

# Midwest Environmental Advocates: Legal fellow awarded California Indian Law Association honor

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*Velasquez first to receive the diversity bar review scholarship*

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MADISON, WI – Jacklyn Velasquez, a two-year legal fellow serving Midwest Environmental Advocates law center, is being honored by the California Indian Law Association for her dedication to bringing Tribal nations and environmental protection together through legal action.

The California Indian Law Association is awarding Velasquez its 2017 California Bar Foundation 3L Diversity Bar Review Scholarship, which is the first of its kind. The California Bar Foundation matched funds for the scholarship and the award will help support Velasquez's fellowship work in Wisconsin and bar exam in California.

As an Equal Justice Works Fellow working in Wisconsin, Jacklyn will continue her tribal advocacy as she works to engage Tribes to hold Wisconsin accountable to Clean Water Act by legally and technically assisting a collaboration that assesses and addresses Tribes' risks from the State's regulatory failures.

Originally a California native, Jacklyn Velasquez is a 2017 Vermont Law School graduate and member of the Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley. During law school, she was an Environmental Mission Scholar, active in her Native American

Law Student Association chapter and returned to her tribe to complete two separate projects with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe Environmental Department. There she worked on funding requirements for climate change, community outreach, quality assurance projects as an Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional Intern and researched the adverse impacts of a proposed large industrial scale solar project as a Blair Hamilton Memorial Fund Fellow.

Learn more about the California Indian Law Association and its annual conference and gala online.

Jackie's official welcome can be found on Midwest Environmental Advocates' website.

Midwest Environmental Advocates is a public interest organization that uses the power of the law to support communities fighting for environmental accountability. Learn more about the Midwest Environmental Advocates on the web at [midwestadvocates.org](http://midwestadvocates.org), like MEA on Facebook or follow @MidwestAdvocate on Twitter.