

a duty not imposed by law, but I think it's something that Judge McCabe and Judge Brown expected us to do.

Mr. TUNNEY. Were there any Indian wards, to your knowledge, released from the conservator relationship as a result of a petition by the conservator of the Indian estates?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. There were.

Mr. TUNNEY. How many?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. There'd be Pete Siva.

Mr. TUNNEY. Was that at his request or the request of the conservator?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. I don't honestly know. May have been at Pete's request. Another termination was Virginia Sanchez. That has been quite a while ago, but I—Virginia hired me to prepare the petition for her termination. I believe that was—I believe that it was at both the request of the conservator and she. I had two petitions filed just recently which haven't come up yet, where I, the attorney for the conservator—I'm trying to think of ones in the past. Leroy, there was a petition filed on his behalf, or by him, for the termination of his conservatorship some time ago.

Mr. TUNNEY. I'm thinking of before the investigation had started.

Mr. HOLLOWELL. No, there were very few, very few.

Mr. TUNNEY. Well, one of the things which has come to my attention as a problem with this arrangement in existence in Palm Springs was that the Indians, once they became 21, and once they automatically had a conservator appointed for them, had little or no opportunity ever to void this onus for having a conservator to be able to get out from under the conservator relationship, and apparently, from your testimony you know the system, or you feel that the system as far as the law itself is concerned sanctions this, because under the law there is no requirement to educate the ward to enable the ward to get out from under the conservator relationship.

Mr. HOLLOWELL. I think there's a moral to this. I have one lady I am conservator for who I tried to include in all my negotiations, encouraged to go to the College of the Desert and I'm pretty sure she's going. I helped her with the application forms. I think the vast majority of people have done everything they could to encourage and teach. I've been in an unhappy situation of having the Bureau of Indian Affairs come in and object to my fees, because I have several Indians who are very curious about legalities and they want to know everything that's going on. I have two little girls that come in and we spend quite a little time together. My petition for fees under submission last week, Judge Marsh's big objection to my fees were that I spent this time with the girls, as new tenants answering questions that the bank wasn't qualified to answer. They were insisting and they were questioning everything, which I think is beautiful, and they wanted to know why.

Mr. TUNNEY. But, as I understand your testimony, the law does not provide that a conservator has to make an accounting to any higher authority, judge or anyone else, that he is actually trying to educate his ward so that that ward will be in a position to terminate the conservator relationship and be able to manage his own affair?

Mr. HOLLOWELL. No, the law does not provide that.

Mr. TUNNEY. There's no requirement under the law?