

# Snell & Wilmer

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## Kelsey Haake

Associate | Phoenix

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### Main Bio

Kelsey Haake focuses her practice in commercial finance, which includes assisting clients as they navigate issues associated with lending and other commercial transactions within Indian Country. Kelsey drafts and reviews loan documentation as well as helps clients work through all stages of the economic development process including due diligence, attaining federal approval, and relationship building.

Kelsey is also devoted to serving and giving back to the Native American community. Prior to joining the firm, Kelsey served as a Certified Financial Planner and taught various financial literacy courses in Indian Country. She previously served as a board member for the Phoenix Indian Center and as speaker at the Association of American Law Schools, Indian Nations & Indigenous People Collaboration, hosted workshops with the First Alaskans Institute Elders and Youth Conference, and has been highlighted in many publications regarding her dedication to Alaska Natives and Native American people. Kelsey currently serves as a board advisor for the Arizona Council on Economic Education which focuses on financial literacy throughout the state of Arizona.

### Education

- University of Pennsylvania Carey School of Law (J.D.)
  - Dean's Scholarship, Witkin Scholar, Potamkin Scholar
  - Penn Law Native America Law Student Association, 1L Representative, Co-President
  - National Native American Law School Student Association, Area 6 Representative
  - Penn Law Democracy Law project, Native American Voting Rights Manager
  - Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award
  - Wharton Business School, Certificate in Management
- New Mexico State University (B.A., Economics – with honors)

### 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)

- "[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)
- "[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)
- "[Crimes Committed on Tribal Land May Be Subjected to Being Prosecuted Twice](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 20, 2022)
- "[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](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 4, 2021)
- "Kelsey Haake: 'A battle of words and laws,'" Meghan Sullivan, Indian Country Today, Interviewee (November 19, 2021)
- "Advocates for Native American Rights Push Law Schools to Expand Indigenous Representation," Mariah Stewart, Insight Into Diversity, Interviewee (June 25, 2021)
- "Barrow's own Kelsey Haake Heads to Top Law School," Jenna Kunze, The Arctic Sounder, Interviewee (August 2020)
- "We Should Expand Etok's Legacy of Tireless Work on Behalf of Other," Author, Alaska Dispatch News (May 30, 2015)

## Professional Recognition & Awards

- Phoenix Business Journal's 40 under 40, Class of 2015

## Community Involvement

- Arizona Council on Economic Education, Board Advisor (2022-Current)
- Ms. JD Annual Conference, Speaker (2022)
- Association of American Law Schools, Indian Nations & Indigenous Peoples Collaboration, Speaker (2021)
- University of Pennsylvania Center for Ethics and Rule of Law – Circling the Arctic, Participant and Speaker (2020)
- Phoenix Indian Center, Board Member (2016-2020, 2024-present)
- First Alaskans Institute Elder's and Youth Conference, Speaker (2016-2017)
- Native American Basketball Invitational, Speaker (2015-2016)

## Previous Professional Experience

- Snell & Wilmer, Summer Associate (2021, 2022)

- Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Legal Intern (2021)
- Inuvut Financial Services, LLC, Founder – Financial Planner (2016-2020)
- First Western Trust, Relationship Manager, Investment Management (2014-2016)
- Vanguard, Client Relationship Associate (2013-2014)

## **Bar Admissions**

- Arizona

## **Court Admissions**

- Supreme Court of Arizona