

Honorable William A. Thorne, Jr.

Honorable William A. Thorne, Jr. (*Pomo Tribe*) is a Pomo/Coast Miwok Indian from northern California and is enrolled at the Confederated Tribes of the Graton Rancheria. He received his B.A. from the University of Santa Clara in 1974 where he played and coached soccer. He received his J.D. from Stanford Law School in 1977. Admitted to the Utah Bar, he practiced law with Larry EchoHawk for several years at EchoHawk & Thorne, where the firm represented the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes as well as individuals and businesses with an emphasis on Federal Indian Law. In 1979 Thorne began his service as a tribal court judge with an appointment as a pro tem judge at the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Court. Since that time he has served as a tribal judge in Utah, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Montana, Wisconsin, Washington, Michigan, and California. In 1986, Judge Thorne was appointed by the governor as a trial judge for the State of Utah. After 14 years as a state trial judge he was appointed in 2000 as a judge of the Utah Court of Appeals where he continues to serve.

Judge Thorne currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, as vice-president of the National Indian Justice Center, as a member of the Advisory board for the National Resource Center for Tribes, and U.S. Children's Bureau Centennial Blue Ribbon Committee. He is a Board member for WestED, Inc., a non-profit based in San Francisco that focuses on education excellence and equity; Board member for the Center for the Study of Social Policy, located in Washington, D.C.; Chair of the Board for Child Trends, Inc., the largest non-university based center focusing exclusively on research to assist children and families; and Chair of the Indian Child Welfare workgroup for Casey Family Programs.