-8848

Website: http://www.state.me.us/ag/clg7.htm



% Utility Complaints:

The Consumer Assistance Division of the Maine Public Utilities Commission can help you settle problems with any utility in the State.

Telephone: 1-800-452-4699

Website: http://www.state.me.us/mpuc/CAD/cad.htm

★ Low Income Telephone Service Help:

If you qualify for Food Stamps, Medicaid, TANF, SSI or Fuel Assistance, call your local telephone company to see if you qualify for a reduction on your monthly telephone bill.

Career Centers: (Website: http://www.mainecareercenter.com/)

Bangor	561-4600
Calais	454-7551 or 1-800-543-0303
Houlton	532-5300 or 1-800-691-0033
Machias	255-1900 or 1-800-292-8929
Presque Isle	760-6300 or 1-800-635-0357
	(wage or child labor complaints) 624-6400

State Bureau of Labor (wage or child labor complaints) 624-6400
Website: http://www.state.me.us/labor/

US Dept. of Labor (Wages and Hours Division)

Website: http://dol.gov/dol/esa/public/whd_org.htm

945-0330

Housing:

Maine State Housing Authority
Website: http://www.mainehousing.org/

of Insurance:

Bureau of Insurance

624-8475

or 1-800-300-5000

Website: http://www.state.me.us/pfr/ins/ins_index.htm

Mobile Homes:

Manufactured Housing Board
Website: http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/mhs/mhssaa.cfm

Manufactured Housing Association
(mediation for mobile home residents)

Maine State Housing Authority
TDD 1-800-452-4668
TDD 1-800-452-4603

Website: http://www.mainehousing.org/1stbuyer.html



These agencies give information, outreach, job training, educational programs, day care, housing information and referral, fuel/energy assistance, insulation and furnace repair, surplus food, transportation and Emergency Crisis Intervention Program benefits. Not all services are given by all agencies.

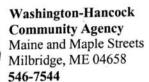
Aroostook County Action Program

771 Main St. Presque Isle, ME 04769 1-800-432-7881 or 764-3721

Website: http://acap-me.org/

Penquis Community Action Program 262 Harlow Street, Bangor, ME 04401 973-3500

973-3500 Website: http://wwwpenquiscap.org/



Website: http://www.whacap.org/

TRIBAL GOVERNMENT and AGENCIES

Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians	764-1972	
Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians	532-4273	
Website: http://www.maliseets.com/	827-7776	
Penobscot Indian Nation Website: http://www.penobscotnation.org/		
♦ Passamaquoddy Tribe	796-2301	
Indian Township Website: http://www.peopleofthedawn.com/		
Pleasant Point	853-2600	
Website: http://www.wabanaki.com/		

PENOBSCOT TRIBAL COURT SYSTEM

George Tomer)	82/-3039
Court Administrator (George Tomer)	827-5639
Clerk of Courts (Clara E. Mitchell)	827-5639
Assistant Clerk of Courts (Sheila Sapiel)	827-5639
Tribal Prosecutor (C. Peter Bos)	02
Probation Officer (George Tomer)	827-5639
Regular Sessions: First Wednesday of the month.	

Regular Sessions: First Wednesday of the month. Special Sessions as needed.

PASSAMAQUODDY TRIBAL COURT SYSTEM

Indian Township Division:

Clerk of Courts (Wanda Doten)	796-5600
Probation Officer (Jennifer Sockabasin)	796-5600
Pleasant Point Division:	853-2600, ext 252

Clerk of Courts (Dorothy Barnes)

Probation Officer (Edward Nicholas)

853-2600, ext 252

853-2600, ext 249

Regular Sessions: One Friday per month at each division. Special Sessions as needed.



OTHER TRIBAL AGENCIES

♥ Tribal Governors Council	941-6568
Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission	622-4815
HEALTH SERVICES	
Penobscot Indian Health Center	827-6101
Maliseet Health Center	532-2240
Micmac Health Center	764-6968
Pleasant Point Health Center	853-0644
Emergency Services	853-2551
Wahaita:	or 853-4811
http://www.wabanaki.com/Tribe/depts/Health/Health.htm Indian Township Health Center	796-2321

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Wabanaki Mental Health Association, NPC 990-0605

or 990-4346 or 941-8964

Fax#: 990-4784

041 (560

HELPFUL NATIVE AMERICAN WEB SITES

Wabanaki Confederacy:

Native Web: http://www.nativeweb.org/NativeTech/Nipmuc/
Pine Tree Legal Assistance: http://www.ptla.org

Index of Native American Resources on the Internet:

Native Links: http://www.hanksville.org/NAresources/
Native Sense: http://www.johnco.com/nativel/

Native Sense: http://www.li Aboriginal Links:

http://www.bloorstreet.com/300block/aborcan.htm
Free Indian News: http://www.freeindiannews.com/