



## PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Disbarred Colville Tribal Spokesperson Zachary Love is Sued by the State of Washington**

(Nespelem, WA) — The Consumer Protection Division of the Washington State Attorney General’s Office has filed a complaint in Spokane County against Zachary E. Love and ZEL & Associates, Inc. The complaint accuses Love of unfair and deceptive advertising and selling of legal services by a nonlawyer, the use of unfair and deceptive retainer agreements, and the failure to deliver agreed upon services or refund monies collected. This civil lawsuit seeks monetary damages against Love on multiple grounds and seeks to dissolve ZEL & Associates, Inc.

The complaint alleges that Love’s deceptive acts and practices targeted and impacted tribal communities. Love was disbarred as a Spokesperson in Colville Tribal Court on June 22, 2021 for, in part, repeatedly misrepresenting himself to be an attorney. He was subsequently disbarred by the Kalispel Tribal Court on March 1, 2022 and disbarred by the Coeur d’Alene Tribal Court on June 7, 2022.

Love is also accused of retaliating against consumers and attorneys who complain about his conduct. For example, the complaint states that Love filed a lawsuit against the Colville Tribes and several of its members in retaliation after he was disbarred as a Spokesperson from Colville Tribal Court. That lawsuit was dismissed. The complaint also asserts that Love’s unlawful conduct is ongoing, as he continues to misrepresent that he is able to competently and lawfully provide legal advice and representation.

If you or any tribal member would like to speak to the Washington State Attorney General’s Office about any experiences with Love, you may reach out directly to the attorneys on the Consumer Protection team who filed the lawsuit. They are Maddie Davis at [maddie.davis@atg.wa.gov](mailto:maddie.davis@atg.wa.gov) and Susana Croke at [susana.croke@atg.wa.gov](mailto:susana.croke@atg.wa.gov). The Attorney General’s Office says they are grateful to tribal members who have already shared information with them.

Colville Business Council Chairman Jarred-Michael Erickson said, “I want to thank the Colville Tribes staff who were instrumental in exposing wrongdoing that led to Love’s disbarment as a Spokesperson in Colville Tribal Court. I also applaud the Washington State Attorney General’s Office for their efforts to seek justice in this matter.”

Chairman Erickson continued, “The Colville Tribes will always protect its members and other citizens to the best of our ability. People who think they can prey on our community without suffering consequences are badly mistaken.”

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,287 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The twelve tribes which compose the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation include: ščəlámxəx<sup>w</sup> (deep water) or Chelan; walwáma (Wallowa people) or Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; sǰ<sup>w</sup>yǰilp (sharp pointed trees) or Colville; šntiyátk<sup>wəx</sup> (grass in the water) or Entiat; snǰáyckst (speckled fish) or Lakes; mətx<sup>w</sup>u (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənəx<sup>w</sup> (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nespelem; uknaqin (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; sənpǰ<sup>w</sup>ilx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnpəšq<sup>w</sup>áwsəx<sup>w</sup> (people in between) or Wenatchi.