

D. Changes of Fiduciaries

Where it is concluded that the estate of a minor or of an adult who is not capable of managing his own affairs has not been well or economically administered, the Bureau should retain control of income accruing and administer the same under individual Indian money accounts until changes of fiduciaries or attorneys can be effected or other arrangements made. This is a task requiring great discretion and consideration of the desires of the individual Indians concerned, but it should proceed without delay.

E. Litigation

1. Senci Lease

The Senci lease is the principal matter presently in litigation in which the United States has appeared on behalf of the Indian interests involved.

On April 23, 1963, Secretarial approval was given to the so-called Senci lease. This lease was for a term of 70 years and covered approximately 600 acres of Indian trust lands in Palm Springs which had been allotted to five minor Indians. Due to the death of one of the principals and the resulting inability of the lessee to meet rental obligations, the lease was terminated in December 1965.

The litigation involves a fee or commission of \$50,000 awarded by the court for services allegedly performed incident to the lease by Ernest Dunlevie Associates and Judge Eugene E. Therieau. Four Indian estates have paid in excess of \$17,000 of the \$50,000 fee.