



## U.S. Department of the Interior Indian Affairs

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### **Biographical Statement of Lawrence S. Roberts Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs U.S. Department of the Interior**

Lawrence S. “Larry” Roberts, an enrolled member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior, a post he has held since July 2013. From January 1 to July 28, 2016, he also held the title of acting Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs following the departure of Assistant Secretary Kevin Washburn at the end of December 2015. Currently, Mr. Roberts is Indian Affairs’ highest ranking official.

He joined the Assistant Secretary’s office as Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs on September 6, 2012, after serving as General Counsel of the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC), a post he had held since July 2010.

Mr. Roberts began his legal career with the U.S. Department of Justice as a trial attorney in DOJ’s Indian Resources Section, where he handled a variety of federal Indian law cases for the benefit of tribal interests including the protection of tribal reserved treaty hunting and fishing rights. He subsequently joined the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of General Counsel, where he provided counsel on the implementation of federal environmental programs by federally recognized tribes. Mr. Roberts left EPA in 2002 to work in private practice on federal Indian law and environmental matters, which he did until joining the Commission’s staff. As NIGC general counsel, he advised on matters concerning the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and other relevant laws and regulations.

From 2003 to 2005, Mr. Roberts served as chair of the Native American Resources Committee of the American Bar Association’s Section of Environment, Energy and Resources. In 2011, he co-chaired the Federal Bar Association’s Federal Indian Law Conference in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Roberts graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1992 with a double major in Political Science and Sociology and from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1995. He is a member of the Washington, D.C., Bar and the Wisconsin Bar.

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10/7/16