

## CASE DISMISSED AGAINST CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHO TRIBAL OFFICIALS

The Colorado office of Fredericks, Peebles & Morgan LLP secured a dismissal of a case filed in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma for the Court's lack of subject-matter jurisdiction to resolve an intratribal dispute. *In Harjo v. Boswell*, Case No. 5:11-cv-0171-F, the Lieutenant Governor asserted a myriad of claims against the Governor and Treasurer including violations of: the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, the Indian Reorganization Act, the Indian Child Welfare Act, 18 U.S.C. § 1163, the Non-intercourse Act, the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act, 25 U.S.C. § 81, and the Indian Civil Rights Act.

The Governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma was thankful the Court looked closely at each claim and dismissed the case as an intratribal matter to be resolved by the Tribes itself. She felt the Lieutenant Governor, in her attempt to take a shortcut to the governorship, had to disregard the electorate's choice, disregard the Tribes' Constitution, disregard the Tribes' court orders, and disregard resolutions of the Tribal Council.

The Lieutenant Governor wanted an entity outside the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' Constitutional System to decide who the governor is and who the treasurer is, in an effort to seize control of the Tribes' bank accounts. The Lieutenant Governor's position was clearly at odds with tribal sovereignty and the concept of the Tribes' governing itself by its own laws. I want to thank everyone for their prayers and support, said Governor Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell.

The Governor indicated she now wanted to spend her time and energy on the real issues facing the Tribes, rather than on the Lieutenant Governor's numerous filings.