

C STEVEN HAGER: A BIOGRAPHY



CLAY STEVEN HAGER¹

C. Steven Hager was born February 25, 1958, in Enid, Oklahoma.² He graduated from Enid High School in 1976 and then graduated from Phillips University in 1981.³ After completing his Bachelor's degree, Hager worked for the *Enid News & Eagle* as a photojournalist.⁴ Later, he moved to Norman, Oklahoma, where he earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1987.⁵

1. Photo from Obituary, *Clay Steven Hager*, ENID NEWS & EAGLE (Feb. 11, 2021), <https://obituaries.enidnews.com/obituary/clay-hager-1081605746>.

2. Obituary, *Clay Steven Hager*, *supra* note 1.

3. *Id.*

4. *Id.*

5. *Id.*

Beginning in 1990, Hager served as a senior staff attorney at the Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, OILS.⁶ During his time at OILS, he authored twenty-four editions of the *Indian Child Welfare Act: Case, Regulation and Analysis*.⁷ Hager wrote for the Oklahoma Supreme Court's annual Sovereignty Symposium several times for the Hargrave Writing Prize; placing second in 2013, 2014, 2018, and 2019; winning the competition in 2015.⁸

Along with his career at OILS, Hager served as the Chief Judge for the Kickapoo Nation in Kansas as well as the Supreme Court for the Kaw Nation of Oklahoma.⁹ He served as a member of the Board of Directors for the National American Indian Court Judge's Association and the Kansas Tribal-State Judicial Committee.¹⁰ Twice, Hager served as the chair of the Indian Law Section of the Oklahoma Bar Association.¹¹ As an adjunct professor, Hager taught in the Masters of Law and L.L.M. programs with a specialization in Indigenous Peoples Law at the University of Oklahoma College of Law.¹²

6. *Id.*

7. *Id.*

8. *Id.*

9. *Id.*

10. *Id.*

11. *Id.*

12. *Id.*