

# Judge William A. Thorne Jr.

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## Native American Perspective - Welcome Lunch Speaker

### *Biography*

Judge William A. Thorne, Jr. was appointed to the Utah Court of Appeals in May 2000 by Governor Michael O. Leavitt. He was a judge in the Third Circuit Court for eight years having been appointed by Governor Norman Bangertter in 1986, and served in the Third District Court for six years, having been appointed by Governor Leavitt in 1994. Judge Thorne received his B.A. from the University of Santa Clara in 1974 and his J.D. from Stanford Law School in 1977.

Judge Thorne has served as a tribal court judge in Utah, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Nebraska and Michigan. He is currently President of the National Indian Justice Center (a non-profit that trains tribal court personnel around the country), a member of the Board of Directors for National CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates, a non-profit group that provides volunteer representation for abused and neglected children in court), a member of the Board of Directors for the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute (a nonprofit seeking to improve the level of research and practice related to adoptions), and a member of the ABA Steering Committee on the Unmet Legal Needs of Children.

Judge Thorne is a former member of the Utah Judicial Council, the Board of Circuit Court Judges, and the Board of Directors for the National Indian Court Judge's Association. He is also former chair of the Utah Juvenile Justice Task Force of the Commission on Criminal and juvenile Justice, former vice-chair of the Utah Board of Youth Corrections, former co-chair of the Judicial Council's Committee on Improving Jury Service, former chair of the Judicial Council's Bail Bonding Committee, former member of the Court Technology Committee, former member of the Salt Lake County Domestic Violence Advisory Committee, and a former member of the steering committee for the Judicial Council's Task Force on Racial and Ethnic Fairness.