

Governor Brown Announces Appointment of First Tribal Advisor

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Sacramento Business Journal by Mark Anderson, Staff Writer

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California Governor Jerry Brown has appointed Cynthia Gomez, 54 as the first governor's tribal adviser and also as executive secretary for the Native American Heritage Commission.

At a meeting of the Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations in Sacramento in September 2011, Brown issued an executive order establishing the position of tribal adviser in the Office of the Governor.

Gomez is chief justice for the Shingle Springs Rancheria Band of Miwok Indians Tribal Court.

She is a member of the Tribal and State Court Forum for the California Administrative Office of the Courts, and she has served as chairwoman of the Transportation Research Board's Native American Transportation Issues Committee.

A Democrat, she served from 2008 to 2010 as assistant secretary of environmental justice and tribal governmental policy for the California Environmental Protection Agency. She also has worked at other state of California agencies.

She earned a law degree from University of Northern California Lorenzo Patiño School of Law in Sacramento.

Her appointment does not require confirmation. Compensation is \$140,000.