Kennis M. Bellmard II

Education:

Mr. Bellmard received his A.A. degree from Northern Oklahoma College in 1978, his B.S. degree in History/Education from Oklahoma State University in 1981, and his J.D. from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1989. While in law school, Mr. Bellmard served as Editor-in-Chief (1988-1989), Writing Competition Editor, (1987-1988), and a member of the Staff, (1986-1987) of the American Indian Law Review at the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Mr. Bellmard was a Delegate to 34th National Conference of Law Reviews in 1988. Mr. Bellmard received American Jurisprudence Awards, for Conflict of Laws, and the American Indian Law Review in the Spring of 1989.

Experience:

Mr. Bellmard is presently the COO/Manager of Kaw Nations Solutions (KNS) a Kaw Nation tribally owned business. Prior to his position with KNS and since 1990, Mr. Bellmard maintained a law practice which primarily consisted of representing Native American tribes and Tribal entities as a Tribal Attorney in various matters in Tribal and Federal Courts. Mr. Bellmard negotiated the first three federally approved Tribal-State of Oklahoma Class III gaming compacts on behalf of the Tonkawa, and Miami Tribes, and for the Miami-Modoc Tribal joint venture, and subsequently negotiated a Class III Compact for the Otoe-Missouria Tribe and was involved in the federal approval of the Comanche-State of Oklahoma Class III Compact approved during the administration of Governor Henry Bellmon. Mr. Bellmard's practice also involves the development of Tribal economic ventures. Mr. Bellmard is licensed to practice in all Oklahoma Courts, the United States District Courts for the Northern, Eastern and Western Districts of Oklahoma, various Tribal Courts, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and the U.S. Court of Claims. Additionally, Mr. Bellmard is admitted in Tribal and CFR courts throughout Oklahoma. Mr. Bellmard is an Associate Supreme Court Justice for the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma.

Professional Associations:

Mr. Bellmard is a member of the Indian Law Section of the Oklahoma Bar Association, and served as Chairperson of that Section in 2002. Mr. Bellmard has served on the Faculty of the Sovereignty Symposium, the Governor's Interstate Council for Indian Affairs, and has been a Panelist at the Kansas University Law School, Indian Law Symposium. Mr. Bellmard has lectured at Miami University, Antioch College and at Oklahoma City University. Mr. Bellmard is the author of "Endeavoring to Persevere: Becoming and Being a Tribal Attorney" published in the Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy, 9Kan.J.L. & Pub. Pol'y 752 (2000). Mr. Bellmard was presented a service award by the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association, for service furthering Tribal gaming opportunities in Oklahoma in 2001, and was awarded a “Warriors Award” by the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association in 2008.

Personal:

Mr. Bellmard is married to Debra Diane (Clegg) Bellmard and has two sons Joshua Paul Bellmard and Dylan Tamerlane Bellmard. Mr. Bellmard is an enrolled member of the Kansa (Kaw) Tribe and was past Drumkeeper for the Kaw I’n loshka. Mr. Bellmard is also on the Board of Directors for USA Judo, the National Governing Body of the Olympic Sport of Judo in the United States and attended the 2008 Beijing Olympics as part of USA Judo delegation. Mr. Bellmard is presently COO of Kaw Nation Technology, the 8(a) effort of the Kaw Nation.