



PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

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Lawyer Harry Sachse Passes Away

(Nespelem, WA) — Harry Sachse, a lawyer who lived in Washington, D.C., passed away on May 3rd, 2024 at home. He was 90 years old.

Harry was a founding member of the firm Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Enderson, and Perry LLP. Harry was one of the attorneys who represented the Colville Tribes in the case which successfully secured fishing rights for the Wenatchi. Harry was also the principal attorney for the Colville Tribes' landmark 181-D settlement with the Grand Coulee Dam, and he was instrumental in negotiations for settlement of the Wells Dam claim.

Harry Sachse spent over 50 years as an attorney primarily focused on Native American rights. He won multiple landmark cases in front of the United States Supreme Court and he received a lifetime achievement award from the Federal Bar Association for the practice of Federal Indian Law. He was predeceased by his wife, Elinor, and he leaves behind his children Michael and Marianna and four grandchildren.

The Chairman of the Colville Confederated Tribes, Jarred-Michael Erickson, said, "Harry Sachse helped the Colville Tribes secure a number of significant victories. Tribes need attorneys to succeed in the modern world, and Harry was among the best in the country. The Colville Tribes will long remember the work he did to protect and advance the rights of our people."

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,215 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The twelve tribes which compose the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation include: ščəlámxəx^w (deep water) or Chelan; walwáma (Wallowa people) or Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; sǰ^wyʔilp (sharp pointed trees) or Colville; šntiyátk^{wəx} (grass in the water) or Entiat; snʂáyckst (speckled fish) or Lakes; mətx^wu (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənəx^w (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nespelem; uknaqin (seeing over the top) or Okanogan;

palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; sənɸ^wilx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnpəšq^wáwsəx^w (people in between) or Wenatchi.