

JAIL: A building in which a person who has (allegedly) broken the law is locked up.

Wáalya; 'awáalya.

JAIL CELL: An individual room within a jail.

Awáalya góne' áhoołts'íísigo nahaz'ánigíí.

JAILER: Keeper of a jail.

Dáádéesdáhi; awáalyaai yaa áhályáni.

JEALOUS: 1. Fearful that a person one loves may love someone else;  
2. envious; 3. suspicious.

Le' hasin; oolch'íid; ooch'íid.

JEWEL: A precious and expensive stone.

Yódi.

JEWELER: One who makes or sells precious stones or metals to be used for decoration.

Béesh ligaii baa nidahaniihígíí; béesh ligaii ádeil'inígíí.

SILVERSMITH: One who makes valuable objects out of silver.

Béesh ligaii yitsidí; atsidii.

JEWELRY SHOP: A store that sells precious stones or metals to be used for decoration.

Béesh ligaii nidahaniihígíí.

JUDGE: The person who runs a courtroom, decides all questions of law and sometimes decides the entire case.

Nihwii'aahii; ánihwii'aahii.

JUDGE, TRIAL (DISTRICT): See Judge.

APPELLATE JUDGE: A judge in a higher court that has the power to change the decisions of the lower courts. (See also Supreme Court Justice.)

Wódahdi aadahwiinít'íí góne' nihwii'aahii.

**JUDGMENT:** The official decision of a court about the rights and claims of each side in a lawsuit; a final decision that is based on the facts of the case and made at the end of a trial.

Nihoot , atso aadahwiiníst'íidgo bee nihoot'ánagíí.

**JUDGMENT NOT WITHSTANDING THE VERDICT:** A situation where the judge changes the verdict of a jury (usually because the verdict has been counter to a point of law).

Azhá shíí naakits'aadah dah nídinibíhígíí nidahaz'áa ndi beehaz'áanii bik'ehgo doo ákót'ée dago nihwii'aahii hats'áá' lahgo ánéidoodlííí.

**JUDICIAL REVIEW:** The court's power to declare whether or not a statute is constitutional and to interpret laws.

Bee nahaz'áanii bee da'inishígíí baa áháyá dóó bik'i adéest'í'ígíí éí aadahwiinít'í bíł haz'áájí bee bídahólnííh.

**JUDICIARY:** The branch of government that interprets the law and judges legal questions.

Aadahwiinít'í bíł haz'áájí; aadahwiinít'í bíł nahazt'i'jí.

**JURISDICTION:** It is the authority, capacity, power or right to act.

Bee óhólnííh; biyaa siláago bee bóhólnííh.

**FEDERAL JURISDICTION:** The geographical or legal areas where the federal courts and federal agencies have the authority, power, capacity or right to act.

Wáashindoon bi'aanáhat'inígíí bíł haz'áájí bee bóhólnííh dóó bídéét'i'.

**STATE JURISDICTION:** The geographical or legal areas where the state courts and state agencies have the authority, power, capacity, or right to act.

Nitsaa hadahwiisdzo bi'aanáhat'ííjí bídéét'i' dóó bee bóhólnííh.

**TRIBAL JURISDICTION:** The geographical or legal areas where tribal courts and tribal agencies have the authority, power, capacity, or right to act.

T'áá dinéjí aanáhat'inígíí bídéét'i' dóó bee bóhólnííh.

JURY: A group of persons (usually twelve) selected by law and sworn in to look at certain facts and determine the truth.

Naakits'áadah dah nídinibíìhígíí.

JURY BOX: The enclosed place where the jury sits during a trial.

Naakits'áadah dah nídinibíìh bá haz'ánigi.

JURY DELIBERATES: When the jury carefully considers, discusses and works toward making a decision or verdict in a case.

Altso aahwiiníst'íìd dóó bik'íì' naakits'áadah dah nídinibíìhígíí yaa yádadooltih dóó yaa ntsídadookosgo índa nidahodoo'áál.

JURY PANEL: The group of people from which the jury is selected.

Naakits'áadah dah nídinibíìhí náhaasdláh'ígíí.

JURY SELECTION: The process in a trial, before the presenting of evidence, by which the jury is picked from the jury panel.

Naakits'áadah dah nídinibíìhí bits'áhádlááh or náhádlááh.

JURY TRIAL: A trial in which the final verdict is made by a jury instead of a judge.

Naakits'áadah dah nídinibíìhígíí yee nidahodoo'áál biniyé bináál aahwiinít'í.

JUST: Legal or lawful; morally right; fair.

T'áá beelt'éeé gónc'.

JUSTICE: Fairness and equality in treatment by the law.

Beehaz'áanii binahjí' t'áá beelt'éeé góne' baa ntsáhákees.

JUSTIFY: To give good reasons for one's actions.

Biniinaanii t'áá aaníigo.

JUSTIFICATION: A reason that will stand up in court for an intentional action that would otherwise be unlawful; a just cause; for example: self-defense may be justification for a killing.

Biniinaanii hólóqgo; biniyéii hólóqgo.

JUVENILE: Someone under the legal age to which she/he is held responsible for his/her actions. Usually this means 17 years old or younger.

Tsilkéí dóó ch'ikéí " nooséligíí.

JUVENILE COURT: A court set up to handle cases of either delinquent or neglected children.

Álchíní baa dahwiinit'íí góne'; nooséí baa dahwiinit'íí góne'.

JUVENILE DELINQUENT: A minor who has done an illegal act or who has been proved in court to seriously misbehave.

Nooséí doo ákóó ádaat'inígíí.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY: Crimes committed by juveniles.

Nooséí ádaah dah nidahat'a'ígíí; nooséí beehaz'aanii dayiitihígíí.

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER: A jail for juveniles.

Álchíní be'awáalya; nooséí ádaah dah nidahat'a'ii bini' nidaak'aas bil haz'aagi.

JUVENILE CORRECTION INSTITUTION: A prison for juveniles.

Álchíní be'awáalya hóttaa.

**KIDNAP:** The act of taking away and holding a person illegally.

Bíla' ashdla'ii neest'íí'; béeso biniyé bíla' ashdla'ii neest'íí'; nályééh bee wókeedgo bíla' ashdla'ii nii'oh yidlóóz (holding a person in seclusion for ransom).

**KIDNAPPER:** One who intentionally takes another person and compels him/her to be detained against his will; one who unlawfully detains another person.

Bíla' ashdla'ii yineez'íí'ii.

**KILL:** To destroy the life of a person.

Iisyí; seesyí; azéé' yist'ííd.

**KILLING:** The act of destroying a life.

Na'atsee.

**KIN OR KINDRED:** Blood relationship. Relation or relationship by blood or consanguinity.

Ak'éí; hak'éí; k'éí danilínígíí.

**NEXT OF KIN:** Closest relative.

T'áá áyídigo k'éí danilínígíí; hwéelchíín.

**CLAN:** Group of related families that claim to be descended from a common ancestor.

Ádóone'é; ádóone'é ídlínígíí; dóone'é; dóone'é ídlínígíí.

**KINSHIP:** Ak'éí; hak'éí; k'éí.

**KNIFE:** Béésh; béésh bee na'agizhígíí.

**KNOW:** To have direct awareness of; to be acquainted or familiar with.

Ił bééhózinígíí (know how); baa ákohwiinidzinígíí (awareness).

**KNOWINGLY:** With full knowledge and intentionally; willfully.

T'áá hoł bééhózingo t'áá ákójínehgo.

**KNOWLEDGE:** Awareness, comprehension, familiarity, know how, understanding.

Ił bééhózinígíí (know how - understanding); bik'i'diitánígíí (comprehension); baa ákohwiinidzinígíí (awareness); hoł bééhózin dóó binahjí' t'áá íiyísíí t'áá ák'ót'é (to his/her best knowledge and belief).

KNOWLEDGEABLE: See Knowledge.

LABOR: Work, task.

Na'anish.

LABORER: Worker.

Naalnishí; naalnishii.

LACERATE: To cut; to bruise or scrape.

Jizhgish; jizhch'ish; ahisiizghaz.

LACERATION: Rough tear, wound.

Niheeshgizh; niheesgaz.

LACK: Be in need; be inadequate; be without; fall short.

Bá áhadin; bi'oh neel'á.

LACK (OF SUFFICIENT) OF EVIDENCE: No evidence (lack); not enough evidence.

Bee iyeet'íinii bąh ádin; bee iyeet'íni t'áá bąh ádin.

LAND: Area of ground or earth.

Kéyah.

LANDOWNER: One who holds personal possession of an area of ground or earth.

Bikéyah ílíinii.

LAPSE: The end or failure of a right because of neglect to enforce or use it within a time limit.

Bee i'íí'á; biláhooshzhiizh.

LARCENY: Stealing of any kind (See also grand larceny).

Aneest'íí'.

LAW: Rules of conduct which must be obeyed and followed by citizens, subject to sanction of legal consequences.

Beehaz'ánii; bee haz'á; bee nahaz'ánii.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE TYPES OF LAWS:

CASELAW: Judge made law or laws that come from judges' opinions.

Nihwii'aahii beehaz'áanii ádayiilaaígíí.

CODE: A collection of laws.

Beenahaz'áanii al'aa ádaat'éhígíí dóó alkée' ádaalyaaígíí  
ahídei'nilgo.

STATUTE: A law passed by a legislature.

Naat'áanii beehaz'áanii ádayiilaaígíí.

CONSTITUTION: The basic first document of a nation or state that sets out its basic principles and general laws, from which most other laws are drawn and to which all other laws must yield.

Beehaz'áanii nitsaaígíí; beehaz'áaniitsoh; beehaz'áanii sání.

ORDINANCE: A local law.

Beehaz'áanii yázhí t'áá áyídigo bee na'anishígíí (local ordinance).

JUVENILE LAW: The principles, standards, and rules that apply to a person below the age of an adult.

Beehaz'áanii nooséli báhígíí; álchíní bibeehaz'áanii.

REGULATION: A "mini-law"; a rule made by an administrative agency.

Beehaz'áanii yázhí bik'ehgo da'ínishígíí.

LAW AND ORDER: A general state of society in which laws are typically obeyed and order typically maintained in social and political relations.

Beehaz'áanii diné t'áá aítso bá át'éego binahjí' hasht'e  
hodít'éhígíí.

LAWFUL: Legal, authorized by law, not forbidden by law.

T'áá beehaz'á; bee haz'áaniik'ehgo.

LAWSUIT: A civil action; a court proceeding to enforce a right.

Beehaz'áanii bik'ehgo aawhiinít'í.



**LAWYER:** One who studies law and legal proceedings and is employed to act on behalf of plaintiffs, respondents, defendants or the state.

Agha'diit'aahii; áyálti'i.

**LAY OFF:** A dismissing of workers temporarily.

T'óó áłtsééd naanish bits'áho'deelt'e'.

**LAY WITNESS:** One who testifies to what she/he has seen, heard, or otherwise observed.

Oo'íinii.

**LEAD:** To inappropriately question a witness so as to invade the function of the witness by overly structuring or suggesting testimony.

Oo'íinii bá hojoolnihgo neiízhdíłkid; bá bik'eh ádahojile'go oo'íinii neiízhdíłkid.

**LEASE:** A contract for the use of land or buildings for a given period of time, but not for their ownership.

Kéyah dóo kin da bik'é ni'iilyéego t'óó áłtsééd choo'į.

**LEGAL:** Required or permitted by law; not forbidden by law; concerning or about the law.

Bee áhaz'ą; bee ha'deet'ą; bee há ahóót'i'; haz'ą.

**LEGAL ACTION:** A legal movement against one's adversary.

Beehaz'ánii binahjį' aahwiinít'ínígíí.

**LEGAL ADVICE/LEGAL ADVISOR:** Suggestions for action or tactics made by a lawyer, one who gives such suggestions.

Bee nahaz'ánii bína'niltinígíí.

**LEGAL AID:** A place that provides free legal help to poor persons.

Agha'diit'aahii bíł haz'ánidi t'áá jíík'e áká'i'doolwolígíí.

**LEGAL DEFENSE:** The defense of one's interest in court, according to proper legal practice.

Beehaz'ánii binahjį' ach'ąąh na'edáhígíí; beehaz'ąani binahjį' ach'ąąh háá'iidziihígíí.

**LEGAL FEE:** The money that the lawyer(s) charges the client for the lawyer's work.

Agha'diit'aahii béeso bich'ì' siláhígíí; agha' diit'aahii biyeel.

**LEGAL ISSUE:** A debate about what a law means or what the proper application of a law is.

Adááhdeé' nehet'éehii beehaz'áanii binahjì' baa hwiinít'ínígíí.

**LEGAL NAME:** The name under which a person or entity has legal rights or responsibilities.

T'áá íiyisíí t'áá bízhi'ígíí.

**LEGAL NOTICE:** The providing of information to someone, as legally required.

Bee íì hóóne'; beehaz'áanii bik'ehgo íì hóóne'.

**LEGAL PROCEEDINGS:** Any actions taken in court or connected with a lawsuit.

Aadahwiinít'ìì góne' bee aanáhódóot'ììlii yah ahit'éhígíí;  
aadahwiinít'ìì góne' bee aanáhódóot'ììlii yah ahidit'aahígíí.

**LEGAL PROFESSION:** The job of being a lawyer; the people who work as lawyers.

Agha'diit'aahii binaanish.

**LEGAL REMEDIES:** Decisions by the legal system which "cure" problems.

Beehaz'áanii bee la' hooníligíí.

**LEGAL RESIDENCE:** Actually living in a place and intending to stay there.

T'áá íiyisíí kééhojit'ììgi; atah iní'jì'ahígi (where one votes).

**LEGAL RIGHTS:** The benefits or protections that one enjoys by law.

Beehaz'áanii ílìigo bee há ahóót'i'.

**LEGAL SEPARATION:** A situation in which husband and wife as parties are formally made distinct from each other for the purposes of the assignment of marital debts, property, rights, or responsibilities.

Beehaz'áanii binahjì' t'áá haada nízahjì' alts'áá ít'aash.

**LEGAL STATUS:** One's legal "identity" in terms of rights and responsibilities.

Beehaz'áanii binahjì' t'áá hó dzizinígi dóó ájít'éegi bee hwéého'dílzínígíí.

**LEGAL TENDER:** Official money (dollar bills, coins, etc).

Béeso.

**LEGAL TITLE:** Formal, documented ownership, by the letter of the law.

Beehaz'áanii binahjì' honaalye'é binaaltsoos.

**LEGALESE:** Unnecessary legal jargon, purposefully confusing use of legal language.

Beehaz'áaniiji saad bee hadízhnídzih.

**LEGALITY:** Lawfulness.

Bee haz'á.

**LEGALIZE:** To change the status of some previously illegal activity and make it lawful.

Bee haz'áago ályaa.

**LEGALLY INCOMPETENT:** The situation of a person who is formally ruled to be not able to carry on legal and business affairs in a rational and mature way.

Beehaz'áanii bik'ehgo doo bíjiiǵhahgóó haa nitsáhákees; éí doodago bi'oh jineel'áago haa nitsáhákees.

**LEGALLY SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE:** Evidence which is all that the law requires.

Beehaz'áanii bik'ehgo níl'íjigo bee iyeet'íní ádoolníilgo bohónéedzǵ.

**LEGISLATE:** To enact or pass laws.

Beehaz'áanii áálníligíí.

**LEGISLATIVE:** Lawmaking process.

Beehaz'áanii bik'eh ádahalne'.

**LEGITIMATE:** Lawful or legal; to make lawful.

T'áá bee haz'á; beehaz'áanii binahjì' ílǵ.

**LENIENCY (LENIENCE):** Easy treatment of a convicted person, particularly in the setting of a sentence.

T'áá ach'í'go; t'áá a'í'go.

**LENIENT:** Not harsh or strict.

T'áá aahojooba'k'ehgo; t'áá ach'í'go; ach'í'go.

**LESSER INCLUDED OFFENSE:** A less serious crime that is part of a more serious crime, for example, a manslaughter is a lesser crime included in the description of murder. (See also Offense.)

Beehaz'áanii k'éti'go bee ádihozhdíilt'i'ígíí bits'á nídaazt'i'go t'áá ayáhágo danilínígíí.

**LIABILITY:** A broad word for legal obligation, responsibility or debt.

Hodidoot'ihgo haz'á; bá ninázhdootl'ishgo haz'á; bee hak'ihodidoot'áál.

**LIABLE:** Responsible for something (such as harm done to another person); having a duty or obligation enforceable in court against a person by another person.

See Liability.

**LIABLE TO PENALTY:** Having the legal capacity to bear a penalty.

Nályééhk'ehjí bá ninázhdootl'ish.

**CRIMINALLY LIABLE:** Able to suffer a penalty because of having committed a crime.

Awáalya bíł naat'i'jí bá ninázhdootl'ish.

**LIAR:** One who tells untruths.

Biyooch'íidii; biyooch'ídí.

**LIBEL:** False accusation, particularly in writing or printing, which damages someone's reputation.

Diné la' yooch'íid bee baa nahojilne'go naaltsoos bikáá' ájiilaago bee atíjiilaa.

**LIBERTY:** Personal rights under the law.

Beehaz'áanii binahjí' há ahóót'i'.

LIE: A falsehood, an untruth.

Yooch'iid.

LIEU: "In lieu of" means instead of, in place of.

Bitsásk'ehjì'; t'óó ákwe'égi.

LIFE: Continued biological existence as a growing and functioning organism.

Iiná; gáál.

LIFE IMPRISONMENT: Staying locked up in prison for the rest of one's life.

Sá agháágoó awáalya bee há nihoot'á.

LIFE INSURANCE: A contractual agreement, according to which a person makes regular payments to an insurer. The insurer agrees that, upon the death of the person, the insurer will make a payment to a third person.

Háadi da iiná ninít'i'go biniiyé béeso ách'ááh naa'niligíí.

LIFE OR DEATH: Describes a situation which is critically dangerous and life-threatening.

Hodiyoolhéeelgo haz'á; azéé' yidoot'ììlgo haz'á.

LIFE SENTENCE: Same as Life Imprisonment.

Sá agháágoó awáalya bee há nihoot'á.

LIGHT SENTENCE: A penalty or term in prison which is relatively short or easy.

T'áá ach'ì'go há nihoot'á; t'áá ászólígo há nihoot'á.

LIMITATION: A restriction.

Bá nihodeenii'.

LIQUOR: Distilled alcoholic beverage.

Tó tsi'nida'iiláhi.

LITIGATE: 1. Actively carry on a lawsuit. 2. Carry on the trial part of a lawsuit.

Baa hwiinít'ì.

**LITIGANT:** A party to (participant in) a lawsuit.

Diné atah baa nídahat'ínígíí; diné atah astsoozígíí.

**LITIGATION:** A lawsuit.

Bee ni'íltsoozgo binahjí' aahwiinit'ínígíí.

**LIVELIHOOD:** The manner in which one earns a living.

Bee jiináanii; bee iiná ájíl'íinii.

**LOBBYING:** Attempting to persuade a legislator (Tribal Councilmen, State Legislator or Congressman) to vote a certain way on a bill or to introduce a bill.

T'áadoo le'é baa hwiinit'íigo hastóí bídahólníihii bee bíł nahojilne' hach'ijí dadooleel biniyé.

**LOCAL:** Residing or pertaining to a small, well-defined area.

T'áá áyídígóó; t'áá áhánígóó.

**LOCALITY:** Place.

T'áá ákwe'é; t'áá áyídígóó.

**LOCATION:** Place.

Ákwe'é; áadi.

**LOSE:** To have removed or misplaced from one's possession.

Yóó' eeldéel; haa honeezná (loss in contest).

**LOSS:** That which is gone, a broad word that can mean anything from a total loss to a partial loss.

Yóó' eeldéel; yóó' ee'nil; aahoneezná.

**LUCRATIVE:** Profitable; producing much money.

Béeso bee ál'ínígíí; béeso be nááhábíhígíí.

**LOVE AFFAIR:** A romantic relationship.

Ahíł dážhnoolníigo na'at'aash; ahízhneedłíigo na'at'aash; ayóó áhi'jó'ní.

LOWER COURT: Trial court.

Aadahwiinít'í wóyahgo bíł haz'ánígíí.

LUST (e.g. TO LUST FOR or TO LUST AFTER): Irresponsible (usually sexual) excitement and motivation.

Adáahjí' jíłí; adázhnoolní; ajil ho'niilhí; na'acha'.

LYING: Purposefully not telling the truth.

Yooch'íid; wooch'íid.