

COUNCIL FOR TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS (CTER)

CALL FOR ATTORNEY PRESENTERS & PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

2026 LEGAL UPDATE TERO CONFERENCE

“Sovereignty in Action: Strengthening Preference & TERO Law”

December 9–11, 2026
The Orleans Hotel & Casino
Las Vegas, Nevada

The **Council for Tribal Employment Rights (CTER)** and the **2026 Legal Update TERO Conference Planning Committee** are seeking qualified attorneys, legal professionals, tribal legal counsel, and subject-matter experts to submit presentation proposals for the **2026 Legal Update TERO Conference**, taking place December 9–11, 2026, at The Orleans Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

This year's theme, **“Sovereignty in Action: Strengthening Preference & TERO Law,”** recognizes the critical role of Tribal Employment Rights Ordinances (TERO), Indian and Tribal Preference laws, and tribal sovereignty in protecting and expanding employment, contracting, apprenticeship, and economic opportunities for Native people.

The Legal Update Conference brings together TERO professionals, tribal leaders, attorneys, commissioners, human resources professionals, workforce development specialists, compliance officers, contractors, and other professionals from across Indian Country.

AREAS OF INTEREST

CTER is particularly interested in presentations addressing current and emerging legal issues affecting Tribal Employment Rights Offices and tribal nations, including:

- **Indian Preference and Tribal Preference Law**
- **TERO Law, Enforcement, and Jurisdiction**
- **Tribal Sovereignty and Workforce Regulation**
- **Recent Court Decisions Affecting TERO and Indian Preference**
- **Federal Indian Law and Employment Rights**
- **TERO Ordinance Development, Amendment, and Enforcement**
- **Tribal Employment and Contracting Preference**
- **Tribal Jurisdiction over Contractors and Employers**

- **Federal Contracting and Indian Preference Requirements**
- **EEOC, Title VII, and Indian Preference**
- **Tribal Sovereign Immunity and Employment Law**
- **Labor Law and Tribal Governments**
- **Union Agreements, PLAs, and Tribal Workforce Agreements**
- **Registered Apprenticeship and Tribal Workforce Development**
- **TERO Compliance, Investigations, Hearings, and Appeals**
- **TERO Commission Authority and Due Process**
- **Sanctions, Corrective Actions, and Enforcement Procedures**
- **Tribal HR Policies and the Intersection with Tribal Preference**
- **Federal and State Actions Affecting Tribal Workforce Sovereignty**
- **Emerging Legal Issues Affecting Indian Country**
- **Best Practices for Strengthening and Defending TERO and Preference Laws**

Additional legal topics that support the conference theme and the mission of CTER are encouraged.

PRESENTATION EXPECTATIONS

Presentations should provide attendees with practical, current, and legally informed information that can be applied within Tribal Employment Rights Offices and tribal governments.

Preference may be given to proposals that include:

- Recent statutes, regulations, court decisions, or administrative developments;
- Practical examples involving TERO or Tribal Preference enforcement;
- Strategies for drafting and strengthening tribal laws and ordinances;
- Case studies or lessons learned from tribal nations;
- Sample policies, legal resources, or other materials attendees can use after the conference; and
- Opportunities for questions and discussion with conference participants.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Interested presenters are asked to submit:

Proposal Submission Deadline: November 4, 2026

Submit Proposals To:

Laatis Lawrence, CTER Secretary

laatisl@nezperce.org

SELECTION OF PRESENTERS

Presentation proposals will be reviewed by the **2026 Legal Update TERO Conference Planning Committee** based on relevance to the conference theme, value to conference attendees, legal expertise, timeliness of the subject matter, and the overall needs of the conference agenda.

Submission of a proposal does not guarantee selection. Selected presenters will be contacted by the Planning Committee with additional information regarding scheduling, presentation requirements, conference registration, travel, and other arrangements.

ABOUT CTER

The **Council for Tribal Employment Rights (CTER)** works to protect and advance tribal sovereignty and the employment, training, contracting, and economic rights of Native people. Through education, advocacy, training, and collaboration, CTER supports Tribal Employment Rights Offices and tribal nations in strengthening and exercising their sovereign authority over employment and economic opportunities within their communities.

HELP STRENGTHEN THE FUTURE OF TERO LAW

CTER invites attorneys and legal professionals with experience in federal Indian law, TERO, Indian and Tribal Preference, employment and labor law, tribal governance, contracting, and workforce development to share their knowledge with TERO professionals and tribal leaders from across Indian Country.

December 9–11, 2026 | Las Vegas, Nevada

Sovereignty in Action: Strengthening Preference & TERO Law