

RACHEL R. TOBIAS

GALANDA BROADMAN

Galanda Broadman, PLLC
8606 35th Avenue NE, Suite LI
Seattle, Washington 98115

Cell: (206) 245-9017
Fax: (206) 299-7690



E-mail: rtobias@galandabroadman.com
Website: www.galandabroadman.com

Rachel Tobias brings extensive experience and deep passion to her representation of Indigenous individual and governmental clients. Her litigation practice focuses on Indigenous and constitutional rights, as well as the preservation of Tribal cultural assets.

Rachel also advises individuals, enterprises and Tribal governments on economic development and related issues, particularly in the fields of fashion, design and other creative industries. She pursues just and fair compensation for indigenous creatives by leveraging all available tools, from relief available under the Indian Arts and Crafts Act to the ethical imperatives recognized in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and emerging paradigms such as [Eighth Generation's Decolonizing Partnership Model](#).

An inaugural graduate of Fordham University School of Law's Fashion Law LL.M. program, where she concentrated on human rights abuses in the global supply chain, Rachel's competencies include a unique blend of solution driven advocacy, cultural understanding, and economic development principles. With an empathic approach to problem solving, Rachel focuses on achieving client goals in the context of mutually beneficial outcomes. Clients routinely endorse her no-nonsense ability to build consensus, anticipate areas of future conflict, and proactively address them before they arise.

Legal Experience:

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| 2022 – Present | Galanda Broadman, Of Counsel |
| 2020 – 2022 | Davis Rothwell Earle & Xóchihua, PC, Of Counsel |
| 2012 – 2020 | Tobias Legal Advocacy, PLLC (Seattle, WA)/Law Office of Rachel R. Tobias (New York, NY), Principal |
| 2008 – 2012 | Carey & Lillevik, PLLC, Associate |
| 2006 – 2008 | Northwest Defender Association, Public Defender |
| 2003 – 2005 | Quinault Indian Nation, Indian Child Welfare Attorney |

RACHEL R. TOBIAS, continued

2001 – 2003 Branch Law Firm (Albuquerque, NM), Law Clerk
2002 Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School, Summer Intern

Operations & Academic Experience:

2019 – 2021 Baruch College, Zicklin School of Business, CUNY, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law
2018 – 2019 Fashion Law Institute (New York, NY), Acting Assistant Director
2017 – 2018 Pratt Institute/BF+DA (Brooklyn, NY), Business Development + Community Director

Education:

Fordham University School of Law, LL.M., Fashion Law, *magna cum laude*, 2016
Master's Thesis: "The Department of Yes: Roles for Lawyers in Sustainable Fashion"
Fashion Law Society, Fashion Law Institute Pop-Up Clinic and Event Volunteer

University of New Mexico School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2003
Dean's List, Honor Roll, Clinical Honors - Southwest Indian Law Clinic
Semester abroad, University of Tasmania, Australia

Fairhaven College at Western Washington University, B.A., Law & Diversity, 1999

Bar Admissions:

Washington State
New York State
Western District of Washington
Southern District of New York
Tulalip Tribal Court
Puyallup Tribal Court
Quinault Tribal Court
Suquamish Tribal Court

Memberships:

Washington State Bar Association

- Civil Rights Committee, 2003-2004
- *Pro Bono Publico* Commendation, 2011-2014
- Indian Law Section

New York City Bar Association

- Fashion Law Committee

RACHEL R. TOBIAS, continued

King County Bar Association

- Neighborhood Legal Clinics, DV Family Law, 2008-2015

National Lawyers Guild

- President, UNMSOL Chapter, 2002-2003

Representative Client Successes:

- Attained sanctions order against attorney who violated court rules in pursuit of legally deficient allegations against non-profit animal welfare agency.
- Negotiated settlement of complex class-action litigation against residential property management company for many millions less than the demand.
- Prevailed before the New York City Human Rights Commission in defense of a retail company disingenuously accused of discrimination.
- Negotiated dissolution of partnership by leveraging tools for conflict resolution she included when drafting original operating agreement.
- Achieved jury acquittal of tribal elder wrongly accused of multiple felony level crimes in Tulalip Tribal Court.
- Prevailed at the trial level on behalf of a de facto parent, leading, ultimately, to the Washington Supreme Court's definitive ruling that being a foster parent is not an automatic bar to de facto parenthood.
- Completed successful regulation-based application for Social Security Act Title IV(D) Child Support Enforcement grant, for which the Quinault Indian Nation received a commendation from the Social Security Administration.
- Spearheaded statewide tribal conference on tribal child welfare services and improvement of outcomes under the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Presentations:

United Nations, Panelist: Sustainable Fashion and SDGs: Different Contexts, Same Mission, 2018

Brooklyn Fashion + Design Accelerator, Office Hours for Members: Deciding on Your Company's Legal Structure, 2017

Panelist: Sustainability, Corporate Responsibility and Philanthropy in the Fashion Industry, New York City Bar Association, 2016

Panelist: post screening of *The True Cost*, a documentary about garment industry human rights abuses, Ossining Documentary & Discussion Series, 2016

Additional Volunteer Activities:

Auburn Valley Humane Society, Member of the Board of Directors, 2022-Present

The New Fashion Initiative, Advisory Board Member, 2018-2021

RACHEL R. TOBIAS, continued

ELab Entrepreneur Mentor, NYU/Restore NYC, 2019-2020

Court Appointed Special Advocates of King County, 2012-2015

AmeriCorps Volunteer, Church Council of Greater Seattle, 1995-1996