

Cobell Settlement Discussions On Wednesday, March 17th

Members of plaintiffs' litigation team will be visiting the San Carlos Indian Reservation this week to explain the Cobell Settlement and answer questions. Among other things, they will be talking about the \$3.4 billion dollar settlement, the land consolidation Fund, and the Indian education scholarship fund. They will be available on the following day:

Date: Wednesday, March 17
Location: Apache Gold Casino Resort – The Geronimo Room
5 miles East of Globe on Highway 70
Time: 8am – 11am

Background: A Settlement Agreement has been announced between Individual Indian Money (IIM) beneficiaries and the Secretary of the Interior, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior-Indian Affairs, and the Secretary of the Treasury in a long-running class action lawsuit, *Cobell v. Salazar*. The lawsuit claims that the federal government mismanaged individual Indians' trust accounts. Under the terms of the Settlement, the federal government will create a \$1.4 billion Accounting/Trust Administration Fund and a \$2 billion Trust Land Consolidation Fund. The Settlement also creates an Indian Education Scholarship fund of up to \$60 million to improve access to higher education for Indians.

#####