

---

Santa Clara Pueblo v. Martinez (1978) Trial  
Transcripts

Law and Indigenous Peoples Program

---

11-25-1974

## 05: Floripa Northcutt-Direct Exam.pdf (113.5Kb)

U.S. District Court for the District of New Mexico

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/  
law\\_certificate\\_indianlaw\\_santaclara](https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/law_certificate_indianlaw_santaclara)  
University of New Mexico  
UNM Digital Repository

---

### Recommended Citation

U.S. District Court Docket No. 9717 Civil; 436 U.S. 49 (1978)

This Transcript is brought to you for free and open access by the Law and Indigenous Peoples Program at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Santa Clara Pueblo v. Martinez (1978) Trial Transcripts by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact [amywinter@unm.edu](mailto:amywinter@unm.edu), [lsloane@salud.unm.edu](mailto:lsloane@salud.unm.edu), [sahrk@unm.edu](mailto:sahrk@unm.edu).

MR. TARADASH: Plaintiffs call Mrs. Northcutt.

FLORIPA NORTHCUTT,

having been first duly sworn according to law, upon her oath testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. TARADASH:

Q Would you please state your name for the record?

A I'm Floripa Northcutt.

Q And where are you from, Mrs. Northcutt?

A I'm from Santa Clara.

Q Were your parents also from Santa Clara?

A Yes, sir.

Q Were they both members of the Pueblo?

A Yes, sir.

Q Are you yourself a member of the Pueblo?

A Yes, sir.

Q Are you married?

A Yes.

Q Do you have children?

A Yes.

Q Is your husband a member of the Pueblo?

A No.

Q Are your children members of the Pueblo?

A No.

Q Has your husband ever sought to become a member of the

1 Pueblo?

2 A No.

3 Q Do you know if he at this time wants to become a member  
4 of the Pueblo?

5 A No.

6 MR. PRELO: I object, Your Honor, as to what her  
7 husband wants at this time.

8 THE COURT: Sustained.

9 Q (By Mr. Taradash) Do you have sisters and brothers,  
10 Mrs. Northcutt?

11 A Yes, I do.

12 Q How many sisters do you have?

13 A Well, I have two half sisters and two half brothers,  
14 and then there is one brother living now and one sister  
15 living now, of my full brother and sister.

16 Q As to your half brothers and sisters, are all four members  
17 of the Pueblo?

18 A Yes, they are.

19 Q As to your full brother and sister, are they both members  
20 of the Pueblo?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Did any of your sisters marry as you did to an outsider,  
23 one who is not a member of the Pueblo?

24 A Yes.

25 Q What is her name?

1 A Felicita Naranjo.

2 Q Who did she marry?

3 A Well, first she was married to Isleta, his name is Ralph  
4 Lucero, but he was killed in the World War II.

5 Q Were there any children that were born as a result of that  
6 marriage?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Does she reside at the Santa Clara Pueblo?

9 A No, just off and on. She's been living in Albuquerque  
10 and Los Alamos and back and forth.

11 Q The child that she had pursuant to her marriage with the  
12 man from Isleta who was killed in the war, is that child  
13 a member of the Santa Clara Pueblo?

14 A Yes, sir.

15 Q Do you vote in the Santa Clara Pueblo Tribal elections?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Do you vote in national elections?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Is there any prohibition that you know of that prevents  
20 women from Santa Clara Pueblo from voting in Tribal  
21 elections?

22 A Not that I know of.

23 Q Are members of the Santa Clara Pueblo entitled to run  
24 cattle on Pueblo land?

25 A I don't think so, not to my knowledge. I had been denied

1 on that in 1962.

2 Q Did you try to run cattle --

3 A Yes, I have, and Governor Pat Gutierrez was the Governor  
4 at this time.

5 Q Did he offer you a reason why you could not run cattle?

6 A It was because I was married to a non-member.

7 Q Is that what he told you?

8 A That's what they told me at the Council. That I was given  
9 five days to take my cattle out, which was running with  
10 his sister's cattle, which his sister was married to a  
11 non-member, too.

12 Q Did you later remove those cattle?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Did you attempt to lease some land --

15 A Yes, I have, on the west side of the Rio Grande, where  
16 they call it the grazing land, which, at this time,  
17 Mr. Kirby was renting, who is a non-Indian.

18 Q Was your request to lease that land granted?

19 A No.

20 Q You were not permitted to lease the land?

21 A No.

22 Q Was any reason offered why you were refused permission to  
23 lease that land?

24 A Because they said I was married to a non-member, and I  
25 offered to pay more than -- my husband and I offered to

1 pay more than Mr. Kirby, and then after that day they  
2 went ahead and leased to another non-Indian, who is Mr.  
3 Paul Montoya.

4 Q Are you a member of the Summer or Winter People?

5 A The Winter.

6 Q Which faction of the Winter people are you with? Let me  
7 rephrase that. Who is the leader of the faction that you  
8 are in?

9 A Well, the leader I recognize now, and has been, even when  
10 my father was still living, is Mr. Alcario Tafoya.

11 Q And who is the leader of all of the Winter People, all of  
12 the factions?

13 A Well, he is the leader, as far as that go, because he is  
14 the older man, and he is the one that has the priority  
15 over all things. It's supposed to be, where the Winter  
16 People have to go around, and he is the leader.

17 Q So the leader --

18 A He is the leader of all the Winter People.

19 MR. TARADASH: No further questions at this time,  
20 Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Prelo.

22 MR. PRELO: If the Court please, could I look at the  
23 Court File for a moment?

24 THE COURT: Yes.  
25