



The Indian Child Welfare Act

Crying for help from technology

**During the Morongo ICWA Conference on 10/21/2009 and 10/22/2009,
Kevin Hughes had an impromptu opportunity to present Ayazuta
This PDF contains the slides from that presentation*





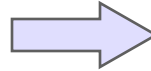
- Some of ICWA's main problems with Noticing
 - Variable, and in some cases, poor compliance
 - Social Worker time consumed in paperwork
 - Variable quality of contact information
 - Incomplete mapping of historical to Federal Tribes
 - Variable relationship between Tribes, States and Counties
- All of these issues work against the best interests of the child



The process of notification, as is:

Difficult or impossible to be compliant

- Heavily paper based
- Poor audit trail



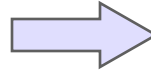
The process needs to be:

Compliant and Self Auditing

- Meeting Court and Tribe reporting requirements

Largely manual

- Few if any supportive systems at a State or County level
- Time consuming, expensive, and fraught with the potential for error
- 8 hours average to produce notices for 1 hearing

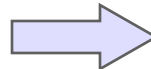


Supportive of the Case and Social Worker

- All available information in one place and easy to use
- Fully Automated, with a target production time of 10 minutes
- Fast, accurate, repeatable, with little potential for error

Not supported by Federal Government

- Poor Federal to Historical Tribe mapping
- Poor maintenance of contact information

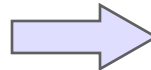


Nationally Available, up to Date Data

- Maintained Federal Tribes to Historical Tribes and keyword mapping
- 6 Month review cycle

Generates distrust between States, Counties and Tribes

- Poor Federal to Historical Tribe mapping
- Poor maintenance of contact information



Trust based on Verification


- Statistics, Process measurement



- **A fully functional ICWA noticing system**
 - Allows the storage of the relevant information
 - Tribal Claims related to a child
 - Investigation information
 - Tribal contact information (Historical and Federally recognized)
 - Notification information including responses
 - Notification/Response audit trails
 - Automated production of notifications
 - Up to date Judicial Council forms from all customer states
 - Relating claims of historical tribal membership to appropriate federally recognized tribes and all contact details (multiple addresses)
 - Automated production of notices
 - Automated update of responses from Tribes
 - Nationwide Coverage
 - Updates of contact information from all entities
 - Independently researched, validated
 - Automated tribal contact database updates
 - Tribal integration
 - Working with Tribes to improve the noticing and communication process



- **Problem** – Variable, and in some cases, poor compliance
- **Ayazuta Solution** – Full audit trail of all activities, changes and Notices

 <h2>Notification Audit Report</h2>		Court Ref:	LASC-1123765-2008
		Agency Ref:	22237656656
Date Report Produced - 23 November, 2008			
Child Name: Nina Perry Address: 126 Montana Boulevard, Beverley Hills, CA 90210 Date of Birth: May 18, 2001	Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Address: 415 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802 Branch Name: Long Beach Courthouse Department: 245	Agency: Child Support Services Department Address: 5770 South Eastern Avenue Commerce, CA. 90040-2924 Case Worker: Kevin Hughes	

Date	Activity	Activity Notes	Documents Produced	Documents Received
2-Jan-08	Case Creation	Data Upload from Case Management System		
2-Jan-08	Tribal Claim	Child claimed to be of part Indian Heritage during an interview on 01/02/08 reference made to Cahuilla Great Grandparents		
10-Jan-08	Hearing Date Set	Hearing 3/2/2008		
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Mother	ICWA 020	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Mother	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Father	ICWA 020	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Father	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Augustine Band of Mission Indians	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Cabazon Tribal Business Committee	ICWA 030	Denied 3/16/2008
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians	ICWA 030	Denied 3/17/2008
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians	ICWA 030	Denied 3/18/2008
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Morongongo Band of Mission Indians	ICWA 030	Denied 3/19/2008
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Ramona Band of Mission Indians	ICWA 030	Denied 3/20/2008
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Indian Custodian 1	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Indian Custodian 2	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Bureau of Indian Affairs - Sacramento area Director	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation
11-Jan-08	Notice Issued	Secretary of the Interior	ICWA 030	Delivery Confirmation



- **Problem** – Social Services time consumed in paperwork
- **Ayazuta Solution** – Automated Noticing, more time to concentrate on the Outcome

AYAZUTA
CONNECTING CHILDREN TO THEIR NATIVE AMERICAN ROOTS

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

Home

Case Management

Track & Confirm

Search Results

Label/Receipt Number
Status: **Delivered**

Your item was delivered
CA 90265.

Notification Options

Track & Confirm by email
Get current event information

Los Angeles
Room: 157

Los Angeles
Room: 157

Los Angeles Superior Court
Hearing

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ICWA 030 Response		Court Ref:
		LASC-1123765-2008
		Agency Ref:
		22237656656
Child Name: Nina Perry Address: 126 Montana Boulevard, Beverley Hills, CA 90210 Date of Birth: May 18, 2001	Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Address: 415 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802 Branch Name: Long Beach Courthouse Department: 245	Agency: Child Support Services Department Address: 5770 South Eastern Avenue Commerce, CA. 90040-2924 Case Worker: Kevin Hughes

FAX TO 1 (310) 947 2356

LASC NINA PERRY 22237656656 LASC-1123765-2008 MORONGO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS 11012008

NINA PERRY is not recognized as a member or eligible for membership of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians...

NINA PERRY is recognized as a member or eligible for membership of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians.....

WE NEED MORE INFORMATION before we can decide on NINA PERRY's status.....


Additional Information Required:

I am authorized by the Morongo Band of Mission Indians to confirm ICWA status

Signed: *Kevin Hughes* Date: 3/13/2008

Please Print Name: **KEVIN HUGHES** Title: *ICWA Liaison* Contact Number: (267) 876 6235

- **Problem** – Keeping Tribal contact data up to date and available
- **Ayazuta Solution** – Continuous review with tribes, feedback loop with users, information available on the internet 24/7

		ICWA Notification Contact Details Confirmation	Please FAX to: (310) 247 9316
Federally Recognized Tribe Name	Morongo Band of Mission Indians		
Historical Tribe Name	Cahuilla		
Other Identification Keywords	Mission		
ICWA Contact	Maurice Lyons		
Role	Chairman		
Federally Registered Notification Address	11581 Potrero Road, Banning, CA. 92220		
Federally Recognized Phone Number	(951) 849-4697		
Federally Recognized FAX number	(951) 922-0338		
Additional Historical Tribe Name			
Additional Identification Keywords			
Additional ICWA Contact - 1			
Role			
Address for ICWA Notifications			
Phone Number			
FAX number			
E-mail Address			
Additional ICWA Contact - 2			
Role			
Address for ICWA Notifications			
Phone Number			
FAX number			
E-mail Address			
Continuation Sheet Added: <input type="checkbox"/>			
Signed: <i>Kevin Hughes</i>		Date: 3/13/2008	
Please Print Name: KEVIN HUGHES		Title: ICWA Liaison	
		Contact Number: (267) 876 6235	
Page 1 of 1			



- **Problem** – Poor mapping of Historical to Federal Tribes
- **Ayazuta Solution** – Public and free mapping of Historical Tribes and Keywords to Federally recognized Tribes, available on the internet 24/7



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Ayazuta

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Inter



Ayazuta after the notice and all other what is stopping you, call now or info@ayazuta.com.



Hon

Enquiry I

[Go Back](#)

Historic:

- Cahuilla
- Cahuilla
- Cahuilla
- Cahuilla
- Cahuilla
- Cahuilla
- Cahuilla
- Luiseno
- Cahuilla
- Cahuilla

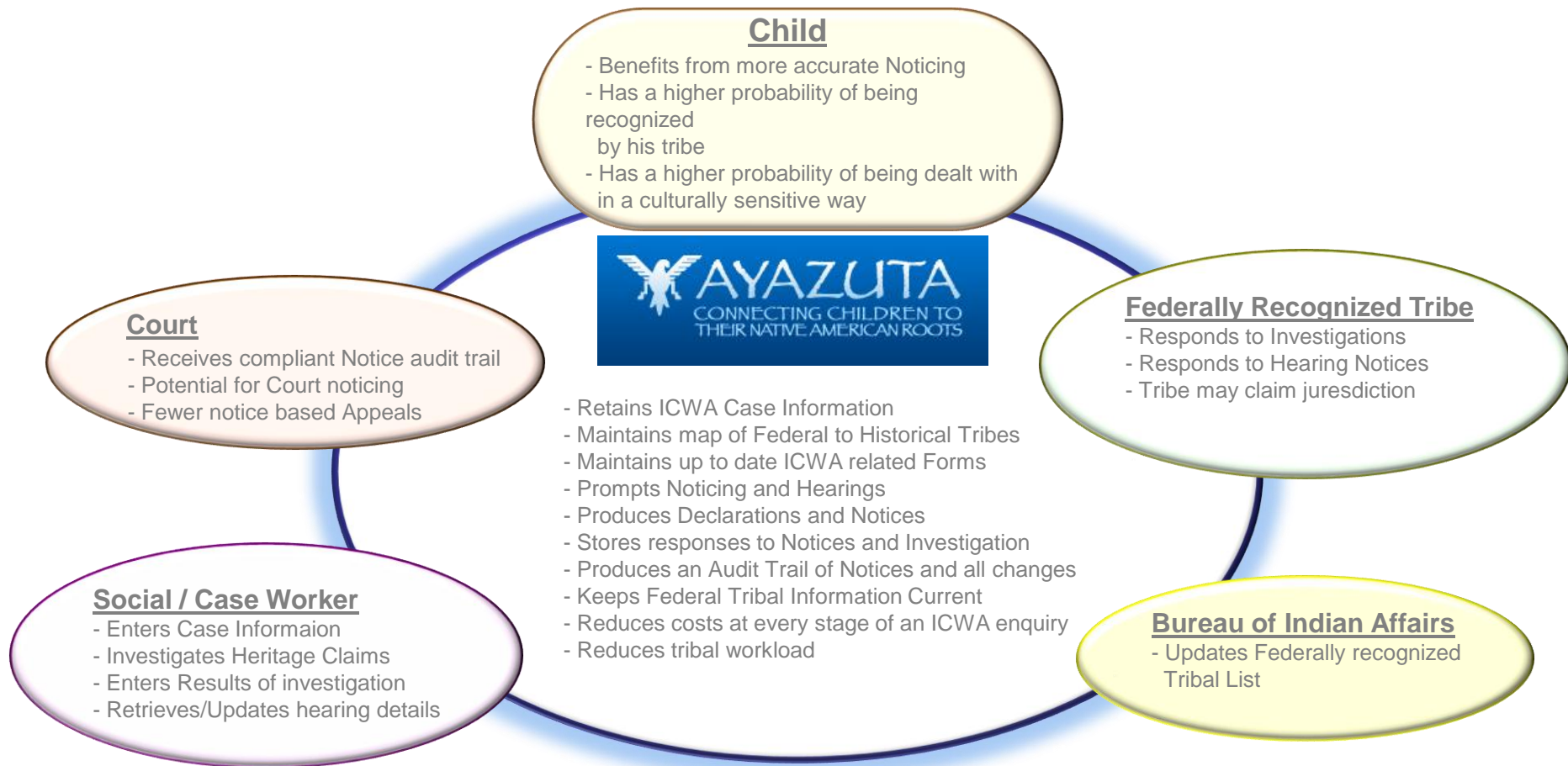
[CHANGE TI](#)

[NEW SEARCH](#)

Historical Tribe Name		Federal Tribe or Band Name		Alternative Keywords		
- Cahuilla		Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians		Mission		
Name	Address	Phone	Fax	Email	Info Source	
	Chairperson P.O. Box 846 Coachella CA 92236	(760) 398-4722	(760) 369-7161		Federally Recognized	
	ICWA Representative	(760) 369 7171			California List	
- Cahuilla		Cabazon Band of Mission Indians		Mission		
Name	Address	Phone	Fax	Email	Info Source	
	Chairman 84-245 Indio Springs Drive Indio CA 92201	(760) 342-2593	(760) 347-7880		Federally Recognized	
+ Cahuilla		Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians				
+ Cahuilla		Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians			Mission	
+ Cahuilla		Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians				
+ Cahuilla		Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians				
+ Cahuilla		Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians				
+ Luiseno		Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians			Mission, Cahuilla	
+ Cahuilla		Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians				
- Cahuilla		Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians		Mission		
Name	Address	Phone	Fax	Email	Info Source	
Chantel Schuering	Tribal Family Services Director 901 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Suite C-204 Palm Springs CA 92262	(760) 864-1756	(760) 864-1761	cschuering@aguacaliente.net	Federally Recognized	
	ICWA Director 600 E Tahquitz Canyon Way Palm Springs CA 92262	(760) 699 6464			California List	

Relationship Between Tribes, States and Counties

- **Problem** – Variable relationships
- **Ayazuta Solution** – Collaborative implementation of a structured solution increases trust



- **Cost Benefits**

- Reduced cost of maintaining Federal to Historical tribal mapping
- Fewer Case and Social Worker hours in Noticing, Administration and Hearing Preparation.
- Reduced hours preparing for Appeals
- Reduced cost of Notice production, USPS confirmations
- More effective tracking and responses from tribes, reduces the time associated with invalid claims

- **Social Benefits**

- Better handling of the child's welfare through more accurate noticing
- Indian Heritage children are more likely to be recognized
- Faster recognition of the need for culturally appropriate services
- Better relationships between Tribes, States and Counties



- Tribal database is built and usable now
 - Containing Historical Tribes Names, Keywords, and Federal Tribes Names and Contact addresses from the 2009 BIA list and California DSS 2008 List
 - Validation Process has started, all Tribes contact information will be validated every 6 months.
 - Early returns show that there is significant scope for improvement in the contact data
- Community driven approach to development
 - Including all parties in the design and development of the system, Tribes, Courts, Social Services, Support Groups
- Looking for interested organizations who want to be involved
 - In Design, Development and Implementation
- Great reaction from All interested parties including Tribal Support Groups, DSS
- Plan for system to be completed and rolled out to initial customer Q1/Q2, 2010



- **Capabilities to support**
 - Phase 1 – Tribal Contacts Database ✓
 - Phase 2 – Automated Noticing
 - Demo produced to drive the design ✓
 - Getting the system delivered
 - Tribal ICWA worker access
 - Phase 3 – “Active Efforts” support
 - Phase 4 – Placement Preferences
- **Technology to support**
 - Print production and distribution of notices
 - Digital confirmations and responses to digital Notifications
 - Integration with Case Management Systems
 - Closer integration with Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - Closer Integration with Tribes
 - Incrementally reduced cost of ICWA compliance



- Visit the site
 - www.ayazuta.com
 - Use the Tribal Mapping and ICWA Contacts service
 - Give us feedback
- Get in touch
 - Kevin Hughes, Principal, H7 interactive, LLC (310) 403 5565
 - Adam Freid, Business development, H7 interactive, LLC (805) 807 5361
 - Heather Zenone, Policy Director, Indian Dispute Resolution Services, Cal-ICWA
- Ayazuta – Automated ICWA Compliance