



THOMASINA N. REAL BIRD APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY IN THE PROFESSION BY THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION (ABA)

Chicago, IL 5/29/15. The American Bar Association appointed Thomasina N. Real Bird, a Senior Associate at the Louisville, Colorado office of Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP, as a member of the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession for a one-year term.

The mission of the ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession is to promote racial and ethnic diversity and inclusion within the legal profession. The Commission addresses the lack of racial and ethnic diversity within the profession. It serves as a catalyst for change so that the legal profession may more accurately reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of society. The Commission achieves this by funneling minority lawyers into sections, divisions and forums through collaboration that draws on their expertise in their subject matter.

Paulette Brown, President-Elect of the ABA said, “My thanks to Thomasina Real Bird for her time, energy, and talents to further the goals of our Association. Together, we will address issues of great importance to our profession, our Association, and the public. As we face so many challenges, Ms. Real Bird’s leadership is needed now more than ever to ensure confidence in our justice system and to advance the rule of law.”

The Commission currently has 17 members, all of whom are appointed by the ABA President. Each year, over a thousand ABA diverse attorneys from across the country, attend or participate in the Commission’s programs.

Thomasina N. Real Bird is a member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe (Ihanktonwan Nakota), and a descendent of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe (Sicangu Lakota). Ms. Real Bird received a B.A. in Native American Studies and her M.A. is Sociology from Stanford University and her Juris Doctorate from Columbia University in New York. She serves as general counsel to her own tribe and works with the tribal business and claims committee, tribal officials, and members of the tribe’s general council.

Her efforts promote governance and economic development initiatives, as well as promotion and protection of tribal land holdings, tribal sovereignty, and jurisdiction. She also serves on the Wiciyena Community Development Board, a tribal entity that stimulates community development in the areas of culture, food sovereignty, health, education, spirituality, and career development. Ms. Real Bird is a recipient of the ABA’s Rosner and Rosner Young Lawyers Professionalism Award which recognizes and encourages young lawyers who are dedicated to lawyer professionalism and the Native American 40 Under 40 Award from the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development which recognizes leadership, initiatives and dedication to achieve significant contributions to Native

communities throughout North America. She is a member of the Colorado Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, Colorado Indian Bar Association, Boulder County Bar Association, and American Bar Association.

“The Firm and its clients are very fortunate to have the talent, professionalism and dedication of Thomasina striving to make certain we can continue to serve our clients with the highest levels of service and integrity while promoting ethnic and racial diversity in our justice system,” said Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP Partner Leonika R. Charging.

Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP is dedicated to the representation of American Indian tribes and Native American organizations throughout the United States. Legal services provided by Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP include a wide spectrum of services related to Indian concerns in the areas of business transactions, litigation, self-determination and government affairs. Visit our website at www.ndnlaw.com