1	IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
2	x
3	DOLLAR GENERAL :
4	CORPORATION, ET AL., :
5	Petitioners : No. 13-1496
6	v. :
7	MISSISSIPPI BAND OF :
8	CHOCTAW INDIANS, ET AL. :
9	x
10	Washington, D.C.
11	Monday, December 7, 2015
12	
13	The above-entitled matter came on for oral
14	argument before the Supreme Court of the United States
15	at 10:03 a.m.
16	APPEARANCES:
17	THOMAS C. GOLDSTEIN, ESQ., Bethesda, Md.; on behalf
18	of Petitioners.
19	NEAL K. KATYAL, ESQ., Washington, D.C.; on behalf of
20	Respondents.
21	EDWIN S. KNEEDLER, ESQ., Deputy Solicitor General,
22	Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; for United
23	States, as amicus curiae, supporting Respondents.
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1	CONTENTS	
2	ORAL ARGUMENT OF	PAGE
3	THOMAS C. GOLDSTEIN, ESQ.	
4	On behalf of the Petitioners	3
5	ORAL ARGUMENT OF	
6	NEAL K. KATYAL, ESQ.	
7	On behalf of the Respondents	28
8	ORAL ARGUMENT OF	
9	EDWIN S. KNEEDLER, ESQ.	
10	For United States, as amicus curiae,	
11	supporting Respondents	49
12	REBUTTAL ARGUMENT OF	
13	THOMAS C. GOLDSTEIN, ESQ.	
14	On behalf of the Petitioners	59
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

Τ	PROCEEDINGS
2	(10:03 a.m.)
3	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: We'll hear argument
4	first this morning in Case 13-1496, Dollar General
5	Corporation v. The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.
6	Mr. Goldstein.
7	ORAL ARGUMENT OF THOMAS C. GOLDSTEIN
8	ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONERS
9	MR. GOLDSTEIN: Mr. Chief Justice, may it
10	please the Court:
11	Our narrowest argument assumes that, in
12	circumstances like this case, Indian tribes do have the
13	legislative jurisdiction to subject nonmembers to tribal
14	tort law duties.
15	Respondents argue that the same facts also
16	give Indian tribes the mandatory adjudicatory
17	jurisdiction to decide private tort lawsuits against
18	non-Indians. Respondents' theory is that, when the
19	Tribes entered the United States and were incorporated
20	into this country, their power to adjudicate cases in
21	this fashion was understood to be an element of their
22	sovereignty. That is not correct.
23	In I want to identify the three separate
24	respects in which the overriding sovereignty of the
25	United States and our Constitution

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1 JUSTICE GINSBURG: Could you -- could you
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- 2 please explain your opening statement? You -- you say
- 3 there is legislative authority but not judicial
- 4 authority. I don't know of any other instance in which
- 5 a jurisdiction has authority to legislate, to regulate
- 6 the conduct in question, but does not have authority to
- 7 back up that legislative authority by adjudicatory
- 8 authority.
- 9 Can you give me an example of --
- 10 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I can give you several,
- 11 Justice Ginsburg.
- 12 JUSTICE GINSBURG: Yes.
- 13 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The first is removal.
- 14 Remember, our point is not that the Tribes lack any
- 15 adjudicatory jurisdiction. It is that they lack
- 16 mandatory adjudicatory jurisdiction so that we do not
- 17 have access to a neutral judicial forum. A State has
- 18 the power to pass State tort law, for example, but it
- 19 does not have the sovereign authority to insist that the
- 20 case be litigated in its own courts.
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: It has the authority,
- 22 but -- but an out-of-State defendant can be moved to
- 23 Federal court, but it has the adjudicatory authority.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Ginsburg, everyone
- 25 agrees that the Tribes have a form of adjudicatory

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1 authority upon consent. They don't have it inherently.
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- 2 The question is going to be: What qualifies as consent?
- 3 Our point is that, in three separate
- 4 respects, the national tradition of the United States
- 5 and our Constitution does not contemplate that a
- 6 sovereign would adjudicate cases in this fashion. And I
- 7 want to briefly identify the three, if I could.
- First, the Constitution contemplates the
- 9 availability of a neutral forum for suits against
- 10 noncitizens, and by analogy, noncitizens as you say,
- 11 Justice Ginsburg, have always been able to remove a case
- 12 from State to Federal court.
- The United States at the time of
- 14 incorporation could not have accepted that non-Indians
- 15 would not be able to remove to a neutral forum.
- 16 Second, the Constitution contemplates that
- 17 this Court will be the one Supreme Court, and State
- 18 court rulings on questions of Federal law have, of
- 19 course, always been reviewable in this Court.
- 20 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, I -- I don't -- this
- 21 is an important part of the dialogue, but let me just go
- 22 back to the first part of -- of -- of your response.
- 23 Is -- is it black-letter law given the
- 24 Tribes have complete legislative authority over
- 25 non-Tribe members on -- for -- for regulatory purposes?

- 1 I -- I -- I take it that as a black-letter law given?
- 2 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Kennedy, if we say
- 3 it -- in those terms, regulatory authority without
- 4 getting into the question of all forms of legislation,
- 5 for example, tort law, then the first exception to
- 6 Montana says that, although there is a presumption
- 7 against jurisdiction, the Tribes do have their
- 8 regulatory authority.
- 9 We have the argument that tort law, because
- 10 it is so broad and would swallow the rule, that the
- 11 Tribes lack legislative authority over nonmembers. We
- 12 have the argument that that is not within the
- 13 legislative jurisdiction.
- 14 What I had said at the beginning --
- 15 JUSTICE GINSBURG: But doesn't that clash
- 16 with what the Court said in Strate? I mean, Strate --
- 17 I'll read you the sentence. It says, "It's an
- 18 unremarkable proposition that where tribes possess
- 19 authority to regulate the activity of nonmembers, civil
- 20 jurisdiction over disputes arising out of such
- 21 activities presumptively lies in tribal courts."
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Justice Ginsburg, I
- 23 need to just separate two questions:
- Justice Kennedy I understood to be asking me
- 25 was: Do the Tribes have the antecedent legislative

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1 authority? And I was explaining that we have the
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- 2 argument that in the tort context they do not.
- 3 You then point out that if --
- 4 JUSTICE GINSBURG: If this is a tort case.
- 5 It was a --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: So then I don't understand
- 7 why you opened your -- your -- are -- I -- I thought you
- 8 said --
- 9 MR. GOLDSTEIN: We assumed.
- 10 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- I -- you
- 11 assumed --
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes. We --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- that this could be --
- 14 well, I --
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, Justice --
- 16 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- I don't know why you
- 17 make that assumption.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Okay.
- 19 JUSTICE KENNEDY: I -- I just --
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: I apologize.
- 21 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- can't get off square
- 22 one.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Sure.
- I do not intend, Justice Kennedy, to give up
- 25 a good argument in our favor. I was just attempting to

- 1 identify the narrowest ground for reversal.
- 2 I'm very pleased to discuss the threshold
- 3 point, and that is that, with respect to nonmembers, the
- 4 Tribes do not have the authority to subject us to such
- 5 sweeping tort law duties. It's not that there aren't
- 6 tort law duties. The plaintiff here is a citizen of the
- 7 State of Mississippi. Mississippi's tort -- State tort
- 8 law does apply to the case. And the plaintiff has a
- 9 remedy in State court.
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: But will you then go back
- 11 to my question --
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes.
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: -- about Strate? Because
- 14 if what you're arguing now is correct, Strate would have
- 15 been a one-line decision: No tort jurisdiction over a
- 16 non-Indian.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, Justice Ginsburg, it's
- 18 true that this Court's decisions can often be resolved
- 19 in different ways. What Nevada v. Hicks in the footnote
- 20 addressing this question explains is that what the Court
- 21 has done is narrowly identify the legislative
- 22 jurisdiction of the Tribe in the cases before it. And
- 23 so in Strate and in other cases, it has held that the
- 24 Tribe lacked that antecedent legislative authority. And
- 25 on that basis, concluded that, well, then because the

- 1 adjudicatory authority can't be broader than the
- 2 legislative authority, there's no adjudicatory authority
- 3 either.
- 4 So the second point that I was going to make
- 5 is that it's true that --
- 6 JUSTICE GINSBURG: But are -- are you saying
- 7 then this sentence that I just read to you from the
- 8 opinion of the Court was just wrong?
- 9 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Ginsburg, what the
- 10 Court has said in Nevada v. Hicks, addressing the
- 11 various times that there is dictum in the Court's
- 12 opinions that has assumed the parallel between
- 13 legislative and adjudicatory jurisdiction is that that
- 14 question had not been fully considered by the Court and
- 15 it remained open. And we assume that that's one of the
- 16 reasons the Court granted review in this case. To
- 17 decide, assuming that there is legislative jurisdiction,
- 18 whether there also is adjudicatory jurisdiction.
- 19 And I'm pleased to explain why it is. And
- 20 what I -- my introduction was trying to do was, assuming
- 21 the antecedent legislative jurisdiction, here's why you
- 22 don't have jurisdiction to decide a court case in this
- 23 fashion.
- So the first one that I gave you was the
- 25 availability of a neutral forum as anticipated by the

- 1 Constitution.
- 2 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Can I address that for a
- 3 moment?
- 4 States appoint judges. Sometimes they're
- 5 elected, but often they're appointed. We don't think it
- 6 lacks being a neutral forum because the State can sue a
- 7 citizen there. We think of it as neutral because the
- 8 judges are neutral.
- 9 You're just assuming that these judges are
- 10 not neutral.
- 11 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Oh, Justice Sotomayor, I
- 12 think actually that your hypothetical is a good one for
- 13 us.
- In Article III of the Constitution, we
- 15 contemplate the availability of a neutral forum when a
- 16 noncitizen is a defendant in the case, including when
- 17 we, you know, ordinarily respect the neutrality of State
- 18 court judges. Right? If a noncitizen is sued in State
- 19 court, like we are a noncitizen of the Tribe, is sued in
- 20 the Tribe --
- 21 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: But that's out of comity
- 22 or our sense of comity between the States. But it
- 23 doesn't have anything to do with the fairness of a
- 24 judicial forum.
- 25 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Oh, I -- I just simply

- 1 disagree, Your Honor. My understanding of the premise
- 2 of removal jurisdiction is that there was a concern or
- 3 at least a belief that respect for rule of law is
- 4 enhanced by the availability of a neutral forum.
- 5 But I did want --
- 6 JUSTICE BREYER: What's wrong with the
- 7 tribal courts?
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN: What's wrong with the tribal
- 9 courts? It depends.
- 10 First of all, let me say that there are
- 11 modern tribal judiciaries like this one that deserve
- 12 genuine respect. That are -- have developed real
- 13 principles in attempt to identify law that can be known
- 14 ex ante and the availability of a neutral forum.
- There are, however, many tribes, everyone
- 16 agrees, that don't have anything like that. They
- 17 instead deserve respect in a different --
- 18 JUSTICE BREYER: All right. Fine. So -- so
- 19 we've seen lots of tribal courts, which I can't
- 20 distinguish them in the fairness and procedure and so
- 21 forth from every other court in the country, and maybe
- there's some where that isn't true.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Right.
- JUSTICE BREYER: So what -- what you do is
- 25 you go and complain, we didn't get due process of law.

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1 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Two things --
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- 2 JUSTICE BREYER: If you're in one of the
- 3 ones that has some unusual thing about it.
- But if you're in a normal thing, you say,
- 5 it's normal.
- 6 So what's wrong with saying just that?
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Right.
- 8 JUSTICE BREYER: Like a State court which
- 9 has terrible procedures, terribly unfair, or a foreign
- 10 court. You complain you didn't get proper process.
- But that has nothing to do with this case.
- 12 MR. GOLDSTEIN: All right. I --
- 13 JUSTICE BREYER: Or little.
- 14 JUSTICE SCALIA: You -- you can remove from
- 15 State court, can't you?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes. That's right.
- 17 JUSTICE SCALIA: And when -- and -- and when
- 18 removal is asked for, we don't ask the question, what's
- 19 the matter with State courts? Do we?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's right. Our
- 21 Constitution --
- 22 JUSTICE SCALIA: We -- we just say that the
- 23 Constitution says you have a -- a choice of having your
- 24 case adjudicated in a Federal court.
- 25 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Breyer, I'm -- I'm

- 1 not going to lose sight of your question, but just on
- 2 this point, our Constitution says we anticipate a
- 3 neutral forum that this Court will -- the Supreme
- 4 Court --
- 5 JUSTICE GINSBURG: Well, the Constitution
- 6 says the removal of statute is a statute. It's not
- 7 constitutional.
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Ginsburg, I
- 9 understand that. My -- what -- and, Justice Breyer, I'm
- 10 not losing sight of your question -- what the -- what
- 11 Oliphant and other precedents of this Court say is that
- 12 the Tribes have the sovereign authority that is
- 13 consistent with the overriding sovereignty of the United
- 14 States. And the point I was trying to make is that our
- 15 legal tradition understands that there will be certain
- 16 basic protections.
- And remember, two of the things I'm
- 18 identifying in the Constitution are not specific to the
- 19 States: The supremacy of the Constitution -- but the
- 20 Constitution does not apply in tribal courts -- and also
- 21 the supremacy of this Court as the one Supreme Court,
- 22 which is not available.
- Now, Justice Scalia, those are features of
- 24 our national legal tradition, and those features existed
- 25 at the time of incorporation of the Tribes into the

- 1 United States. And my point is that Congress could not
- 2 have believed that, if State courts couldn't do these
- 3 things, that the tribal courts would be superior.
- Now, Justice Breyer, you said, well, what's
- 5 wrong? Two things. I want to say that there are some
- 6 things wrong even in the context of a tribe like this
- 7 one.
- For example, we have a Federal claim against
- 9 the due process -- a due process claim against the
- 10 putative damage award in -- that's asked for in this
- 11 case, and that would be entirely unreviewable in this
- 12 case.
- Now, you contemplate the prospect that we
- 14 would collaterally attack the judgment. A few things
- 15 about that.
- The first is, if that's going to be serious,
- 17 if we are really going to have a serious regime of
- 18 collateral attacks where you would just assess whether
- 19 or not the tribal court ruling is consistent with due
- 20 process. That is hardly treating the tribal courts as
- 21 sovereigns. Imagine a Federal district court ruling
- 22 could be overturned by a circuit court in Mississippi.
- 23 We wouldn't say that that was an actual sovereign
- 24 ruling.
- 25 And the second is that that review system is

- 1 extremely rare. The Respondents identify a single case,
- 2 one Ninth Circuit case in which a tribal ruling was
- 3 overturned.
- What the Federal courts have done is afford
- 5 enormous respect and only overturned rulings of tribal
- 6 courts or foreign courts that are way out of bounds. My
- 7 point is that the rule that's contemplated by the
- 8 Constitution is not one of being way out of bounds, it
- 9 is simply that we have a right to due process; that this
- 10 Court will be the Supreme Court, that the Constitution
- 11 is the supreme law of the land. And when that is not
- 12 true in the courts that we are talking about, even the
- 13 best-managed, most modern courts, when those rules
- 14 simply don't apply, that is not consistent --
- 15 JUSTICE GINSBURG: But doesn't the Indian
- 16 Civil Rights Act -- I mean, it's not the Bill of Rights,
- 17 but Indian Civil Rights Act is pretty close.
- 18 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, Justice Ginsburg, the
- 19 rule of the Constitution is not "close is good enough,"
- 20 but I will say that I think the Indian Civil Rights Act
- 21 is a point in our favor. Because when you talk about
- 22 the regulatory matters discussed in the first Montana
- 23 exception like taxation and licensing, those are things
- 24 that Congress has left to the Tribes. But the Indian
- 25 Civil Rights Act, like Public Law 280, like the Courts

- of Indian Offenses, like the Indian deprivation system
- 2 shows that the United States has actually been deeply
- 3 involved in the tribal judiciary. It has not treated
- 4 tribal adjudication of civil claims as something that
- 5 belongs to the Tribes. It's quite different.
- 6 The United States obviously did not regard
- 7 the Tribes' judiciary as something that is purely a part
- 8 of their government, because time and again, it has
- 9 micromanaged them.
- 10 And, Justice Breyer, I do want to point out
- 11 another example of that, and that is the Violence
- 12 Against Women Act. There, we see the right way of doing
- 13 this, and that Congress has developed systems that say
- 14 if this tribal judiciary is a good one which affords due
- 15 process, then it has jurisdiction over cases.
- 16 And we think that's the right approach here.
- 17 Congress has the institutional capacity to develop rules
- 18 like the one you were talking about. It's a much
- 19 more --
- 20 JUSTICE BREYER: You can do it both ways.
- 21 And there are books, some of which I have at least
- 22 looked through, and certainly articles that suggest that
- 23 the tribal courts function perfectly well, certainly in
- 24 many places.
- Now, I take it your argument is that there

- 1 are some places they don't function well, and in respect
- 2 to matters that are not matters of Federal law, there
- 3 won't be review from those courts unless you
- 4 collaterally attack them. Is that your point?
- 5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Breyer, as I
- 6 mentioned, we have real concerns, even with respect to a
- 7 system like this one. For just an example --
- 8 JUSTICE BREYER: I just want to know, have I
- 9 got your point right?
- 10 MR. GOLDSTEIN: No, I -- our point is
- 11 broader. You had suggested, Justice Breyer, that I was
- 12 concerned about another set of tribal judiciaries. I
- just don't want to lose sight of the fact that there are
- 14 concerns, even when you have the most modern tribal
- 15 judiciary.
- 16 An example is that the -- we are a
- 17 noncitizen, a nonmember of the Tribe, and the tribal
- jury may be composed only of members of the Tribe, and
- 19 there's no inherent rule that stops the jury members
- 20 from being people who know the plaintiff.
- Now with respect to other judiciaries, it is
- 22 the case that we do recognize, and the United States has
- 23 recognized, a wide swath of tribes that use more
- 24 traditional dispute-resolution mechanisms that also
- 25 deserve respect because that's the tribal tradition.

- 1 But it is not the tradition of due process.
- 2 And the question you've got to figure --
- 3 JUSTICE BREYER: The nontribal member goes
- 4 to the tribal land and signs an agreement that says
- 5 tribal law would apply, and then commits a tort on the
- 6 tribal lands, and even under those circumstances, and
- 7 even if the court is functioning well, the tribal court
- 8 cannot take jurisdiction over his claim. That's your
- 9 position. And then to that I say, if I haven't got it
- 10 already, why not?
- 11 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Justice Breyer, I do
- 12 think your hypothetical of a contract is a really good
- one for us, because we do believe that the Respondents
- 14 are most concerned, and their best facts are a business
- 15 like this one, to be honest, that's operating on tribal
- 16 land, in the Reservation on an ongoing basis, and they
- 17 say, look, you have to have anticipated the
- 18 applicability of tribal tort law. We disagree, but we
- 19 understand the argument.
- 20 My point is that in these circumstances,
- 21 what the Tribes do is, as a condition of operating on
- 22 the Reservation, they call for not just what you
- 23 describe, which is the application of tribal law, but a
- 24 consent to the forum. And remember, in this case, there
- 25 is a consent to the forum, but the -- which the Tribe

- 1 wrote, but they limited it to disputes arising from the
- 2 lease.
- 3 So we say, going forward, we have two
- 4 solutions. One I've described: That's the prospect of
- 5 congressional action. You say it could work the other
- 6 way, and I'll come back to that.
- But the second is just the contract.
- 8 Obviously, in the cases that they are concerned about,
- 9 what the tribe can do and will do is require as a
- 10 condition of coming onto the Reservation that you
- 11 accede, knowingly and actually, to the jurisdiction of
- 12 the tribal courts, and --
- JUSTICE KAGAN: Well, Mr. Goldstein, you
- 14 could have done that, too. The contract can go either
- 15 way. The question is what's the default rule when the
- 16 contract doesn't say anything.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Actually, it wouldn't work
- 18 the other way, Justice Kagan, with all due respect.
- 19 Remember, this is a private tort suit by a member of the
- 20 Tribe.
- JUSTICE KAGAN: No, but remember, this is --
- 22 there's -- this is an exception for consent. The -- the
- 23 company would have -- the store would have an extremely
- 24 good argument that it didn't consent if it had signed a
- 25 contract with anybody, with the Tribe, not just with the

- 1 individual person. If it had signed a contract with the
- 2 Tribe, saying we insist on a State forum, they clearly
- 3 haven't consented.
- 4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, Justice Kagan, I just
- 5 don't understand how it is the case -- I disagree, let
- 6 me just explain why. I understand that you take the --
- 7 you have the opposite view.
- If a private person sues us, the fact that
- 9 we have a contract with that -- that individual State
- 10 government does not strip a State court of jurisdiction
- 11 over their private suit. So that's our view of it.
- 12 But --
- 13 JUSTICE KAGAN: Well, it does when the
- 14 Montana exception relies upon a consensual relationship.
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: But Justice Kagan, for the
- 16 other side to win, what they have -- their premise is
- 17 that the consensual relationship exists in simply the
- 18 activity with the individual tribal member, not the
- 19 contract. Remember, their point is that a contract is
- 20 irrelevant. So the consent would exist simply by
- 21 operating the business.
- 22 But in all events, it is the case that we
- 23 could insist on a contract; they can insist on a
- 24 contract. My point to Justice Breyer was simply that
- 25 the upshot of our position still leaves enormous room

- 1 for the exercise of tribal sovereignty. They do have
- 2 this power. Remember that the data before you from the
- 3 United States indicates that this is a very small
- 4 proportion of cases that the tribal courts adjudicate.
- 5 The data from this Tribe indicates that it's 1 percent
- 6 of cases.
- 7 JUSTICE KAGAN: All of these arguments, your
- 8 arguments -- let me figure out whether this is right.
- 9 Your arguments about it's -- it's a nonneutral forum,
- 10 it's an unfair forum, we don't know whether they have
- 11 the same procedures that -- that are commonly -- that
- 12 commonly exist in Federal and State courts. Those
- 13 arguments have nothing to do with tort claims versus
- 14 other claims; is that right?
- 15 MR. GOLDSTEIN: They do have a lot to do
- 16 with the fact that it's a private claim. Let me
- 17 distinguish, importantly, actions by the Tribe itself.
- And the analogy here is that when a State
- 19 sues a noncitizen, that is an act of the sovereign and
- 20 it is not removable, because what Montana is concerned
- 21 with, what this Court's precedents are concerned with,
- 22 is the exercise of sovereign authority in the pursuit of
- 23 self-governance.
- This is not a sovereign action. This is a
- 25 private suit between two individuals, and so it is

- 1 important that if the Tribe is exercising its sovereign
- 2 authority, bringing a civil enforcement action against
- 3 us, for example, that would have presented -- present a
- 4 very different question, because it would be
- 5 sovereighty. It has never been understood that --
- 6 JUSTICE GINSBURG: So if the Tribe brought
- 7 this suit, instead of the parents of the boy who was
- 8 molested, if -- if it -- then it would be okay?
- 9 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Well, we think that's an
- 10 impossibility. Remember that the other side's
- 11 explanation -- although there aren't any citations; it's
- 12 hard to know what the tort law is -- the other side's
- 13 explanation is that tort law of the Tribe tracks
- 14 Mississippi tort law, and there isn't a situation in
- 15 which the Tribe could bring such an action. And I think
- 16 if it was a parens patriae action, we would still regard
- 17 it as in the interest of the individual.
- 18 I'm thinking instead, Justice Ginsburg, of
- 19 take the follow-on to what Montana describes, that is, a
- 20 licensing regulation or a taxation regulation. We
- 21 believe that if the Tribe went into tribal court to
- 22 enforce those measures, that would be a sovereign action
- 23 and it would be susceptible of the Montana exception.
- The difference is when the Tribe is not a
- 25 party here. We don't deny that there is some sovereign

- 1 interest. Okay. There is some sovereign interest in
- 2 this adjudication.
- JUSTICE KAGAN: It's a bit of an odd
- 4 argument, isn't it, Mr. Goldstein, that there's less of
- 5 a sovereign interest in protecting your own citizens
- 6 than in enforcing your licensing laws?
- 7 MR. GOLDSTEIN: If that were our argument,
- 8 it would be an odd one. What we say is that you have a
- 9 very different regime. If you have a legal regime that
- 10 said here is a duty towards our noncitizen, our -- our
- 11 tribal members or just individuals on the Reservation,
- 12 and if you violate that, here are a set of fines, you
- 13 will be excluded from the Reservation, then that would
- 14 be an act of the sovereign.
- So our point isn't just it's the nature of
- 16 this -- you know, this is a very serious allegation that
- 17 we take very seriously about a minor child, a member of
- 18 the Tribe. I am not demeaning that in any way and
- 19 saying, well, that's less important than taxation or a
- 20 hunting license. Not at all.
- 21 My point is that you are being asked that at
- 22 the time the Tribes came into the United States, was a
- 23 private suit against a nonmember regarded as an
- 24 incidence of sovereignty, could the Congress of the
- 25 United States, when the States didn't have this

- 1 authority, when the Constitution didn't contemplate they
- 2 would, have really believed that the Tribes could?
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Your -- your brief
- 4 consistently, let me say, suggests --
- 5 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes.
- 6 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- that Congress could
- 7 authorize this jurisdiction.
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Yes.
- 9 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Could Congress pass a law
- 10 saying that all 500-plus Indian Tribes in the
- 11 United States have unlimited criminal authority, could
- 12 impose life sentences on nontribal members, American
- 13 citizens?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: We think not, and let me
- 15 explain the reason. That would be State action. You
- 16 know, the Federal government would be passing a law
- 17 essentially shunting the jurisdiction over an
- 18 individual's matter into another adjudicative system.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, why can they do --
- 20 if -- if there's a limit on that, why isn't is there a
- 21 limit on what Congress could do with reference to tort
- 22 law? Because you get unlimited power -- 500 tribes have
- 23 unlimited power to impose punitive damages for civil
- 24 torts if it happens within the boundaries of the
- 25 Reservation.

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1 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Kennedy, if I have
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- 2 suggested that Congress could do that, I apologize. It
- 3 wasn't my intention.
- 4 JUSTICE KENNEDY: My question is: What are
- 5 the limits?
- 6 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The limits are due process,
- 7 and that is that if you -- and the reason that due
- 8 process applies here is that the tribe of judgment --
- 9 we've switched to the civil context now in your newest
- 10 hypothetical.
- If the Tribe's judgment would presumably be
- 12 enforceable in the courts of the United States or of a
- 13 State, there would be State action then, and it would
- 14 violate the principle of due process.
- 15 It also --
- 16 JUSTICE KENNEDY: My -- my hypothetical is
- 17 that the Congress gives Indian powers -- Indian tribes
- 18 complete powers, both civil and criminal, over all
- 19 persons on tribal Reservations. No Federal review,
- 20 nothing.
- 21 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's unconstitutional
- 22 because Congress is subject to the Constitution. It
- 23 would violate the Supremacy Clause; it would violate
- 24 Article III, which contemplate -- sorry.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Then why -- why doesn't --

- 1 why don't you make that argument here? How -- how can
- 2 they -- how can they allow a tort suit?
- MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Kennedy, we agree
- 4 with you that there's --
- 5 JUSTICE KENNEDY: We could say --
- 6 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I'm sorry.
- 7 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- the Montana First
- 8 exception. We could say the Montana First exception
- 9 doesn't apply to this case.
- 10 MR. GOLDSTEIN: We do -- okay. Justice
- 11 Kennedy, we do make the argument you're describing. I
- 12 apologize. I misunderstood your point. It's my fault.
- We say that there is a significant
- 14 constitutional avoidance argument -- that's how we
- 15 describe it -- in concluding to -- for concluding that
- 16 Montana does not apply here because of the very serious
- 17 prospects that there would be a loss of property without
- 18 due process of laws because the tribes would have just
- 19 what you've described.
- This plaintiff has sued us for multiple
- 21 millions of dollars in punitive damages. We do not have
- 22 the guarantees provided by the Constitution, and we do
- 23 not have review in this Court.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, if the -- Congress
- 25 of the United States give the UN authority --

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1 MR. GOLDSTEIN: I agree.
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- 2 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- over our -- our
- 3 citizens --
- 4 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Or the Triple A.
- 5 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- just so long as it says
- 6 there has to be due process, they're not a
- 7 constitutional entity?
- 8 MR. GOLDSTEIN: That's the second point I
- 9 made, Justice Kennedy. We have the procedural due
- 10 process question, but also the Article III question, and
- 11 that is this is the Supreme Court of the land.
- 12 The Supremacy Clause says that the
- 13 Constitution will be the supreme law throughout the
- 14 land, and Congress could not take cases in the
- 15 United States and assign them to the UN or the Triple A
- 16 or anybody else. We absolutely agree with that.
- 17 JUSTICE GINSBURG: Well, what civil -- what
- 18 civil cases can be brought? What -- let's assume that
- 19 the incident occurs on the Reservation, and the
- 20 wrongdoer is not a member of the Tribe. What civil
- 21 claims can be brought against nonmembers in tribal
- 22 court?
- 23 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The following. The first is
- 24 -- and this case is an illustration of it -- those
- 25 claims that are subject to the contract that allow the

- 1 individual or the business to come on to the
- 2 Reservation. We acceded, quite expressly, to
- 3 jurisdiction over disputes arising from the lease.
- The second is when the Tribe itself, in the
- 5 exercise of its sovereign authority, brings the action,
- 6 so long as it's consistent with principles of due
- 7 process, we think that would be much more consistent
- 8 with Montana --
- 9 JUSTICE GINSBURG: For example? What would
- 10 fit into that category?
- 11 MR. GOLDSTEIN: The examples that I gave
- 12 before are that enforcing a taxation rule, enforcing a
- 13 licensing rule. Also importantly, the Tribe has the
- 14 self-help remedy of exclusion from the Reservation.
- If I could reserve the balance of my time.
- 16 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
- Mr. Katyal.
- 18 ORAL ARGUMENT OF NEAL K. KATYAL
- 19 ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENTS
- MR. KATYAL: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice,
- 21 and may it please the Court:
- The facts of this tragic case place it
- 23 squarely in the heartland of the sovereign tribal
- 24 jurisdiction that this Court has recognized for decades.
- 25 Dollar General set up shop on tribally-owned

- 1 land with a lease and license from a tribe and agreed to
- 2 participate in a tribal internship program. Then the --
- 3 then the Tribe placed a Choctaw child at the store and
- 4 paid his wages.
- 5 In the course of that consented-to
- 6 employment of that child, in that store, on that tribal
- 7 land, Dollar General's manager allegedly assaulted him.
- 8 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: You say this is in
- 9 the heartland? We have never before recognized Indian
- 10 court -- court jurisdiction over a nonmember, have we?
- MR. KATYAL: Well, I think that you haven't
- 12 applied the rule. But as Justice Ginsburg was saying,
- 13 this Court unanimously, in Strate, said that when tribes
- 14 possess authority to regulate activities of nonmembers,
- 15 civil jurisdiction over disputes --
- 16 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Right. Right. But
- 17 I guess I want to make sure I understand what's at issue
- 18 here.
- 19 There has never been a case in which a
- 20 nonmember has been haled into Indian tribal court for --
- 21 on the basis of tort, has there?
- MR. KATYAL: Well, I think that there have
- 23 been many cases, Your Honor. Four of them have come
- 24 before this Court in which they have been haled before.
- 25 So Strate is an example. Iowa Mutual is an example.

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1 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: And held -- held
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- 2 liable in tort?
- 3 MR. KATYAL: So this Court decided those
- 4 questions on antecedent grounds --
- 5 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I guess I don't know
- 6 that we need to -- there has never been a case where a
- 7 nonmember has been held liable in tort in an Indian --
- 8 Indian court.
- 9 MR. KATYAL: Mr. Chief Justice, that's
- 10 exactly right in terms of describing --
- 11 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I think it's a
- 12 little odd to say this is in the heartland of Indian
- 13 jurisdiction.
- MR. KATYAL: I don't think it's odd at all.
- 15 That's the rule that this Court laid down. That's the
- 16 language in Strate. And my friend, Mr. Goldstein's,
- 17 best argument on the other side is your language in --
- 18 this Court's language in --
- 19 JUSTICE SCALIA: That's dictum. Dictum is
- 20 dictum. Dictum doesn't make something a heartland.
- MR. KATYAL: Well, I think that --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Cases make it. Judgments
- 23 make it heartland.
- MR. KATYAL: Well, Justice -- Justice
- 25 Scalia, I think everything about this Court's precedents

- 1 in this area, which are all tort cases, lead to that
- 2 conclusion.
- Mr. Goldstein's best argument is Hicks. But
- 4 remember in Hicks, the Court went out of its way to say
- 5 that the claims in El Paso, which were very similar to
- 6 the claims here -- it was a nonmember business doing
- 7 business on tribal land. It was a tort lawsuit -- what
- 8 did this Court say, citing to footnote 4 of El Paso?
- 9 There is little doubt there was jurisdiction in that
- 10 case.
- 11 So yes, I understand that they are dicta,
- 12 but it is dicta of the most persuasive sort. It is the
- 13 unbroken rule of this Court, frankly, that in all of
- 14 these cases, this Court has said there is presumptively
- 15 jurisdiction.
- 16 And indeed, the exhaustion cases would make
- 17 no sense otherwise because twice this Court said, in
- 18 tort cases, in Iowa Mutual and National Farmers Union,
- 19 this Court said you've got to go to tribal court and
- 20 exhaust your remedies.
- 21 And Justice Scalia, if the rule in those
- 22 cases was, hey, tribal courts don't have jurisdiction,
- 23 they would have done what you did in your opinion in
- 24 Hicks, because at page 369 you said, quote, "Since it's
- 25 clear tribal courts lack jurisdiction over State

- 1 officials, adherence to the tribal exhaustion
- 2 requirement would serve no purpose."
- JUSTICE ALITO: Does your argument apply
- 4 whenever a nonmember enters into a commercial
- 5 transaction with a member?
- 6 MR. KATYAL: No, it doesn't apply --
- JUSTICE ALITO: On tribal land?
- 8 MR. KATYAL: Well, on tribal land we do
- 9 think -- we don't think you have to go as far as the
- 10 Solicitor General to say it's absolutely 100 percent
- 11 dispositive, but we do think this Court has recognized
- 12 in Merrion and El Paso that when you're on tribal lands,
- 13 the tribe's powers are at their zenith.
- JUSTICE ALITO: Well, I'm trying to
- 15 understand the limits of your -- of your argument.
- 16 So what would happen in this situation? A
- 17 tribe -- a member of the Tribe purchases a product
- 18 online from a nonmember company, and the product is
- 19 delivered to the Tribal member on tribal land. The
- 20 delivery person gets involved in a traffic accident or
- 21 some other dispute in the course of delivering the
- 22 product, and the product itself injures the person who
- 23 purchased it.
- So could the -- the person who got into --
- 25 who was in the accident with the delivery person sue in

- 1 tribal courts?
- 2 Could the person who -- the tribal member
- 3 who purchased the product bring a products liability
- 4 action against the manufacturer in tribal court?
- 5 MR. KATYAL: It depends a little bit more on
- 6 the facts. In general, what this Court has said is that
- 7 you need a consensual relationship with someone on the
- 8 Tribe -- on tribal land. And so, you know, to the
- 9 extent that that delivery service was operated by, you
- 10 know, by the nonmember and that they're actually doing
- 11 the delivery, absolutely. There's a nexus between the
- 12 delivery and the injury.
- Now, if it was some exotic tort, so for
- 14 example it's the delivery truck comes onto tribal land,
- and unbeknownst to them there's some unusual tradition
- 16 that says delivery trucks have to be painted, you know,
- 17 some other color or something like that that they don't
- 18 know about, I think this Court's decision in Plains
- 19 Commerce Bank says that's not what you're reasonably
- 20 anticipating.
- 21 So this is a very limited rule, really
- 22 tailored -- it's circumstances like this in which
- 23 every -- the law of every jurisdiction --
- JUSTICE ALITO: All right. What about the
- 25 -- what about the products liability action?

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                 MR. KATYAL: So again, if -- if a business
 2
     is sending -- intentionally, knowingly sending goods
 3
     onto tribal land, and those turn out to be defective,
 4
     then they're liable for that, for that tort. That is
 5
     something that's a reasonably -- reasonably to be
 6
     anticipated --
 7
                 JUSTICE KENNEDY: And that could be for
 8
    punitive damages, millions of dollars?
 9
                 MR. KATYAL: If -- if that's what they have
     consented to. So for --
10
11
                 JUSTICE KENNEDY: No. No. There's no
12
     consent. It's just what Justice Alito said, that they
13
     send their products to 50 different States --
14
                 MR. KATYAL: If -- if there's --
                 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- and all of the tribes.
15
16
                 MR. KATYAL: If -- if they do so knowingly,
17
     and there is that kind of long-term relationship, then
     yes, unless they themselves disclaim that -- and of
18
19
     course it's very easy --
20
                 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, number one, that's
    not explicit consent. We can get into that later.
21
22
                 MR. KATYAL: Well -- well, I --
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                 JUSTICE KENNEDY: But the --
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                 MR. KATYAL: -- I certainly --
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JUSTICE KENNEDY: There's no -- so punitive

- 1 damages, millions of dollars?
- 2 MR. KATYAL: Right, as long as they haven't
- 3 affirmatively disclaimed it. And I think that is,
- 4 Justice Kennedy, the proper rule.
- 5 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I don't know what
- 6 authority --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Again, what about limiting
- 8 --
- 9 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I'm sorry, Justice
- 10 Kennedy.
- 11 JUSTICE KENNEDY: I don't know what
- 12 authority Congress has to subject citizens of the
- 13 United States to that nonconstitutional forum.
- MR. KATYAL: It's exactly what this Court --
- 15 and Justice Kennedy joined this in Plains Commerce
- 16 Bank -- because what this Court said is that, yes, there
- 17 are these constitutional concerns that -- or that tribes
- 18 are -- you know, tribes are outside the constitutional
- 19 system and so on.
- 20 But when someone consents through their
- 21 words or their actions, not express consent, then that
- 22 takes it out of that circumstance.
- 23 And so Dollar General had a remedy available
- 24 to it right away. It -- it didn't have -- nobody forced
- 25 Dollar General to show up on the tribal lands. Nobody

- 1 forced Dollar General to sell to these customers.
- 2 Nobody forced Dollar General to have this Youth
- 3 Opportunity Program. And yes, like every employer in
- 4 this country, Justice Kennedy, when you do those things,
- 5 you open yourselves up to the reasonable liability that
- 6 follows. This --
- 7 JUSTICE ALITO: Well, let me give you
- 8 another -- another hypothetical: Somebody goes to an
- 9 Indian casino and loses a lot of money, and then when
- 10 the person goes home, the person goes online and says
- 11 that, they -- they cheated me. The game was rigged.
- 12 The -- the Blackjack dealer was doing something. And
- 13 they -- and so then the -- the Tribe -- could the
- 14 Tribe sue that person for defamation in tribal court?
- MR. KATYAL: Well, I think -- I -- I think
- 16 that that's not something that would be permissible
- 17 under this Court's Atkinson Trading nexus test. I think
- 18 it's got to be something that's got to be reasonably
- 19 anticipated, and I'm not really sure that that kind of
- 20 thing is.
- 21 All we're saying here is that this is a
- 22 circumstance in which, as the Solicitor General's brief
- 23 at Page 32 says, the law of every jurisdiction treats
- 24 this kind of thing as something that is a reasonably
- 25 anticipatory thing when someone's running a shop --

- 1 someone's running a store and having a Youth Opportunity
- 2 Program.
- 3 Yes, there --
- 4 JUSTICE GINSBURG: And so how do you deal
- 5 with -- I think it is a stronger point on the other
- 6 side, is the absence of removal, and --
- 7 MR. KATYAL: Yes. That -- that I do
- 8 think is something that -- you know, that my friend on
- 9 the other side has said. But of course, as you were
- 10 saying, Justice Ginsburg, removal is not
- 11 constitutionally compelled. So it would require a
- 12 statute.
- 13 Here the removal statute requires diversity,
- 14 full diversity between the parties, and \$75,000 is the
- 15 limit. And I don't think that we would say anything
- 16 that doesn't fall within that is somehow not an incident
- 17 of sovereignty.
- And I also would point to this Court's
- 19 language in Iowa Mutual about the diversity statute,
- 20 because what this Court said with respect to the
- 21 diversity statute is, you know, it does require a
- 22 statute.
- 23 That statute doesn't really tell us
- 24 anything, one way or the other, about tribal
- 25 jurisdiction. And what this Court went on to say is

- 1 that civil tribal tort jurisdiction is an incident to
- 2 sovereignty. It's Williams v. Lee. It's about the
- 3 right of the people to govern themselves.
- And, you know, to treat this,
- 5 Justice Kennedy, like express consent is to treat a
- 6 tribe the way you're treating the American Arbitration
- 7 Association or JAMS, and that has never been what this
- 8 Court has said. When you're dealing with the Montana I
- 9 exception, which is a limited exception, it requires
- 10 really -- you know, it requires a true relationship, an
- 11 open and honest consent of the kind that existed here,
- in which they knew they were coming onto tribal lands
- 13 and subjecting themselves to tribal law.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Do --
- 15 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Why was the
- 16 contractual provision acquiescence in the application of
- 17 tribal law limited in the way that it was if they were,
- 18 in fact, subjecting themselves to tribal jurisdiction
- 19 across the board?
- 20 MR. KATYAL: I -- I -- I don't think it was
- 21 limited at all. This is the language at Joint Appendix
- 22 page 45: "This agreement and any related documents
- 23 shall be construed" -- excuse me -- "Dollar General
- 24 shall comply with all codes and requirements of all
- 25 Tribal and Federal Laws and regulations now enforced or

- 1 which may hereafter be enforced which are applicable and
- 2 pertain to Dollar General's specific use of the demised
- 3 premises."
- 4 That is not limited language.
- 5 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Is there any reason
- 6 that the issue that we're arguing about couldn't be
- 7 dealt with through particular contractual provisions, as
- 8 they are in some cases where you either suggest
- 9 yourselves to the jurisdiction of the tribal court or
- 10 not?
- 11 MR. KATYAL: Sure. I think that they could,
- 12 on -- on either side. I think that's -- that's
- 13 possible. But I think what this Court has said, time
- 14 and again, is that that is not necessary.
- 15 Your language, Mr. Chief Justice, in Plains
- 16 Commerce Bank, is that you can consent by your words or
- 17 your actions. This Court's earlier language in the
- 18 path-marking Montana case is not that it requires
- 19 express consent, but rather through commercial dealing,
- 20 contracts, leases or other arrangements.
- 21 For you to go further than that and adopt my
- 22 friend's argument is to radically depart from that
- 23 path-marking decision, and change the rules and put
- 24 tribes on no greater a footing than the American
- 25 Arbitration Association.

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1 JUSTICE BREYER: So what -- what would -- do
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- 2 we have to reach in this case the question of products,
- 3 liability for products sent into the tribal area?
- I would have thought you could say this does
- 5 not involve that, if you're willing to read -- and I
- 6 don't know if you are -- nonmembers who enter into this
- 7 kind of explicit consensual relationship growing out
- 8 of -- in relation to a contract to which relationship
- 9 the tort is directly related.
- MR. KATYAL: Exactly.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Now, is there any -- and --
- 12 and what is the word in Cherokee? I forget. It's
- 13 "something dependent nation." What kind of -- it was --
- 14 there are two words --
- MR. KATYAL: Domestic dependent --
- 16 JUSTICE BREYER: What?
- MR. KATYAL: Domestic dependent nation?
- JUSTICE BREYER: Domestic? All right.
- 19 So if, in fact, Tasmania had this kind of
- 20 situation, and an American went to Tasmania and got a
- 21 reasonable judgment, I take it our courts would enforce
- 22 that.
- MR. KATYAL: Correct.
- JUSTICE BREYER: And, of course you're going
- 25 to agree with this, but if I -- but if I -- if I want --

- 1 if I wanted -- I wanted the limitation, and I wanted to
- 2 know if you wanted me to read one thing that you have
- 3 cited in respect to what is only impressionistic, that
- 4 the vast number of tribal courts are indistinguishable
- 5 in terms of fairness, et cetera, from the courts of --
- 6 other courts in the United States, what would I read?
- 7 MR. KATYAL: Well, I -- I -- I think, you
- 8 know, we've cited to, you know, some large --
- 9 JUSTICE BREYER: Which of those do you want
- 10 me to read?
- 11 MR. KATYAL: Well, I -- I think that maybe
- 12 Justice O'Connor's article is a good place to start.
- 13 And so I -- I think what I would say there,
- 14 Justice Breyer, is that fairness concerns have never
- 15 been relevant to the jurisdictional inquiry. I think
- 16 that's what this Court's decision in Iowa -- Iowa Mutual
- 17 said.
- 18 With respect to your product-liability
- 19 hypothetical, we think there are four limits on the rule
- 20 we have, which is why -- you know, look, this has been
- 21 going on for a long time, tribal court jurisdiction.
- 22 Congress hasn't seen fit to modify it, you know, if they
- 23 were concerned about the concerns Justice Kennedy had.
- And the reason is because this is a limited
- 25 thing. It requires a very tight nexus -- that's, you

- 1 know, this Court's decisions in Plains Commerce Bank and
- 2 Atkinson's Trading. It requires knowledge. It's got to
- 3 be -- you got to know what you're doing. You can't just
- 4 wander on to the Reservation the way the Oklahoma --
- 5 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: If we're -- if we're
- 6 going to evaluate the due process concerns on a
- 7 case-by-case basis, as a general matter, it -- does it
- 8 violate due process for a nonmember to be subjected to a
- 9 jury verdict where the jury consists solely of tribal
- 10 members?
- 11 MR. KATYAL: Well -- well, first of all, you
- 12 know, that's not necessarily what's going on here.
- 13 There's no jury trial in this case. But --
- 14 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I understand that.
- 15 But it's kind of a yes-or-no question. Does it -- does
- 16 it violate due process as a general matter for a
- 17 nonmember to be subjected to a jury trial with the jury
- 18 composed solely of members of the Tribe?
- 19 MR. KATYAL: I -- I could see it violating
- 20 ICRA. It wouldn't violate, formally, the Constitution.
- 21 It would violate, you know, the due -- it arguably could
- 22 violate the Due Process Clauses incorporated into ICRA.
- 23 That would be something --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: That's because tribes are
- 25 not governed by the Due Process Clause.

- MR. KATYAL: Yes. But they are governed --
- 2 JUSTICE KENNEDY: They're nonconstitutional
- 3 entities.
- 4 MR. KATYAL: Correct. But Congress has
- 5 brought the Due Process Clause to tribes in the form of
- 6 ICRA. And of course, Justice Kennedy, if they were more
- 7 concerned and said, look, we don't even like the way,
- 8 tribes, you're interpreting ICRA or something like that,
- 9 tribal courts, they could go further. They could do
- 10 all --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: I guess they could --
- 12 MR. KATYAL: They could ban those juries.
- 13 They have plenary jurisdiction in this area. That's why
- 14 the ball game is in Congress's court, Congress's shoes.
- 15 It's not in this Court's.
- 16 JUSTICE BREYER: I -- is it right? I'm
- 17 thinking that there are \$50,000 at stake in many cases.
- 18 And many citizens of New York who want to feel -- sue
- 19 citizens of Massachusetts, do have to go before juries
- 20 to obtain the \$50,000 in a Massachusetts court. And
- 21 suppose the plaintiff is a Yankee fan?
- 22 (Laughter.)
- 23 MR. KATYAL: That's -- that's absolutely
- 24 right. And -- and -- that's absolutely right, and I --
- 25 and so in -- in that sort of --

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1 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So you think that --
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- 2 you think the concerns are on the same level: Forcing
- 3 somebody in a State court to be subjected -- a
- 4 New Yorker to be subject to jurisdiction where
- 5 everyone's from Massachusetts because it's Massachusetts
- 6 court. You think that's the same as subjecting a
- 7 nonmember accused of a terrible assault on an Indian to
- 8 jurisdiction before a jury consisting solely of members
- 9 of the Tribe.
- 10 MR. KATYAL: I don't think it's the same,
- 11 Mr. Chief Justice, but I think there are two things
- 12 which make them similar. One is that they themselves,
- 13 that nonmember, is consenting to that by going to --
- 14 like the store here, setting up shop and running the
- 15 Tribal Opportunities Program and serving its members.
- 16 And number two, the big difference is that
- 17 Congress has full control over there. If they are
- 18 concerned about all tribal member juries or something
- 19 like that, they can regulate those.
- 20 Civil jurisdiction and tribal courts have
- 21 been going on for decades, and we haven't seen Congress
- 22 doing that. And indeed much -- and very interesting
- 23 here, you've got the sovereigns of every relevant
- 24 entities, you've got the United States, as well as the
- 25 State of Mississippi itself, saying we're not concerned

- 1 about those things. Actually, this is an incident of --
- 2 JUSTICE KENNEDY: The Constitution runs to
- 3 the people. The people have a right to insist on the
- 4 Constitution even if Mississippi or the Federal
- 5 government doesn't care.
- 6 MR. KATYAL: I completely agree with that,
- 7 Justice Kennedy. My only point is to say that, here,
- 8 Dollar General has themselves, by opening -- they --
- 9 they have the keys to avoiding this by not showing up at
- 10 the Reservation --
- 11 JUSTICE KENNEDY: This -- this gets into
- 12 implied consent, express consent, you know, all the
- 13 hypotheticals. You consent to have your luggage
- 14 searched, you go through this, I don't consent, I don't
- 15 consent -- it's implied. Everybody knows that.
- 16 But this is -- this is quite -- it seems to
- 17 me that the first exception in Montana is quite
- 18 different. It talks about contracts, and the Tribe
- 19 could certainly have put this in a contract if they
- 20 wanted just like an arbitration clause.
- MR. KATYAL: Well, Justice Kennedy, we do
- 22 think -- the argument doesn't depend on it, but we do
- 23 think that they did put it in the contract. That's the
- 24 language that I was just reading to the Chief Justice.
- 25 But just to be clear, the language of

- 1 Montana I is broader than what you're saying it is,
- 2 again, through commercial dealing, contracts, leases or
- 3 other arrangements. And my friend, Mr. Goldstein,
- 4 clever as he may be, doesn't have an argument that this
- 5 isn't commercial dealing. This is -- this is, you know,
- 6 as good as -- this is the heart -- as I was saying, this
- 7 is the heartland of what Montana I is about. This is a
- 8 circumstance in which a tribe is entering into a long --
- 9 store is entering into a long-term relationship. And
- 10 any business in America doing this, whether they -- they
- 11 set up shop in France or in the city of San Francisco,
- 12 knows they're opening themselves up to a -- to the local
- 13 regulation that may follow.
- JUSTICE ALITO: If there were a forum
- 15 selection clause in this contract selecting State court,
- 16 would that bind Tribe member -- members?
- 17 MR. KATYAL: I do think it would.
- 18 JUSTICE ALITO: If so, on what theory?
- 19 MR. KATYAL: I think that the Tribe itself
- 20 has the ability to, just as they can decide to use the
- 21 American Arbitration Association or whatever, they can
- 22 buy into some other area of law. I don't think that my
- 23 friend, Mr. Goldstein, is disagreeing. He said
- 24 sometimes it's hard to do, in response to Justice Kagan.
- 25 I don't think it's hard to do at all because the whole

- 1 question is are you reasonably anticipating a certain
- 2 amount of jurisdiction, and you are.
- 3 And of course there's other solutions.
- 4 Indemnity provisions; if you're worried about the due
- 5 process -- lack of due process, you can have indemnity
- 6 arrangements, as many leases do, including Dollar
- 7 General's current lease. There's lots of different ways
- 8 to deal with this concern about, you know, lack of
- 9 constitutional concerns.
- 10 But this Court --
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: Mr. Katyal, so why would
- 12 these plaintiffs want to bring the case in tribal court
- 13 where they can get, in your argument, they can get
- 14 Dollar General but they can't get Townsend? If they
- 15 sued in State court, they could sue both defendants.
- 16 MR. KATYAL: Mm-hmm. So because going after
- 17 Dollar General effectively does provide them all the
- 18 remedy they need, that's why they never appealed that
- 19 piece -- piece of it.
- 20 And, you know, and the other thing is this
- 21 is really important as a matter of tribal sovereignty
- 22 that is -- Williams v. Lee says it's about the right of
- 23 the people to govern themselves. The Domestic Violence
- 24 brief gives other reasons why in general people want to
- 25 bring suits in tribal courts because it's a more

- 1 familiar process and one closer, geographically, to
- 2 them. Many times State courthouses are hours and hours
- 3 away. So that's -- that's another reason.
- 4 But the bottom line here is this Court said
- 5 in Williams v. Lee this is about the right of the people
- 6 to govern themselves. I appreciate the constitutional
- 7 concerns, but Plains Commerce Bank baked those into its
- 8 consent rule. It said yes, there are those
- 9 constitutional concerns. They would apply to some
- 10 wandering entity or something like that, but not to
- 11 someone who consents either through their words or their
- 12 actions.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Just so you know, it
- 14 seemed to me a reading of the first Montana exception,
- 15 which is what we're talking about here, talking about
- 16 taxation, licensing, then it talks about consensual
- 17 relationships and we have this whole question: Is it
- 18 explicit or is it implied?
- 19 And then it talks about commercial dealing
- 20 contracts, leases, or other arrangements. That doesn't
- 21 sound like torts to me. And it seems to me that since
- there's a Reservation in mind, you might you want to
- 23 address it.
- MR. KATYAL: Sure. So I think this Court in
- 25 Regal already said that torts are a form of regulation.

- 1 I think there's no reason to think of torts any
- 2 differently because they -- they impact bodies' behavior
- 3 and precedent, stare decisis. You've said this many
- 4 times in the cases I've mentioned.
- 5 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
- 6 Mr. Kneedler.
- 7 ORAL ARGUMENT OF EDWIN S. KNEEDLER
- FOR UNITED STATES, AS AMICUS CURIAE,
- 9 SUPPORTING THE RESPONDENTS
- 10 MR. KNEEDLER: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
- 11 please the Court:
- 12 I'd like at the outset to respond to the
- 13 argument that tribal court jurisdiction over tort claims
- 14 is somehow inconsistent with the superior sovereignty of
- 15 the United States.
- 16 That argument was flatly rejected, I think,
- 17 in both National Farmers Union and Iowa Mutual where
- 18 this Court was asked to apply the rule of Oliphant to
- 19 civil jurisdiction. And this Court, in an unanimous
- 20 decision joined by Justice Rehnquist, who was the author
- 21 of Oliphant, said that those principles do not apply to
- 22 civil jurisdiction. Iowa Mutual and National Farmers
- 23 Union enforced the rule of exhaustion on that premise.
- Then, importantly, not too long after that,
- 25 Congress undertook a thorough review of tribal courts in

- 1 connection with the passage in 1993, as we explain in
- 2 our brief, of the Tribal Justice Improvements Act --
- 3 Tribal Justice Act. It held hearings, and in that -- in
- 4 that statute, Congress made two specific findings:
- 5 Tribal justice systems are an essential part of tribal
- 6 government and serve important forums for ensuring
- 7 public health and safety and political integrity of the
- 8 Tribe, and Congress in Federal courts --
- 9 JUSTICE SCALIA: Nobody denies that here.
- MR. KNEEDLER: Well, no, but if I could --
- 11 JUSTICE SCALIA: It is essential for -- for
- 12 disputes between tribal members.
- 13 MR. KNEEDLER: If I could finish, what
- 14 Congress's -- Congress's judgment, the next finding,
- 15 Congress and Federal courts have repeatedly recognized
- 16 tribal justice systems as the appropriate forums for the
- 17 adjudication of disputes affecting personal and property
- 18 rights.
- 19 The committee reports on that statute made
- 20 clear that they -- that those provisions were enacted in
- 21 light of Iowa Mutual and National Farmers Union, and in
- 22 fact, one of the -- one of the committee reports says
- 23 that that second provision was added in recognition of
- 24 the jurisdiction that tribal courts have over
- 25 non-Indian --

- 1 JUSTICE SCALIA: If it said personal and
- 2 property rights of non-Tribal members.
- 3 MR. KNEEDLER: Well --
- 4 JUSTICE SCALIA: Or against non-Tribal
- 5 members. It makes no reference to that at all.
- 6 MR. KNEEDLER: No. The -- what I'm saying,
- 7 it was enacted in the wake of National Farmers Union and
- 8 Iowa Mutual, which both concerned tort claims against
- 9 non-Indians. And the legislative history makes clear
- 10 that Congress was implementing that, and it provided
- 11 funding for tribal courts.
- 12 Another point --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Do you think everybody who
- 14 voted for that statute was aware of that, right?
- MR. KNEEDLER: There were --
- 16 JUSTICE SCALIA: They were aware of those
- 17 cases, I'm sure. Everybody who voted for that
- 18 language --
- 19 MR. KNEEDLER: I -- I --
- 20 JUSTICE SCALIA: -- were aware that it -- it
- 21 stemmed from those cases because that's what the
- 22 committee report says.
- 23 MR. KNEEDLER: This -- this was a statute
- 24 against the backdrop of two decisions of this Court
- 25 saying that the rule of Oliphant does not apply to civil

- 1 jurisdiction over non-Indians in tort cases
- 2 specifically.
- 3 And importantly also, in Iowa Mutual the
- 4 argument was made about, specifically in connection with
- 5 the diversity point, which Mr. Katyal has responded to,
- 6 but the argument that the policies of the deferred city
- 7 statute, such as concerns about perhaps competence of
- 8 tribal courts or bias, that they should at least inform
- 9 the analysis. And the Court said that would be
- 10 inconsistent -- and this is before the 1993 statute --
- 11 that would be inconsistent with Congress's judgment
- 12 about encouraging tribal courts as an important
- 13 expression of tribal sovereignty.
- 14 And then Congress comes along and provides
- 15 funding and training, statutes that -- that provide for
- 16 training of tribal judges, money to support the payment
- 17 of tribal judges and to support tribes in publication of
- 18 their tribal codes. Congress thoroughly examined this
- 19 and then again in the year 2000 enacted a statute with a
- 20 similar finding.
- So what we have here is not congressional
- 22 silence but congressional approval of that, here in
- 23 particular.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Mr. Kneedler, I don't
- 25 know that you've answered -- I'm going to assume

- 1 everything you said and accept it. I think it was very
- 2 clear from the committee report here, every word you've
- 3 said, and some of us do believe that since a bill is
- 4 sent with the committee report and Congress is voting on
- 5 both, if a member hasn't read it, they've abused their
- 6 official responsibility.
- 7 JUSTICE SCALIA: Does Congress vote on the
- 8 committee report, Mr. Kneedler?
- 9 MR. KNEEDLER: Sometimes.
- 10 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Sometimes.
- MR. KNEEDLER: It does not.
- 12 JUSTICE SCALIA: It does not, not normally.
- 13 JUSTICE BREYER: If they vote on the
- 14 committee report in any instance where there is a
- 15 reconciliation between the two houses because it comes
- 16 back in the form a vote, do you accept the report of the
- 17 joint committee.
- 18 JUSTICE SCALIA: Which was not here.
- 19 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Yeah, did they vote
- 20 on the bill -- on the committee reports here?
- MR. KNEEDLER: My -- my point is that this
- 22 was a --
- 23 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I'm sorry about your
- 24 point.
- 25 Did they vote on the committee reports --

- 1 MR. KNEEDLER: No, they did not vote.
- JUSTICE BREYER: If we're getting into this,
- 3 I'm sort of interested because I bet it could be true
- 4 that the president of IBM, for example, does not himself
- 5 read everything that the entire million-man staff or
- 6 million-person staff at the -- at IBM in fact prepares
- 7 for the public. So if you want to answer questions like
- 8 that, go ahead, but if you don't want to answer them,
- 9 forget it.
- 10 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: So --
- 11 JUSTICE SCALIA: He's an executive, isn't
- 12 he? Isn't the chairman of IBM an executive? And
- 13 executives can delegate authority. They -- they can
- 14 tell a committee to -- to do it in his name --
- MR. KNEEDLER: I didn't --
- 16 JUSTICE SCALIA: -- what this Court alleges,
- 17 but it cannot do that, can it?
- 18 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: I -- I think Justice
- 19 Sotomayor had a question on the floor.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: We've gotten off on a
- 21 side trip.
- 22 Mr. Kneedler, some of my colleagues have
- 23 been expressing a question that I am sure you haven't
- 24 answered, which is how can, or how does the
- 25 Constitution, particularly Article III, which gives

- 1 every citizen the right to have their claims adjudicated
- 2 before an Article III Court, how does Congress have the
- 3 power to let -- to place adjudicatory powers over a
- 4 nonmember, non-Tribe member in a tribal court?
- 5 MR. KNEEDLER: Congress -- the answer is
- 6 Congress has not placed it as part of the inherent
- 7 sovereignty of a -- of a tribe that -- that predates the
- 8 Constitution as -- and was not displaced, as this Court
- 9 made quite clear in the National Farmers Union decision,
- 10 unlike in criminal cases where, from the start, from
- 11 1790 -- and this was an important part of the Court's
- 12 analysis -- in -- in Oliphant.
- 13 From the very beginning, Congress placed
- 14 criminal jurisdiction over crimes by non-Indians against
- 15 Indians in Federal courts in order to assure that they
- 16 would have the full protection of the Due Process Clause
- in courts. Congress has never done that with respect to
- 18 civil jurisdiction.
- 19 JUSTICE GINSBURG: And it's not right that
- 20 everybody has the -- the right to an Article III
- 21 tribunal.
- 22 MR. KNEEDLER: No. That was going to be --
- 23 that was going to be my second point. State courts over
- 24 issues of State law does not have the authority -- or do
- 25 not have the ability to go to Federal court. And -- and

- 1 the same thing with respect to tribal law.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: No, but out-of-Staters do,
- 3 at least where there's an adequate amount in
- 4 controversy, right?
- 5 MR. KNEEDLER: Right. The Constitution does
- 6 not require that. It provides for it, but does not
- 7 provide -- does not require it. There's an
- 8 amount-in-controversy requirement, and also a
- 9 complete-diversity requirement.
- 10 And if Dollar General was a Mississippi
- 11 corporation, there would be no -- no ability to remove
- 12 it.
- 13 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Is it consistent
- 14 with your concept of due process, as a general matter,
- 15 to have a nonmember tried by a jury consisting solely of
- 16 tribal members?
- 17 MR. KNEEDLER: I -- I think there's a very
- 18 strong argument that it is because the -- the tribal
- 19 members are the citizens of the jurisdiction whose
- 20 courts are being held. Just like when someone goes from
- 21 Alabama to Mississippi, they may be tried before a jury
- 22 of Mississippians who are not -- of which that plaintiff
- 23 is not a member. But if there is a problem with that,
- 24 that is why the Indian Civil Rights Act is there. If
- 25 that is a due process problem, that is something that

- 1 can be raised.
- 2 And Justice Kennedy, in response to your
- 3 concern, Congress has fulfilled its obligation with
- 4 respect to the jurisdiction of tribal courts over
- 5 nonmembers by the Indian Civil Rights Act to assure that
- 6 the protections that are equivalent to the Due Process
- 7 Clause are -- are afforded people.
- 8 There may be -- may be some --
- 9 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Do the same thing with the
- 10 American Arbitration Association?
- 11 MR. KNEEDLER: No, it could not. The Tribes
- 12 have inherent sovereignty; the American Arbitration
- 13 Association does not.
- 14 The last thing I wanted to point out is --
- 15 JUSTICE KENNEDY: But -- but I do think, on
- 16 your earlier point, there -- there was not a general
- 17 practice before, say, 1900 at least, of trying nontribal
- 18 members before Indian civil tribal courts.
- MR. KNEEDLER: The courts --
- 20 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Or -- or is that
- 21 incorrect?
- 22 MR. KNEEDLER: But -- but -- no. There was
- 23 some with the five tribes in Oklahoma. The Tribes did
- 24 not have developed judicial systems, but that does not
- 25 mean that they weren't resolving disputes in some

- 1 manner, however it may be. They have now given
- 2 expression to dispute resolution through tribal court
- 3 systems, for which they should be commended, I think,
- 4 not -- not undermined.
- 5 And again, the Court made that point in Iowa
- 6 Mutual, recognizing that tribes did not have courts at
- 7 the time, but that did not deprive them of jurisdiction
- 8 today.
- 9 And with respect to the consensual
- 10 relationship, I point out on page 372 of this Court's
- 11 decision in -- in Nevada v. Hicks discussing the Montana
- 12 case, it was referring to private individuals who
- 13 voluntarily submitted themselves to tribal regulatory
- 14 jurisdiction by -- by arrangements that they or their
- 15 employers entered into. That precisely describes the
- 16 situation where you have consent hewn. You have a
- 17 business operating on the Reservation pursuant to tribal
- 18 license, a tribal lease agreement, and this particular
- 19 child was working there because of a consensual
- 20 agreement.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: And so I could say that
- 22 person was subject to tribal regulatory jurisdiction,
- 23 which can be interpreted, narrowly, to mean the Tribe
- 24 can regulate that person's conduct. If he violates that
- 25 conduct, the Tribe, as a tribe, can fine him. It

- 1 doesn't necessarily mean that the regulatory
- 2 jurisdiction includes the -- the power to impose tort
- 3 law and adjudicate tort law.
- 4 MR. KNEEDLER: May I answer?
- 5 This Court has often said that tort law is a
- 6 form of regulation, and again, that Iowa Mutual and
- 7 those cases are premised on the idea that tribal tort
- 8 law governs. And this Court's observation in Nevada v.
- 9 Hicks about El Paso, that the Navajo tribal law tort
- 10 claims, the tribal court -- there was little doubt that
- 11 the tribal court had jurisdiction over those claims.
- 12 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
- Mr. Goldstein, five minutes remaining.
- 14 REBUTTAL ARGUMENT OF THOMAS C. GOLDSTEIN
- 15 ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONERS
- 16 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Thank you. I have three
- 17 points, and they all happen to relate to questions by
- 18 Justice Scalia.
- The first deals with the question of whether
- 20 tribal tort law, the last point by my friend, is a form
- 21 of regulation. And we have cases like Regal, we have
- 22 the preemption context in which the Court has said
- 23 something like that. But the big difference is that
- 24 that is about the substance of the tort law, not the
- 25 forum where it occurs.

- 1 Imagine a case like Regal. We would say
- 2 that the application of State tort law was a form of
- 3 regulation. But if that was heard in a Federal district
- 4 court, on removal, on -- in diversity jurisdiction, or
- 5 on a Federal question, it would still be State
- 6 regulation.
- 7 So my point here is: The most that can
- 8 establish is that the substantive tort law's regulation,
- 9 not the forum. We do not agree that that's so, but it
- 10 would be the only thing that they could get from that
- 11 argument. What would remain is the difference of
- 12 adjudication from the substance of the tort law.
- 13 The second point, as Justice Scalia, I will
- 14 line up my friend's committee reports against the text
- of the Constitution. We do not have an answer to the
- 16 fact that our constitutional tradition has three points
- 17 in it that are inconsistent with this form of
- 18 adjudication. And two of them are not specific to the
- 19 States.
- The Constitution is the supreme law of the
- 21 land in the United States. This Court is the Supreme
- 22 Court of the United States. That's not true just with
- 23 respect to the States, that is a bedrock -- those are
- 24 bedrock principles. Neither of them are true here.
- We also think that our tradition is that you

- 1 have access to a neutral court. I understand; I accept
- 2 that Congress implemented that in a removal statute that
- 3 does not apply here. But my point is that Congress
- 4 could not have understood that it was a necessary
- 5 incident of sovereignty when the States were subject to
- 6 removal jurisdiction at the time the tribes came into
- 7 the United States.
- 8 It is historically implausible to believe
- 9 that in all three of these respects, when the tribes
- 10 came into the United States, they were in a superior
- 11 position to the States. And we know that from one other
- 12 example, and that is also at the time -- so these are
- 13 the judiciary acts of 1789 and '90, Congress made the
- 14 judgments of State courts enforceable by full faith and
- 15 credit, but not tribal courts. And it cannot be, then,
- 16 that it thought the tribal courts were better than the
- 17 State courts.
- 18 And it does relate, Mr. Chief Justice, to
- 19 your point that the Court has never held, despite
- 20 dictum, that a nonmember is subject to adjudication in a
- 21 tribal court. Because if you haven't done it till now,
- 22 it is, I think, respectfully implausible to believe that
- 23 Congress thought it was true in 1880, at a time when the
- 24 tribes had much less developed legal systems.
- 25 My final point is -- relates to

- 1 administrability. And you have been offered two
- 2 alternatives. The other side says we have a test about
- 3 nexus and foreseeability. I have a standard that says,
- 4 write it down in a contract.
- 5 My rule is infinitely more administrable
- 6 because the other side imagines that people will
- 7 constantly be running to State and Federal court saying
- 8 this nexus wasn't strong enough; I didn't know when I
- 9 mailed this to the Tribe, or this form of tribal tort
- 10 law is not quite foreseeable enough for me to know what
- 11 the rule is.
- 12 That is a bad system. You have said, time
- 13 and again, that jurisdictional rules need to be known
- 14 ahead of time, and they need to be clear. And I don't
- 15 understand the answer to our point that it is
- 16 disrespectful of the sovereignty that is asserted here.
- 17 If the Tribal Supreme Court can constantly be overruled
- 18 by a circuit court in Mississippi, are we seriously
- 19 treating it as an independent sovereign? That --
- 20 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Well, let me ask you
- 21 something. What then remains of the sovereignty of the
- 22 Indians? They can -- they can bring a tort suit against
- 23 you? The Tribes can bring a tort suit against you for
- 24 dumping on their -- on their land? For defacing their
- 25 archeological digs? I mean, why is that okay?

- 1 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Okay. Justice Sotomayor, I
- 2 do not want to give up on our broader argument that
- 3 Montana's first exception doesn't apply here. But our
- 4 position is consistent with the fact that this is a
- 5 question, as my friends have emphasized, of State
- 6 sovereignty. And when the sovereign brings an action,
- 7 it is much easier to understand that that is an exercise
- 8 of self government and sovereignty than a private tort
- 9 suit between two people.
- 10 In addition, we have --
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: It makes -- you're --
- 12 you just want to cherry pick what "sovereignty" means.
- 13 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Sotomayor --
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Because if they're
- 15 sovereign, the United States can have treaties with
- 16 people that basically say in your land, you do what you
- 17 want; I'm not going to enforce your judgment if I don't
- 18 think it's consistent with due process here. But we
- 19 don't dictate to other sovereigns what kind of systems
- 20 they should have.
- You're right we have the power to do that,
- 22 but it's still something that we don't have to exercise.
- 23 MR. GOLDSTEIN: Justice Sotomayor, because
- 24 my time has expired, I will be brief. The difference is
- 25 the dependent sovereignty of the Indian tribes and the

Τ	fact that individuals have the protections of the
2	Constitution.
3	Thank you.
4	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
5	The case is submitted.
6	(Whereupon, at 11:04 a.m., the case in the
7	above-entitled matter was submitted.)
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22	
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24	
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	I	I	I	
A	23:2 50:17 60:12	ante 11:14	6:9,12 7:2,25	author 49:20
a.m 1:15 3:2 64:6	60:18 61:20	antecedent 6:25	16:25 18:19 19:24	authority 4:3,4,5,6
ability 46:20 55:25	adjudicative 24:18	8:24 9:21 30:4	23:4,7 26:1,11,14	4:7,8,19,21,23 5:1
56:11	adjudicatory 3:16	anticipate 13:2	28:18 30:17 31:3	5:24 6:3,8,11,19
able 5:11,15	4:7,15,16,23,25	anticipated 9:25	32:3,15 39:22	7:1 8:4,24 9:1,2,2
above-entitled 1:13	9:1,2,13,18 55:3	18:17 34:6 36:19	45:22 46:4 47:13	13:12 21:22 22:2
64:7	administrability	anticipating 33:20	49:7,13,16 52:4,6	24:1,11 26:25
absence 37:6	62:1	47:1	56:18 59:14 60:11	28:5 29:14 35:6
absolutely 27:16	administrable 62:5	anticipatory 36:25	63:2	35:12 54:13 55:24
32:10 33:11 43:23	adopt 39:21	anybody 19:25	arguments 21:7,8,9	authorize 24:7
43:24	affirmatively 35:3	27:16	21:13	availability 5:9
abused 53:5	afford 15:4	apologize 7:20 25:2	arising 6:20 19:1	9:25 10:15 11:4
accede 19:11	afforded 57:7	26:12	28:3	11:14
acceded 28:2	affords 16:14	appealed 47:18	arrangements	available 13:22
accept 53:1,16 61:1	agree 26:3 27:1,16	APPEARANCES	39:20 46:3 47:6	35:23
accepted 5:14	40:25 45:6 60:9	1:16	48:20 58:14	avoidance 26:14
access 4:17 61:1	agreed 29:1	Appendix 38:21	article 10:14 25:24	avoiding 45:9
accident 32:20,25	agreement 18:4	applicability 18:18	27:10 41:12 54:25	award 14:10
accused 44:7	38:22 58:18,20	applicable 39:1	55:2,20	aware 51:14,16,20
acquiescence 38:16	agrees 4:25 11:16	application 18:23	articles 16:22	
act 15:16,17,20,25	ahead 54:8 62:14	38:16 60:2	asked 12:18 14:10	<u>B</u>
16:12 21:19 23:14	AL 1:4,8	applied 29:12	23:21 49:18	back 4:7 5:22 8:10
50:2,3 56:24 57:5	Alabama 56:21	applies 25:8	asking 6:24	19:6 53:16
action 19:5 21:24	Alito 32:3,7,14	apply 8:8 13:20	assault 44:7	backdrop 51:24
22:2,15,16,22	33:24 34:12 36:7	15:14 18:5 26:9	assaulted 29:7	bad 62:12
24:15 25:13 28:5	46:14,18	26:16 32:3,6 48:9	asserted 62:16	baked 48:7
33:4,25 63:6	allegation 23:16	49:18,21 51:25	assess 14:18	balance 28:15
actions 21:17 35:21	allegedly 29:7	61:3 63:3	assign 27:15	ball 43:14
39:17 48:12	alleges 54:16	appoint 10:4	Association 38:7	ban 43:12
activities 6:21	allow 26:2 27:25	appointed 10:5	39:25 46:21 57:10	Band 1:7 3:5
29:14	alternatives 62:2	appreciate 48:6	57:13	Bank 33:19 35:16
activity 6:19 20:18	America 46:10	approach 16:16	assume 9:15 27:18	39:16 42:1 48:7
acts 61:13	American 24:12	appropriate 50:16	52:25	basic 13:16
actual 14:23	38:6 39:24 40:20	approval 52:22	assumed 7:9,11	basically 63:16
added 50:23	46:21 57:10,12	arbitration 38:6	9:12	basis 8:25 18:16
addition 63:10	amicus 1:23 2:10	39:25 45:20 46:21	assumes 3:11	29:21 42:7
address 10:2 48:23	49:8	57:10,12	assuming 9:17,20	bedrock 60:23,24
addressing 8:20	amount 47:2 56:3	archeological	10:9	beginning 6:14 55:13
9:10	amount-in-contr	62:25	assumption 7:17	behalf 1:17,19 2:4
adequate 56:3	56:8	area 31:1 40:3	assure 55:15 57:5	2:7,14 3:8 28:19
adherence 32:1	analogy 5:10 21:18	43:13 46:22	Atkinson 36:17	59:15
adjudicate 3:20 5:6	analysis 52:9 55:12	arguably 42:21	Atkinson's 42:2	behavior 49:2
21:4 59:3	answer 54:7,8 55:5	argue 3:15	attack 14:14 17:4	belief 11:3
adjudicated 12:24	59:4 60:15 62:15	arguing 8:14 39:6	attacks 14:18	believe 18:13 22:21
55:1	answered 52:25	argument 1:14 2:2	attempt 11:13	53:3 61:8,22
adjudication 16:4	54:24	2:5,8,12 3:3,7,11	attempting 7:25	33.3 01.0,22
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	ī	-	ī	
believed 14:2 24:2	34:1 46:10 58:17	53:19,23 54:18	clever 46:4	concerned 17:12
belongs 16:5	buy 46:22	56:13 59:12 61:18	close 15:17,19	18:14 19:8 21:20
best 18:14 30:17		64:4	closer 48:1	21:21 41:23 43:7
31:3	C	child 23:17 29:3,6	codes 38:24 52:18	44:18,25 51:8
best-managed	C 1:17 2:1,3,13 3:1	58:19	collateral 14:18	concerns 17:6,14
15:13	3:7 59:14	Choctaw 1:8 3:5	collaterally 14:14	35:17 41:14,23
bet 54:3	call 18:22	29:3	17:4	42:6 44:2 47:9
Bethesda 1:17	capacity 16:17	choice 12:23	colleagues 54:22	48:7,9 52:7
better 61:16	care 45:5	circuit 14:22 15:2	color 33:17	concluded 8:25
bias 52:8	case 3:4,12 4:20	62:18	come 19:6 28:1	concluding 26:15
big 44:16 59:23	5:11 7:4 8:8 9:16	circumstance 35:22	29:23	26:15
bill 15:16 53:3,20	9:22 10:16 12:11	36:22 46:8	comes 33:14 52:14	conclusion 31:2
bind 46:16	12:24 14:11,12	circumstances 3:12	53:15	condition 18:21
bit 23:3 33:5	15:1,2 17:22	18:6,20 33:22	coming 19:10 38:12	19:10
black-letter 5:23	18:24 20:5,22	citations 22:11	comity 10:21,22	conduct 4:6 58:24
6:1	26:9 27:24 28:22	cited 41:3,8	commended 58:3	58:25
Blackjack 36:12	29:19 30:6 31:10	citing 31:8	Commerce 33:19	Congress 14:1
board 38:19	39:18 40:2 42:13	citizen 8:6 10:7	35:15 39:16 42:1	15:24 16:13,17
bodies' 49:2	47:12 58:12 60:1	55:1	48:7	23:24 24:6,9,21
books 16:21	64:5,6	citizens 23:5 24:13	commercial 32:4	25:2,17,22 26:24
bottom 48:4	case-by-case 42:7	27:3 35:12 43:18	39:19 46:2,5	27:14 35:12 41:22
boundaries 24:24	cases 3:20 5:6 8:22	43:19 56:19	48:19	43:4 44:17,21
bounds 15:6,8	8:23 16:15 19:8	city 46:11 52:6	commits 18:5	49:25 50:4,8,15
boy 22:7	21:4,6 27:14,18	civil 6:19 15:16,17	committee 50:19,22	51:10 52:14,18
Breyer 11:6,18,24	29:23 30:22 31:1	15:20,25 16:4	51:22 53:2,4,8,14	53:4,7 55:2,5,6,13
12:2,8,13,25 13:9	31:14,16,18,22	22:2 24:23 25:9	53:17,20,25 54:14	55:17 57:3 61:2,3
14:4 16:10,20	39:8 43:17 49:4	25:18 27:17,18,20	60:14	61:13,23
17:5,8,11 18:3,11	51:17,21 52:1	29:15 38:1 44:20	commonly 21:11	Congress's 43:14
20:24 38:14 40:1	55:10 59:7,21	49:19,22 51:25	21:12	43:14 50:14,14
40:11,16,18,24	casino 36:9	55:18 56:24 57:5	company 19:23	52:11
41:9,14 43:16	category 28:10	57:18	32:18	congressional 19:5
53:13 54:2	certain 13:15 47:1	claim 14:8,9 18:8	compelled 37:11	52:21,22
brief 24:3 36:22	certainly 16:22,23	21:16	competence 52:7	connection 50:1
47:24 50:2 63:24	34:24 45:19	claims 16:4 21:13	complain 11:25	52:4
briefly 5:7	cetera 41:5	21:14 27:21,25	12:10	consensual 20:14
bring 22:15 33:3	chairman 54:12	31:5,6 49:13 51:8	complete 5:24	20:17 33:7 40:7
47:12,25 62:22,23	change 39:23	55:1 59:10,11	25:18	48:16 58:9,19
bringing 22:2	cheated 36:11	clash 6:15	complete-diversity	consent 5:1,2 18:24
brings 28:5 63:6	Cherokee 40:12	clause 25:23 27:12	56:9	18:25 19:22,24
broad 6:10	cherry 63:12	42:25 43:5 45:20	completely 45:6	20:20 34:12,21
broader 9:1 17:11	Chief 3:3,9 28:16 28:20 29:8,16	46:15 55:16 57:7	comply 38:24	35:21 38:5,11
46:1 63:2	30:1,5,9,11 35:5,9	Clauses 42:22	composed 17:18	39:16,19 45:12,12
brought 22:6 27:18	38:15 39:5,15	clear 31:25 45:25	42:18	45:13,14,15 48:8
27:21 43:5	42:5,14 44:1,11	50:20 51:9 53:2	concept 56:14	58:16
business 18:14	45:24 49:5,10	55:9 62:14	concern 11:2 47:8	consented 20:3
20:21 28:1 31:6,7	75.44 47.5,10	clearly 20:2	57:3	34:10
	l		l	I

	•	•	ī	
consented-to 29:5	39:7	39:17 41:16 42:1	decision 8:15 33:18	16:13 57:24 61:24
consenting 44:13	control 44:17	43:15 55:11 58:10	39:23 41:16 49:20	dialogue 5:21
consents 35:20	controversy 56:4	59:8	55:9 58:11	dicta 31:11,12
48:11	corporation 1:4 3:5	courthouses 48:2	decisions 8:18 42:1	dictate 63:19
considered 9:14	56:11	courts 4:20 6:21	51:24	dictum 9:11 30:19
consistent 13:13	correct 3:22 8:14	11:7,9,19 12:19	decisis 49:3	30:19,20,20 61:20
14:19 15:14 28:6	40:23 43:4	13:20 14:2,3,20	deeply 16:2	difference 22:24
28:7 56:13 63:4	counsel 28:16 49:5	15:4,6,6,12,13,25	defacing 62:24	44:16 59:23 60:11
63:18	59:12 64:4	16:23 17:3 19:12	defamation 36:14	63:24
consistently 24:4	country 3:20 11:21	21:4,12 25:12	default 19:15	different 8:19
consisting 44:8	36:4	31:22,25 33:1	defective 34:3	11:17 16:5 22:4
56:15	course 5:19 29:5	40:21 41:4,5,6	defendant 4:22	23:9 34:13 45:18
consists 42:9	32:21 34:19 37:9	43:9 44:20 47:25	10:16	47:7
constantly 62:7,17	40:24 43:6 47:3	49:25 50:8,15,24	defendants 47:15	differently 49:2
Constitution 3:25	court 1:1,14 3:10	51:11 52:8,12	deferred 52:6	digs 62:25
5:5,8,16 10:1,14	4:23 5:12,17,17	55:15,17,23 56:20	delegate 54:13	directly 40:9
12:21,23 13:2,5	5:18,19 6:16 8:9	57:4,18,19 58:6	delivered 32:19	disagree 11:1 18:18
13:18,19,20 15:8	8:20 9:8,10,14,16	61:14,15,16,17	delivering 32:21	20:5
15:10,19 24:1	9:22 10:18,19	credit 61:15	delivery 32:20,25	disagreeing 46:23
25:22 26:22 27:13	11:21 12:8,10,15	crimes 55:14	33:9,11,12,14,16	disclaim 34:18
42:20 45:2,4	12:24 13:3,4,11	criminal 24:11	demeaning 23:18	disclaimed 35:3
54:25 55:8 56:5	13:21,21 14:19,21	25:18 55:10,14	demised 39:2	discuss 8:2
60:15,20 64:2	14:22 15:10,10	curiae 1:23 2:10	denies 50:9	discussed 15:22
constitutional 13:7	18:7,7 20:10	49:8	deny 22:25	discussing 58:11
26:14 27:7 35:17	22:21 26:23 27:11	current 47:7	depart 39:22	displaced 55:8
35:18 47:9 48:6,9	27:22 28:21,24	customers 36:1	Department 1:22	dispositive 32:11
60:16	29:10,10,13,20,24		depend 45:22	dispute 32:21 58:2
constitutionally	30:3,8,15 31:4,8	D	dependent 40:13	dispute-resolution
37:11	31:13,14,17,19,19	D 3:1	40:15,17 63:25	17:24
construed 38:23	32:11 33:4,6	D.C 1:10,19,22	depends 11:9 33:5	disputes 6:20 19:1
contemplate 5:5	35:14,16 36:14	damage 14:10	deprivation 16:1	28:3 29:15 50:12
10:15 14:13 24:1	37:20,25 38:8	damages 24:23	deprive 58:7	50:17 57:25
25:24	39:9,13 41:21	26:21 34:8 35:1	Deputy 1:21	disrespectful 62:16
contemplated 15:7	43:14,20 44:3,6	data 21:2,5	describe 18:23	distinguish 11:20
contemplates 5:8	46:15 47:10,12,15	deal 37:4 47:8	26:15	21:17
5:16	48:4,24 49:11,13	dealer 36:12	described 19:4	district 14:21 60:3
context 7:2 14:6	49:18,19 51:24	dealing 38:8 39:19	26:19	diversity 37:13,14
25:9 59:22	52:9 54:16 55:2,4	46:2,5 48:19	describes 22:19	37:19,21 52:5
contract 18:12 19:7	55:8,25 58:2,5	deals 59:19	58:15	60:4
19:14,16,25 20:1	59:5,10,11,22	dealt 39:7	describing 26:11	documents 38:22
20:9,19,19,23,24	60:4,21,22 61:1	decades 28:24	30:10	doing 16:12 31:6
27:25 40:8 45:19	61:19,21 62:7,17	44:21	deserve 11:11,17	33:10 36:12 42:3
45:23 46:15 62:4	62:18	December 1:11	17:25	44:22 46:10
contracts 39:20	Court's 8:18 9:11	decide 3:17 9:17,22	despite 61:19	Dollar 1:3 3:4
45:18 46:2 48:20	21:21 30:18,25	46:20	develop 16:17	28:25 29:7 35:23
contractual 38:16	33:18 36:17 37:18	decided 30:3	developed 11:12	35:25 36:1,2

38:23 39:2 45:8	enforcement 22:2	exercise 21:1,22	fashion 3:21 5:6	formally 42:20
47:6,14,17 56:10	enforcing 23:6	28:5 63:7,22	9:23	forms 6:4
dollars 26:21 34:8	28:12,12	exercising 22:1	fault 26:12	forth 11:21
35:1	enhanced 11:4	exhaust 31:20	favor 7:25 15:21	forum 4:17 5:9,15
Domestic 40:15,17	enormous 15:5	exhaustion 31:16	features 13:23,24	9:25 10:6,15,24
40:18 47:23	20:25	32:1 49:23	Federal 4:23 5:12	11:4,14 13:3
doubt 31:9 59:10	ensuring 50:6	exist 20:20 21:12	5:18 12:24 14:8	18:24,25 20:2
due 11:25 14:9,9,19	enter 40:6	existed 13:24 38:11	14:21 15:4 17:2	21:9,10 35:13
15:9 16:14 18:1	entered 3:19 58:15	exists 20:17	21:12 24:16 25:19	46:14 59:25 60:9
19:18 25:6,7,14	entering 46:8,9	exotic 33:13	38:25 45:4 50:8	forums 50:6,16
26:18 27:6,9 28:6	enters 32:4	expired 63:24	50:15 55:15,25	forward 19:3
42:6,8,16,21,22	entire 54:5	explain 4:2 9:19	60:3,5 62:7	four 29:23 41:19
42:25 43:5 47:4,5	entirely 14:11	20:6 24:15 50:1	feel 43:18	France 46:11
55:16 56:14,25	entities 43:3 44:24	explaining 7:1	figure 18:2 21:8	Francisco 46:11
57:6 63:18	entity 27:7 48:10	explains 8:20	final 61:25	frankly 31:13
dumping 62:24	equivalent 57:6	explanation 22:11	finding 50:14 52:20	friend 30:16 37:8
duties 3:14 8:5,6	ESQ 1:17,19,21 2:3	22:13	findings 50:14	46:3,23 59:20
duty 23:10	2:6,9,13	explicit 34:21 40:7	fine 11:18 58:25	friend's 39:22
	essential 50:5,11	48:18	fines 23:12	60:14
E	essentially 24:17	express 35:21 38:5	finish 50:13	friends 63:5
E 2:1 3:1,1	establish 60:8	39:19 45:12	first 3:4 4:13 5:8,22	fulfilled 57:3
earlier 39:17 57:16	et 1:4,8 41:5	expressing 54:23	6:5 9:24 11:10	full 37:14 44:17
easier 63:7	evaluate 42:6	expression 52:13	14:16 15:22 26:7	55:16 61:14
easy 34:19	events 20:22	58:2	26:8 27:23 42:11	fully 9:14
EDWIN 1:21 2:9	everybody 45:15	expressly 28:2	45:17 48:14 59:19	function 16:23 17:1
49:7	51:13,17 55:20	extent 33:9	63:3	functioning 18:7
effectively 47:17	everyone's 44:5	extremely 15:1	fit 28:10 41:22	funding 51:11
either 9:3 19:14	ex 11:14	19:23	five 57:23 59:13	52:15
39:8,12 48:11	exactly 30:10 35:14		flatly 49:16	further 39:21 43:9
El 31:5,8 32:12	40:10	F	floor 54:19	
59:9	examined 52:18	fact 17:13 20:8	follow 46:13	G
elected 10:5	example 4:9,18 6:5	21:16 38:18 40:19	follow-on 22:19	G 3:1
element 3:21	14:8 16:11 17:7	50:22 54:6 60:16	following 27:23	game 36:11 43:14
emphasized 63:5	17:16 22:3 28:9	63:4 64:1	follows 36:6	general 1:3,21 3:4
employer 36:3	29:25,25 33:14	facts 3:15 18:14	footing 39:24	28:25 32:10 33:6
employers 58:15	54:4 61:12	28:22 33:6	footnote 8:19 31:8	35:23,25 36:1,2
employment 29:6	examples 28:11	fairness 10:23	forced 35:24 36:1,2	38:23 42:7,16
enacted 50:20 51:7	exception 6:5 15:23	11:20 41:5,14	Forcing 44:2	45:8 47:14,17,24
52:19	19:22 20:14 22:23	faith 61:14	foreign 12:9 15:6	56:10,14 57:16
encouraging 52:12	26:8,8 38:9,9	fall 37:16	foreseeability 62:3	General's 29:7
enforce 22:22	45:17 48:14 63:3	familiar 48:1	foreseeable 62:10	36:22 39:2 47:7
40:21 63:17	excluded 23:13	fan 43:21	forget 40:12 54:9	genuine 11:12
enforceable 25:12	exclusion 28:14	far 32:9	form 4:25 43:5	geographically
61:14	excuse 38:23	Farmers 31:18	48:25 53:16 59:6	48:1
enforced 38:25	executive 54:11,12	49:17,22 50:21	59:20 60:2,17	getting 6:4 54:2
39:1 49:23	executives 54:13	51:7 55:9	62:9	Ginsburg 4:1,11,12
	1	1	1	1

	ī			
4:21,24 5:11 6:15	goods 34:2	hours 48:2,2	61:5	interest 22:17 23:1
6:22 7:4 8:10,13	gotten 54:20	houses 53:15	includes 59:2	23:1,5
8:17 9:6,9 13:5,8	govern 38:3 47:23	hunting 23:20	including 10:16	interested 54:3
15:15,18 22:6,18	48:6	hypothetical 10:12	47:6	interesting 44:22
27:17 28:9 29:12	governed 42:25	18:12 25:10,16	inconsistent 49:14	internship 29:2
37:4,10 47:11	43:1	36:8 41:19	52:10,11 60:17	interpreted 58:23
55:19	government 16:8	hypotheticals	incorporated 3:19	interpreting 43:8
give 3:16 4:9,10	20:10 24:16 45:5	45:13	42:22	introduction 9:20
7:24 26:25 36:7	50:6 63:8		incorporation 5:14	involve 40:5
63:2	governs 59:8	I	13:25	involved 16:3 32:20
given 5:23 6:1 58:1	granted 9:16	IBM 54:4,6,12	incorrect 57:21	Iowa 29:25 31:18
gives 25:17 47:24	greater 39:24	ICRA 42:20,22	indemnity 47:4,5	37:19 41:16,16
54:25	ground 8:1	43:6,8	independent 62:19	49:17,22 50:21
go 5:21 8:10 11:25	grounds 30:4	idea 59:7	Indian 3:12,16	51:8 52:3 58:5
19:14 31:19 32:9	growing 40:7	identify 3:23 5:7	15:15,17,20,24	59:6
39:21 43:9,19	guarantees 26:22	8:1,21 11:13 15:1	16:1,1 24:10	irrelevant 20:20
45:14 54:8 55:25	guess 29:17 30:5	identifying 13:18	25:17,17 29:9,20	issue 29:17 39:6
goes 18:3 36:8,10	43:11	III 10:14 25:24	30:7,8,12 36:9	issues 55:24
36:10 56:20		27:10 54:25 55:2	44:7 56:24 57:5	т
going 5:2 9:4 13:1	<u>H</u>	55:20	57:18 63:25	J
14:16,17 19:3	haled 29:20,24	illustration 27:24	Indians 1:8 3:5	JAMS 38:7
40:24 41:21 42:6	happen 32:16	Imagine 14:21 60:1	55:15 62:22	joined 35:15 49:20
42:12 44:13,21	59:17	imagines 62:6	indicates 21:3,5	joint 38:21 53:17
47:16 52:25 55:22	happens 24:24	impact 49:2	indistinguishable	judges 10:4,8,9,18
55:23 63:17	hard 22:12 46:24	implausible 61:8	41:4	52:16,17
Goldstein 1:17 2:3	46:25	61:22	individual 20:1,9	judgment 14:14
2:13 3:6,7,9 4:10	health 50:7	implemented 61:2	20:18 22:17 28:1	25:8,11 40:21
4:13,24 6:2,22 7:9	hear 3:3	implementing	individual's 24:18	50:14 52:11 63:17
7:12,15,18,20,23	heard 60:3	51:10	individuals 21:25	judgments 30:22
8:12,17 9:9 10:11	hearings 50:3	implied 45:12,15	23:11 58:12 64:1	61:14
10:25 11:8,23	heart 46:6	48:18	infinitely 62:5	judicial 4:3,17
12:1,7,12,16,20	heartland 28:23	important 5:21	inform 52:8	10:24 57:24
12:25 13:8 15:18	29:9 30:12,20,23	22:1 23:19 47:21	inherent 17:19 55:6	judiciaries 11:11
17:5,10 18:11	46:7	50:6 52:12 55:11	57:12	17:12,21
19:13,17 20:4,15	held 8:23 30:1,1,7	importantly 21:17	inherently 5:1	judiciary 16:3,7,14
21:15 22:9 23:4,7	50:3 56:20 61:19	28:13 49:24 52:3	injures 32:22	17:15 61:13
24:5,8,14 25:1,6	hewn 58:16	impose 24:12,23	injury 33:12	juries 43:12,19
25:21 26:3,6,10	hey 31:22	59:2	inquiry 41:15	44:18
27:1,4,8,23 28:11	Hicks 8:19 9:10	impossibility 22:10	insist 4:19 20:2,23	jurisdiction 3:13
46:3,23 59:13,14	31:3,4,24 58:11	impressionistic	20:23 45:3	3:17 4:5,15,16 6:7
59:16 63:1,13,23	59:9	41:3	instance 4:4 53:14	6:13,20 8:15,22
Goldstein's 30:16	historically 61:8	Improvements 50:2	institutional 16:17	9:13,17,18,21,22
31:3	history 51:9 home 36:10	incidence 23:24	integrity 50:7	11:2 16:15 18:8 19:11 20:10 24:7
good 7:25 10:12	honest 18:15 38:11	incidence 23:24 incident 27:19	intend 7:24	
15:19 16:14 18:12	Honor 11:1 29:23	37:16 38:1 45:1	intention 25:3	24:17 28:3,24 29:10,15 30:13
19:24 41:12 46:6	1101101 11.1 29.23	37.10 30.1 43.1	intentionally 34:2	47.10,13 30.13
	<u> </u>	l	l	l

31:9,15,22,25	43:11,16 44:1,11	45:11,21 48:13	35:25 38:12	licensing 15:23
33:23 36:23 37:25	45:2,7,11,21,24	57:2,9,15,20	language 30:16,17	22:20 23:6 28:13
38:1,18 39:9	46:14,18,24 47:11	keys 45:9	30:18 37:19 38:21	48:16
41:21 43:13 44:4	48:13 49:5,10,20	kind 34:17 36:19	39:4,15,17 45:24	lies 6:21
44:8,20 47:2	50:2,3,5,9,11,16	36:24 38:11 40:7	45:25 51:18	life 24:12
49:13,19,22 50:24	51:1,4,13,16,20	40:13,19 42:15	large 41:8	light 50:21
52:1 55:14,18	52:24 53:7,10,12	63:19	Laughter 43:22	limit 24:20,21
56:19 57:4 58:7	53:13,18,19,23	Kneedler 1:21 2:9	law 3:14 4:18 5:18	37:15
58:14,22 59:2,11	54:2,10,11,16,18	49:6,7,10 50:10	5:23 6:1,5,9 8:5,6	limitation 41:1
60:4 61:6	54:18,20 55:19	50:13 51:3,6,15	8:8 11:3,13,25	limited 19:1 33:21
jurisdictional	56:2,13 57:2,9,15	51:19,23 52:24	15:11,25 17:2	38:9,17,21 39:4
41:15 62:13	57:20 58:21 59:12	53:8,9,11,21 54:1	18:5,18,23 22:12	41:24
jury 17:18,19 42:9	59:18 60:13 61:18	54:15,22 55:5,22	22:13,14 24:9,16	limiting 35:7
42:9,13,17,17	62:20 63:1,11,13	56:5,17 57:11,19	24:22 27:13 33:23	limits 25:5,6 32:15
44:8 56:15,21	63:14,23 64:4	57:22 59:4	36:23 38:13,17	41:19
justice 1:22 3:3,9		knew 38:12	46:22 55:24 56:1	line 48:4 60:14
4:1,11,12,21,24	<u>K</u>	know 4:4 7:16	59:3,3,5,8,9,20,24	litigated 4:20
5:11,20 6:2,15,22	K 1:19 2:6 28:18	10:17 17:8,20	60:2,12,20 62:10	little 12:13 30:12
6:24 7:4,6,10,13	Kagan 19:13,18,21	21:10 22:12 23:16	law's 60:8	31:9 33:5 59:10
7:15,16,19,21,24	20:4,13,15 21:7	24:16 30:5 33:8	laws 23:6 26:18	local 46:12
8:10,13,17 9:6,9	23:3 46:24	33:10,16,18 35:5	38:25	long 27:5 28:6 35:2
10:2,11,21 11:6	Katyal 1:19 2:6	35:11,18 37:8,21	lawsuit 31:7	41:21 46:8 49:24
11:18,24 12:2,8	28:17,18,20 29:11	38:4,10 40:6 41:2	lawsuits 3:17	long-term 34:17
12:13,14,17,22,25	29:22 30:3,9,14	41:8,8,20,22 42:1	lead 31:1	46:9
13:5,8,9,23 14:4	30:21,24 32:6,8	42:3,12,21 45:12	lease 19:2 28:3 29:1	look 18:17 41:20
15:15,18 16:10,20	33:5 34:1,9,14,16	46:5 47:8,20	47:7 58:18	43:7
17:5,8,11 18:3,11	34:22,24 35:2,14	48:13 52:25 61:11	leases 39:20 46:2	looked 16:22
19:13,18,21 20:4	36:15 37:7 38:20	62:8,10	47:6 48:20	lose 13:1 17:13
20:13,15,24 21:7	39:11 40:10,15,17	knowingly 19:11	leaves 20:25	loses 36:9
22:6,18 23:3 24:3	40:23 41:7,11	34:2,16	Lee 38:2 47:22 48:5	losing 13:10
24:6,9,19 25:1,4	42:11,19 43:1,4	knowledge 42:2	left 15:24	loss 26:17
25:16,25 26:3,5,7	43:12,23 44:10	known 11:13 62:13	legal 13:15,24 23:9	lot 21:15 36:9
26:10,24 27:2,5,9	45:6,21 46:17,19	knows 45:15 46:12	61:24	lots 11:19 47:7
27:17 28:9,16,20	47:11,16 48:24		legislate 4:5	luggage 45:13
29:8,12,16 30:1,5	52:5	<u>L</u>	legislation 6:4	
30:9,11,19,22,24	Kennedy 5:20 6:2	lack 4:14,15 6:11	legislative 3:13 4:3	<u>M</u>
30:24 31:21 32:3	6:24 7:6,10,13,16	31:25 47:5,8	4:7 5:24 6:11,13	mailed 62:9
32:7,14 33:24	7:19,21,24 24:3,6	lacked 8:24	6:25 8:21,24 9:2	manager 29:7
34:7,11,12,15,20	24:9,19 25:1,4,16	lacks 10:6	9:13,17,21 51:9	mandatory 3:16
34:23,25 35:4,5,7	25:25 26:3,5,7,11	laid 30:15	let's 27:18	4:16
35:9,9,11,15 36:4	26:24 27:2,5,9	land 15:11 18:4,16	level 44:2	manner 58:1
36:7 37:4,10 38:5	34:7,11,15,20,23	27:11,14 29:1,7	liability 33:3,25	manufacturer 33:4
38:14,15 39:5,15	34:25 35:4,7,10	31:7 32:7,8,19	36:5 40:3	Massachusetts
40:1,11,16,18,24	35:11,15 36:4	33:8,14 34:3	liable 30:2,7 34:4	43:19,20 44:5,5
41:9,12,14,23	38:5 41:23 42:24	60:21 62:24 63:16	license 23:20 29:1	matter 1:13 12:19
42:5,14,24 43:2,6	43:2,6,11 45:2,7	lands 18:6 32:12	58:18	24:18 42:7,16

47.21.56.14.64.7	P.C. 41 22	. 14 10 17	1 4 50.0	12.12
47:21 56:14 64:7	modify 41:22	neutrality 10:17	observation 59:8	13:13
matters 15:22 17:2	molested 22:8	Nevada 8:19 9:10	obtain 43:20	overruled 62:17
17:2	moment 10:3	58:11 59:8	obviously 16:6 19:8	overturned 14:22
Md 1:17	Monday 1:11	never 22:5 29:9,19	occurs 27:19 59:25	15:3,5
mean 6:16 15:16	money 36:9 52:16	30:6 38:7 41:14	odd 23:3,8 30:12,14	P
57:25 58:23 59:1	Montana 6:6 15:22	47:18 55:17 61:19	Offenses 16:1	P 3:1
62:25	20:14 21:20 22:19	New 43:18 44:4	offered 62:1	page 2:2 31:24
means 63:12	22:23 26:7,8,16	newest 25:9	official 53:6	36:23 38:22 58:10
measures 22:22	28:8 38:8 39:18	nexus 33:11 36:17	officials 32:1	paid 29:4
mechanisms 17:24	45:17 46:1,7	41:25 62:3,8	Oh 10:11,25	painted 33:16
member 18:3 19:19	48:14 58:11	Ninth 15:2	okay 6:22 7:18	parallel 9:12
20:18 23:17 27:20	Montana's 63:3	non-Indian 8:16	18:11 22:8 23:1	paraner 9.12 parens 22:16
32:5,17,19 33:2	morning 3:4	50:25	26:10 62:25 63:1	parents 22:7
44:18 46:16 53:5	moved 4:22	non-Indians 3:18	Oklahoma 42:4	parents 22.7 part 5:21,22 16:7
55:4 56:23	multiple 26:20	5:14 51:9 52:1	57:23	50:5 55:6,11
members 5:25	Mutual 29:25	55:14	Oliphant 13:11	participate 29:2
17:18,19 23:11	31:18 37:19 41:16	non-Tribal 51:2,4	49:18,21 51:25	participate 29.2 particular 39:7
24:12 42:10,18	49:17,22 50:21	non-Tribe 5:25	55:12	52:23 58:18
44:8,15 46:16	51:8 52:3 58:6 59:6	55:4	one-line 8:15 ones 12:3	particularly 54:25
50:12 51:2,5	39.0	noncitizen 10:16,18 10:19 17:17 21:19		parties 37:14
56:16,19 57:18 mentioned 17:6	N	23:10	ongoing 18:16 online 32:18 36:10	parties 37:11 party 22:25
49:4	N 2:1,1 3:1			Paso 31:5,8 32:12
49:4 Merrion 32:12	name 54:14	noncitizens 5:10,10 nonconstitutional	open 9:15 36:5 38:11	59:9
	narrowest 3:11 8:1	35:13 43:2		pass 4:18 24:9
micromanaged 16:9	narrowly 8:21	nonmember 17:17	opened 7:7 opening 4:2 45:8	passage 50:1
million-man 54:5	58:23	23:23 29:10,20	46:12	passing 24:16
million-person	nation 40:13,17	30:7 31:6 32:4,18	operated 33:9	path-marking
54:6	national 5:4 13:24	33:10 42:8,17	operating 18:15,21	39:18,23
millions 26:21 34:8	31:18 49:17,22	44:7,13 55:4	20:21 58:17	patriae 22:16
35:1	50:21 51:7 55:9	56:15 61:20	opinion 9:8 31:23	payment 52:16
mind 48:22	nature 23:15	nonmembers 3:13	opinions 9:12	people 17:20 38:3
minor 23:17	Navajo 59:9	6:11,19 8:3 27:21	Opportunities	45:3,3 47:23,24
minutes 59:13	NEAL 1:19 2:6	29:14 40:6 57:5	44:15	48:5 57:7 62:6
Mississippi 1:7 3:5	28:18	nonneutral 21:9	Opportunity 36:3	63:9,16
8:7 14:22 22:14	necessarily 42:12	nontribal 18:3	37:1	percent 21:5 32:10
44:25 45:4 56:10	59:1	24:12 57:17	opposite 20:7	perfectly 16:23
56:21 62:18	necessary 39:14	normal 12:4,5	oral 1:13 2:2,5,8	permissible 36:16
Mississippi's 8:7	61:4	normally 53:12	3:7 28:18 49:7	person 20:1,8
Mississippi s 6.7	need 6:23 30:6 33:7	number 34:20 41:4	order 55:15	32:20,22,24,25
56:22	47:18 62:13,14	44:16	ordinarily 10:17	33:2 36:10,10,14
misunderstood	Neither 60:24		out-of-State 4:22	58:22
26:12	neutral 4:17 5:9,15	0	out-of-Staters 56:2	person's 58:24
Mm-hmm 47:16	9:25 10:6,7,8,10	O 2:1 3:1	outset 49:12	personal 50:17
modern 11:11	10:15 11:4,14	O'Connor's 41:12	outside 35:18	51:1
15:13 17:14	13:3 61:1	obligation 57:3	overriding 3:24	persons 25:19
	-	-	-	-

amana airea 21.12
persuasive 31:12
pertain 39:2
Petitioners 1:5,18
2:4,14 3:8 59:15
pick 63:12
piece 47:19,19
place 28:22 41:12
55:3
placed 29:3 55:6,13
places 16:24 17:1
Plains 33:18 35:15
39:15 42:1 48:7
plaintiff 8:6,8
17:20 26:20 43:21
56:22
plaintiffs 47:12
please 3:10 4:2
28:21 49:11
pleased 8:2 9:19
plenary 43:13
point 4:14 5:3 7:3
8:3 9:4 13:2,14
14:1 15:7,21
16:10 17:4,9,10
18:20 20:19,24
23:15,21 26:12
27:8 37:5,18 45:7
51:12 52:5 53:21
53:24 55:23 57:14
57:16 58:5,10
59:20 60:7,13
61:3,19,25 62:15
points 59:17 60:16
policies 52:6
political 50:7
position 18:9 20:25
61:11 63:4
possess 6:18 29:14
possible 39:13
power 3:20 4:18
21:2 24:22,23
55:3 59:2 63:21
powers 25:17,18
32:13 55:3
practice 57:17
precedent 49:3
-

precedents 13:11
21:21 30:25
precisely 58:15
predates 55:7
preemption 59:22
premise 11:1 20:16
49:23
premised 59:7
premises 39:3
prepares 54:6
present 22:3
presented 22:3
president 54:4
presumably 25:11
presumption 6:6
presumptively 6:21 31:14
pretty 15:17
principle 25:14
principles 11:13
28:6 49:21 60:24
private 3:17 19:19
20:8,11 21:16,25
23:23 58:12 63:8
problem 56:23,25
procedural 27:9
procedure 11:20
procedures 12:9
21:11
process 11:25
12:10 14:9,9,20 15:9 16:15 18:1
25:6,8,14 26:18
27:6,10 28:7 42:6
42:8,16,22,25
43:5 47:5,5 48:1
55:16 56:14,25
57:6 63:18
product 32:17,18
32:22,22 33:3
product-liability
41:18
products 33:3,25
34:13 40:2,3
program 29:2 36:3

37:2 44:15

10 10 25 4
proper 12:10 35:4
property 26:17
50:17 51:2
proportion 21:4
proposition 6:18
prospect 14:13
19:4
prospects 26:17
protecting 23:5
protection 55:16
protections 13:16
57:6 64:1
provide 47:17
52:15 56:7
provided 26:22
51:10
provides 52:14
56:6
provision 38:16
50:23
provisions 39:7
47:4 50:20
public 15:25 50:7
54:7
publication 52:17
punitive 24:23
26:21 34:8,25
purchased 32:23
33:3
purchases 32:17
purely 16:7
purpose 32:2
purposes 5:25
pursuant 58:17
pursuit 21:22
put 39:23 45:19,23
putative 14:10

Q qualifies 5:2 question 4:6 5:2 6:4 8:11,20 9:14 12:18 13:1,10 18:2 19:15 22:4 25:4 27:10,10 40:2 42:15 47:1

48:17 54:19,23 59:19 60:5 63:5 **questions** 5:18 6:23 30:4 54:7 59:17 **quite** 16:5 28:2 45:16,17 55:9 62:10 **quote** 31:24

R **R** 3:1 radically 39:22 raised 57:1 rare 15:1 reach 40:2 read 6:17 9:7 40:5 41:2,6,10 53:5 54:5 reading 45:24 48:14 real 11:12 17:6 really 14:17 18:12 24:2 33:21 36:19 37:23 38:10 47:21 reason 24:15 25:7 39:5 41:24 48:3 49:1 reasonable 36:5 40:21 reasonably 33:19 34:5,5 36:18,24

recognition 50:23 recognize 17:22 recognized 17:23 28:24 29:9 32:11 50:15 recognizing 58:6 reconciliation 53:15 reference 24:21 51:5 referring 58:12

reasons 9:16 47:24

REBUTTAL 2:12

47:1

59:14

Regal 48:25 59:21 60:1 **regard** 16:6 22:16 regarded 23:23 **regime** 14:17 23:9 23:9 **regulate** 4:5 6:19 29:14 44:19 58:24 regulation 22:20,20 46:13 48:25 59:6 59:21 60:3,6,8 regulations 38:25 regulatory 5:25 6:3 6:8 15:22 58:13 58:22 59:1 Rehnquist 49:20 rejected 49:16 relate 59:17 61:18 related 38:22 40:9 relates 61:25 relation 40:8 relationship 20:14 20:17 33:7 34:17 38:10 40:7,8 46:9 58:10 relationships 48:17 relevant 41:15 44:23 **relies** 20:14 **remain** 60:11 remained 9:15 remaining 59:13 remains 62:21 remedies 31:20 remedy 8:9 28:14 35:23 47:18 remember 4:14 13:17 18:24 19:19 19:21 20:19 21:2 22:10 31:4 removable 21:20 removal 4:13 11:2 12:18 13:6 37:6 37:10,13 60:4 61:2,6 remove 5:11,15

	•	•	•	
12:14 56:11	17:3 25:19 26:23	San 46:11	serve 32:2 50:6	63:1,11,13,14,23
repeatedly 50:15	49:25	saying 9:6 12:6	service 33:9	sound 48:21
report 51:22 53:2,4	reviewable 5:19	20:2 23:19 24:10	serving 44:15	sovereign 4:19 5:6
53:8,14,16	rigged 36:11	29:12 36:21 37:10	set 17:12 23:12	13:12 14:23 21:19
reports 50:19,22	right 10:18 11:18	44:25 46:1,6 51:6	28:25 46:11	21:22,24 22:1,22
53:20,25 60:14	11:23 12:7,12,16	51:25 62:7	setting 44:14	22:25 23:1,5,14
require 19:9 37:11	12:20 15:9 16:12	says 6:6,17 12:23	shoes 43:14	28:5,23 62:19
37:21 56:6,7	16:16 17:9 21:8	13:2,6 18:4 27:5	shop 28:25 36:25	63:6,15
requirement 32:2	21:14 29:16,16	27:12 33:16,19	44:14 46:11	sovereigns 14:21
56:8,9	30:10 33:24 35:2	36:10,23 47:22	show 35:25	44:23 63:19
requirements	35:24 38:3 40:18	50:22 51:22 62:2	showing 45:9	sovereignty 3:22,24
38:24	43:16,24,24 45:3	62:3	shows 16:2	13:13 21:1 22:5
requires 37:13 38:9	47:22 48:5 51:14	Scalia 12:14,17,22	shunting 24:17	23:24 37:17 38:2
38:10 39:18 41:25	55:1,19,20 56:4,5	13:23 30:19,22,25	side 20:16 30:17	47:21 49:14 52:13
42:2	63:21	31:21 50:9,11	37:6,9 39:12	55:7 57:12 61:5
Reservation 18:16	rights 15:16,16,17	51:1,4,13,16,20	54:21 62:2,6	62:16,21 63:6,8
18:22 19:10 23:11	15:20,25 50:18	53:7,12,18 54:11	side's 22:10,12	63:12,25
23:13 24:25 27:19	51:2 56:24 57:5	54:16 56:2 58:21	sight 13:1,10 17:13	specific 13:18 39:2
28:2,14 42:4	ROBERTS 3:3	59:18 60:13	signed 19:24 20:1	50:4 60:18
45:10 48:22 58:17	28:16 29:8,16	searched 45:14	significant 26:13	specifically 52:2,4
Reservations 25:19	30:1,5,11 35:5,9	second 5:16 9:4	signs 18:4	square 7:21
reserve 28:15	38:15 39:5 42:5	14:25 19:7 27:8	silence 52:22	squarely 28:23
resolution 58:2	42:14 44:1 49:5	28:4 50:23 55:23	similar 31:5 44:12	staff 54:5,6
resolved 8:18	53:19,23 54:18	60:13	52:20	stake 43:17
resolving 57:25	56:13 59:12 64:4	see 16:12 42:19	simply 10:25 15:9	standard 62:3
respect 8:3 10:17	room 20:25	seen 11:19 41:22	15:14 20:17,20,24	stare 49:3
11:3,12,17 15:5	rule 6:10 11:3 15:7	44:21	single 15:1	start 41:12 55:10
17:1,6,21,25	15:19 17:19 19:15	selecting 46:15	situation 22:14	State 4:17,18 5:12
19:18 37:20 41:3	28:12,13 29:12	selection 46:15	32:16 40:20 58:16	5:17 8:7,7,9 10:6
41:18 55:17 56:1	30:15 31:13,21	self 63:8	small 21:3	10:17,18 12:8,15
57:4 58:9 60:23	33:21 35:4 41:19	self-governance	solely 42:9,18 44:8	12:19 14:2 20:2,9
respectfully 61:22	48:8 49:18,23	21:23	56:15	20:10 21:12,18
respects 3:24 5:4	51:25 62:5,11	self-help 28:14	Solicitor 1:21 32:10	24:15 25:13,13
61:9	rules 15:13 16:17	sell 36:1	36:22	31:25 44:3,25
respond 49:12	39:23 62:13	send 34:13	solutions 19:4 47:3	46:15 47:15 48:2
responded 52:5	ruling 14:19,21,24	sending 34:2,2	somebody 36:8	55:23,24 60:2,5
Respondents 1:20	15:2	sense 10:22 31:17	44:3	61:14,17 62:7
1:23 2:7,11 3:15	rulings 5:18 15:5	sent 40:3 53:4	someone's 36:25	63:5
15:1 18:13 28:19	running 36:25 37:1	sentence 6:17 9:7	37:1	statement 4:2
49:9	44:14 62:7	sentences 24:12	sorry 25:24 26:6	States 1:1,14,23
Respondents' 3:18	runs 45:2	separate 3:23 5:3	35:9 53:23	2:10 3:19,25 5:4
response 5:22		6:23	sort 31:12 43:25	5:13 10:4,22
46:24 57:2	$\frac{S}{S + 21 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}$	serious 14:16,17	54:3	13:14,19 14:1
responsibility 53:6	S 1:21 2:1,9 3:1	23:16 26:16	Sotomayor 10:2,11	16:2,6 17:22 21:3
reversal 8:1	49:7	seriously 23:17	10:21 52:24 53:10	23:22,25,25 24:11
review 9:16 14:25	safety 50:7	62:18	54:10,19,20 62:20	25:12 26:25 27:15

	•	•	1	•
34:13 35:13 41:6	63:9	terms 6:3 30:10	till 61:21	17:25 18:4,5,6,7
44:24 49:8,15	suits 5:9 47:25	41:5	time 5:13 13:25	18:15,18,23 19:12
60:19,21,22,23	superior 14:3 49:14	terrible 12:9 44:7	16:8 23:22 28:15	20:18 21:1,4
61:5,7,10,11	61:10	terribly 12:9	39:13 41:21 58:7	22:21 23:11 25:19
63:15	support 52:16,17	test 36:17 62:2	61:6,12,23 62:12	27:21 28:23 29:2
statute 13:6,6	supporting 1:23	text 60:14	62:14 63:24	29:6,20 31:7,19
37:12,13,19,21,22	2:11 49:9	Thank 28:16,20	times 9:11 48:2	31:22,25 32:1,7,8
37:23 50:4,19	suppose 43:21	49:5 59:12,16	49:4	32:12,19,19 33:1
51:14,23 52:7,10	supremacy 13:19	64:3,4	today 58:8	33:2,4,8,14 34:3
52:19 61:2	13:21 25:23 27:12	theory 3:18 46:18	tort 3:14,17 4:18	35:25 36:14 37:24
statutes 52:15	supreme 1:1,14	thing 12:3,4 36:20	6:5,9 7:2,4 8:5,6,7	38:1,12,13,17,18
stemmed 51:21	5:17 13:3,21	36:24,25 41:2,25	8:7,15 18:5,18	38:25 39:9 40:3
stops 17:19	15:10,11 27:11,13	47:20 56:1 57:9	19:19 21:13 22:12	41:4,21 42:9 43:9
store 19:23 29:3,6	60:20,21 62:17	57:14 60:10	22:13,14 24:21	44:15,18,20 47:12
37:1 44:14 46:9	sure 7:23 29:17	things 12:1 13:17	26:2 29:21 30:2,7	47:21,25 49:13,25
Strate 6:16,16 8:13	36:19 39:11 48:24	14:3,5,6,14 15:23	31:1,7,18 33:13	50:2,3,5,5,12,16
8:14,23 29:13,25	51:17 54:23	36:4 44:11 45:1	34:4 38:1 40:9	50:24 51:11 52:8
30:16	susceptible 22:23	think 10:5,7,12	49:13 51:8 52:1	52:12,13,16,17,18
strip 20:10	swallow 6:10	15:20 16:16 18:12	59:2,3,5,7,9,20,24	55:4 56:1,16,18
strong 56:18 62:8	swath 17:23	22:9,15 24:14	60:2,8,12 62:9,22	57:4,18 58:2,13
stronger 37:5	sweeping 8:5	28:7 29:11,22	62:23 63:8	58:17,18,22 59:7
subject 3:13 8:4	switched 25:9	30:11,14,21,25	torts 24:24 48:21	59:9,10,11,20
25:22 27:25 35:12	system 14:25 16:1	32:9,9,11 33:18	48:25 49:1	61:15,16,21 62:9
44:4 58:22 61:5	17:7 24:18 35:19	35:3 36:15,15,17	Townsend 47:14	62:17
61:20	62:12			
61:20	62:12	37:5,8,15 38:20	tracks 22:13	tribally-owned 28:25
	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2	tribally-owned 28:25
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19	tracks 22:13	tribally-owned
61:20 subjected 42:8,17	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15 sues 20:8 21:19 suggest 16:22 39:8	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15 talks 45:18 48:16 48:19	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14 thorough 49:25 thoroughly 52:18	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6 62:19	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8 55:7 58:23,25,25
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15 sues 20:8 21:19	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15 talks 45:18 48:16 48:19 Tasmania 40:19,20	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14 thorough 49:25	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6 62:19 treats 36:23	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8 55:7 58:23,25,25 62:9
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15 sues 20:8 21:19 suggest 16:22 39:8 suggested 17:11	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15 talks 45:18 48:16 48:19 Tasmania 40:19,20 taxation 15:23	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14 thorough 49:25 thoroughty 52:18 thought 7:7 40:4	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6 62:19 treats 36:23 trial 42:13,17	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8 55:7 58:23,25,25 62:9 tribe's 25:11 32:13
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15 sues 20:8 21:19 suggest 16:22 39:8 suggested 17:11 25:2	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15 talks 45:18 48:16 48:19 Tasmania 40:19,20 taxation 15:23 22:20 23:19 28:12	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14 thorough 49:25 thoroughty 52:18 thought 7:7 40:4 61:16,23	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6 62:19 treats 36:23 trial 42:13,17 tribal 3:13 6:21	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8 55:7 58:23,25,25 62:9 tribe's 25:11 32:13 tribes 3:12,16,19
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15 sues 20:8 21:19 suggest 16:22 39:8 suggested 17:11 25:2 suggests 24:4	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15 talks 45:18 48:16 48:19 Tasmania 40:19,20 taxation 15:23 22:20 23:19 28:12 48:16	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14 thorough 49:25 thoroughly 52:18 thought 7:7 40:4 61:16,23 three 3:23 5:3,7	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6 62:19 treats 36:23 trial 42:13,17 tribal 3:13 6:21 11:7,8,11,19	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8 55:7 58:23,25,25 62:9 tribe's 25:11 32:13 tribes 3:12,16,19 4:14,25 5:24 6:7
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15 sues 20:8 21:19 suggest 16:22 39:8 suggested 17:11 25:2 suggests 24:4 suit 19:19 20:11	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15 talks 45:18 48:16 48:19 Tasmania 40:19,20 taxation 15:23 22:20 23:19 28:12	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14 thorough 49:25 thoroughty 52:18 thought 7:7 40:4 61:16,23 three 3:23 5:3,7 59:16 60:16 61:9	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6 62:19 treats 36:23 trial 42:13,17 tribal 3:13 6:21 11:7,8,11,19 13:20 14:3,19,20	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8 55:7 58:23,25,25 62:9 tribe's 25:11 32:13 tribes 3:12,16,19 4:14,25 5:24 6:7 6:11,18,25 8:4
61:20 subjected 42:8,17 44:3 subjecting 38:13,18 44:6 submitted 58:13 64:5,7 substance 59:24 60:12 substantive 60:8 sue 10:6 32:25 36:14 43:18 47:15 sued 10:18,19 26:20 47:15 sues 20:8 21:19 suggest 16:22 39:8 suggested 17:11 25:2 suggests 24:4 suit 19:19 20:11 21:25 22:7 23:23	62:12 systems 16:13 50:5 50:16 57:24 58:3 61:24 63:19 T T 2:1,1 tailored 33:22 take 6:1 16:25 18:8 20:6 22:19 23:17 27:14 40:21 takes 35:22 talk 15:21 talking 15:12 16:18 48:15,15 talks 45:18 48:16 48:19 Tasmania 40:19,20 taxation 15:23 22:20 23:19 28:12 48:16	37:5,8,15 38:20 39:11,12,13 41:7 41:11,13,15,19 44:1,2,6,10,11 45:22,23 46:17,19 46:22,25 48:24 49:1,1,16 51:13 53:1 54:18 56:17 57:15 58:3 60:25 61:22 63:18 thinking 22:18 43:17 THOMAS 1:17 2:3 2:13 3:7 59:14 thorough 49:25 thoroughly 52:18 thought 7:7 40:4 61:16,23 three 3:23 5:3,7 59:16 60:16 61:9 threshold 8:2	tracks 22:13 Trading 36:17 42:2 tradition 5:4 13:15 13:24 17:25 18:1 33:15 60:16,25 traditional 17:24 traffic 32:20 tragic 28:22 training 52:15,16 transaction 32:5 treat 38:4,5 treated 16:3 treaties 63:15 treating 14:20 38:6 62:19 treats 36:23 trial 42:13,17 tribal 3:13 6:21 11:7,8,11,19 13:20 14:3,19,20 15:2,5 16:3,4,14	tribally-owned 28:25 tribe 8:22,24 10:19 10:20 14:6 17:17 17:18 18:25 19:9 19:20,25 20:2 21:5,17 22:1,6,13 22:15,21,24 23:18 25:8 27:20 28:4 28:13 29:1,3 32:17,17 33:8 36:13,14 38:6 42:18 44:9 45:18 46:8,16,19 50:8 55:7 58:23,25,25 62:9 tribe's 25:11 32:13 tribes 3:12,16,19 4:14,25 5:24 6:7 6:11,18,25 8:4 11:15 13:12,25

				Page 75
18:21 23:22 24:2	understood 3:21	voting 53:4	19:17 42:20	4
24:10,22 25:17	6:24 22:5 61:4	Voting 55.4	write 62:4	
26:18 29:13 34:15	undertook 49:25	$\overline{\mathbf{W}}$	wrong 9:8 11:6,8	431:8
35:17,18 39:24	under took 49.23 unfair 12:9 21:10	wages 29:4	12:6 14:5,6	45 38:22
42:24 43:5,8	Union 31:18 49:17	wake 51:7	wrongdoer 27:20	49 2:11
52:17 57:11,23,23	49:23 50:21 51:7	wander 42:4	wrote 19:1	5
58:6 61:6,9,24	55:9	wandering 48:10	wrote 19.1	50 34:13
62:23 63:25	United 1:1,14,22	want 3:23 5:7 11:5	X	
Tribes' 16:7	2:10 3:19,25 5:4	14:5 16:10 17:8	$\frac{1}{x}$ 1:2,9	50,000 43:17,20
tribunal 55:21	5:13 13:13 14:1	17:13 29:17 40:25		500 24:22
tried 56:15,21	16:2,6 17:22 21:3	41:9 43:18 47:12	Y	500-plus 24:10 59 2:14
trip 54:21	23:22,25 24:11	47:24 48:22 54:7	Yankee 43:21	39 2.14
Triple 27:4,15	25:12 26:25 27:15	54:8 63:2,12,17	Yeah 53:19	6
truck 33:14	35:13 41:6 44:24	wanted 41:1,1,1,2	year 52:19	
trucks 33:16	49:8,15 60:21,22	45:20 57:14	yes-or-no 42:15	7
true 8:18 9:5 11:22	61:7,10 63:15	Washington 1:10	York 43:18	71:11
15:12 38:10 54:3	unlimited 24:11,22	1:19,22	Yorker 44:4	75,000 37:14
60:22,24 61:23	24:23	wasn't 25:3 62:8	Youth 36:2 37:1	
trying 9:20 13:14	unremarkable 6:18	way 15:6,8 16:12		8
32:14 57:17	unreviewable	19:6,15,18 23:18	Z	9
turn 34:3	14:11	31:4 37:24 38:6	zenith 32:13	
twice 31:17	unusual 12:3 33:15	38:17 42:4 43:7	0	90 61:13
two 6:23 12:1 13:17	upshot 20:25	ways 8:19 16:20	J	
14:5 19:3 21:25	use 17:23 39:2	47:7	1	
40:14 44:11,16	46:20	We'll 3:3	121:5	
50:4 51:24 53:15		we're 36:21 39:6	10:03 1:15 3:2	
60:18 62:1 63:9	V	42:5,5 44:25	100 32:10	
	v 1:6 3:5 8:19 9:10	48:15 54:2	11:04 64:6	
U	38:2 47:22 48:5	we've 11:19 25:9	13-1496 1:5 3:4	
UN 26:25 27:15	58:11 59:8	41:8 54:20	1789 61:13	
unanimous 49:19	various 9:11	went 22:21 31:4	1790 55:11	
unanimously 29:13	vast 41:4	37:25 40:20	1880 61:23	
unbeknownst	verdict 42:9	weren't 57:25	1900 57:17	
33:15	versus 21:13	wide 17:23	1993 50:1 52:10	
unbroken 31:13	view 20:7,11	Williams 38:2		
unconstitutional	violate 23:12 25:14	47:22 48:5	2	
25:21	25:23,23 42:8,16	willing 40:5	2000 52:19	
undermined 58:4	42:20,21,22	win 20:16	2015 1:11	
understand 7:6	violates 58:24	Women 16:12	28 2:7	
13:9 18:19 20:5,6	violating 42:19	word 40:12 53:2	280 15:25	
29:17 31:11 32:15	Violence 16:11	words 35:21 39:16	3	
42:14 61:1 62:15 63:7	47:23	40:14 48:11	3 2:4	
	voluntarily 58:13	work 19:5,17 working 58:19	32 36:23	
understanding 11:1	vote 53:7,13,16,19 53:25 54:1	working 58:19 worried 47:4	369 31:24	
understands 13:15	voted 51:14,17	worried 47.4 wouldn't 14:23	372 58:10	
unuci stanus 13.13	voicu 31.14,1/	wouldil t 14.43	572 50.10	
			l	1