NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

We are pleased to present our June 2002 issue, which contains our annual summary of Alaska state and federal court cases, The Year in Review. This edition offers a nice selection of articles and comments, as well as a Student Note. The Articles by Sheri L. Hazeltine and Mark Andrews are complementary and are paired in this issue. The piece by Hazeltine focuses on the failure of Alaska state law, embodied in the new Child in Need of Aid statutes (“CINA”), to meet the mandates of the Indian Child Welfare Act (“ICWA”) regarding termination of parental rights when the child is Indian. Hazeltine argues that the CINA laws should be amended to incorporate requirements of the ICWA. The Andrews article offers a closer look at an element of both the CINA statutes and the ICWA: the “efforts” requirement, the duty of the Department of Health and Social Services to reunify the family before proceeding with the termination of parental rights. The Andrews piece provides an in-depth comparison of “active efforts,” the standard imposed by the ICWA, and “reasonable efforts,” the standard under the CINA laws. The article analyzes caselaw from the Alaska Supreme Court regarding the interpretation of these two standards.

Some of you will notice that this year’s Year in Review is a bit shorter than in recent issues. Because we were fortunate to receive so many interesting submissions for this issue, we have summarized some of this year’s cases in an Appendix in the back of the issue. However, you’ll find full summaries of these cases online on our website, at http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/alr. Remember to be looking for additional new features on our website as it is updated over the summer!

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to manage the Alaska Law Review this year. I thoroughly enjoyed my first visit to Alaska in March of last year, and it was a pleasure to meet so many of our authors and our readers. Those of us on this year’s Editorial Board thank you all for your support and encouragement, and as we turn over the reins to next year’s Board, we look forward to continuing to produce a useful, high-quality journal for all of you.

Jennifer Tomsen