

Michelle Demmert



Michelle Demmert, Tlingit, Eagle, ƛ̣aaƛ'ooos.hittaaan (Man's Foot) clan is an assistant professor at the University of Alaska College of Indigenous Studies in the Department of Tribal Governance. She is the former elected Chief Justice for the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. She is a long-time pro-tem judge for the Puyallup Tribe and the Northwest Intertribal Court System and has served as chief judge and presiding judge for several tribes in Washington state. As an attorney for over 30 years licensed in Washington and Alaska, she has served many roles in advancing Tribal priorities. Professor Demmert served as the Law and Policy Director for the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center, assisting with setting the policy and priorities for Alaska Tribes in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault. Previously, she was in the Reservation Attorney's Office at the Tulalip Tribes for nearly 10 years and held various positions with the Northwest Intertribal Court System including Administrator and Chief Judge. Professor Demmert is a graduate of the University of Washington for both her law degree and her BA in Psychology. She actively engaged in the Alaska commercial fishing prior to her practice of law.