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# ONEIDA TRIBAL JUDICIAL SYSTEMO BY: W



IN THE MATTER OF: Judiciary and other Election Matters

Michael T. Debraska, Leah Sue Dodge, Franklin Cornelius, John G. Orie, and Bradley Graham, Appellants

Docket No. 14-AC-012 V.

Oneida Business Committee, Oneida Election Board, and Oneida Law Office, Respondents

## **OBJECTION TO RESPONDENTS' REQUEST TO HAVE CASE 14-AC-012** TRANSFERRED TO THE ONEIDA JUDICIARY

We, as the Appellants in the above matter, hereby file this written objection to the Respondents' request to have this case (14-AC-012) transferred from the Oneida Tribal Judicial System to the Oneida Tribal Judiciary. As this case directly pertains to issues surrounding the Special Election of the Judiciary, and its possible illegitimacy due to the concerns raised by the Appellants, it is a direct and unacceptable conflict of interest for the Judiciary itself to adjudicate this matter which goes to the heart of Appellants' assertion that the Respondents don't play fair.

Given that the implementation date for the Judiciary is now January 5, 2015, as determined by the Oneida Business Committee at its October 28, 2014, meeting [Exhibit A], the decision by this Court to transfer this matter to the Judiciary would unnecessarily result in suspension of the consideration of this case until sometime after January 5, 2015, and more than likely some time well thereafter. The Respondents' actions have demonstrated their belief that nothing precludes them from delaying the implementation of the Judiciary even further.

Undeniably, the transfer of this case to the Judiciary would thereby improperly result in an avoidable and unnecessary delay of justice and appears to be little more than a stall tactic on the part of the Respondents to further delay and avoid adjudication by the Appeals Commission.

The Respondents knew or should have known that their request for transfer would result in an unnecessary and improper delay given that their Request to Have Case Transferred to the Oneida Judiciary was filed on October 21, 2014, by which time OBC Vice-Chair Melinda J. Danforth had already issued a Memorandum on October 16, 2014 [Exhibit B], requesting an OBC Meeting be held to consider a letter signed by the Chief Judges of the Judiciary (strangely) dated October 17, 2014 [Exhibit C], which asks Respondents to delay the Judiciary's implementation until January 5, 2015.

Bizarrely, the letter signed by the Chief Trial and Appellate Judges of the Judiciary includes the patently false claim that, "[t]he delays [resulting in their request to delay implementation of the Judiciary] are not the fault of the Business Committee[.]"

In reality, Respondents are directly responsible for the juggling of Judiciary Judgeships and the multiple avoidable delays of the election of the Judiciary election, given that:

- (1) Respondents failed to properly assess the anticipated caseload of the Family Court which required them to ask General Tribal Council at the June 16, 2014 GTC Special Meeting to allow for a Judge position to be eliminated from the Judiciary Trial Court and instead allow for a second Judge position be created in the Family Court so that Respondents could appoint another Judge to the Family Court [Exhibit D; Page 6; Lines 308 on.];
- (2) Respondents failed to properly monitor and object to the decisions made and publications issued by the Election Board regarding the qualifications for Judiciary all candidates, as

admitted by current OBC Vice-Chair Melinda J. Danforth on as seen in the quote from the Draft Transcript of the June 16, 2014, GTC Meeting [Exhibit D; Page 9.] at which time Respondents requested that GTC allow the Respondents to delay the election of the Judiciary from the 2014 General Election to a Special Election due to their failures of oversight:

"Therefore, the BC, the LRO, my staff, parts of the judiciary team that were responsible for legislation went back and looked through all the documents. ...At that time, the GTC intent was that there were 2 sets of qualifications that were distinctly different for chief judges and non-chief judges. The March 26, 2014 action by the BC was nullified this morning by the BC. However, because it would potentially, negatively impact affect the applicants and the candidates that had applied and those who may have applied, it is the recommendation that we motion to withdraw from this election all of the judges positions and that they be rescheduled to a new special election. That would be fair to all the applicants, it would be fair to the GTC and it unfortunately is a mistake and an oversight, we'll take responsibility for that," [Lines 464 – 473, Page 9 of Draft Transcript of June 16, 2014 GTC Meeting];

(3) Respondents failed to properly overrule to the Election Board's disenfranchising recommendation to exclude the Milwaukee polling site from the delayed Special Election of the Judiciary, a decision that was in clear contradiction of OBC Resolution 03-13-02-O [Exhibit E] which says, "the Oneida Constitution reflects an obvious intent to promote the widest possible participation of Oneida people in their governance" and "the use of the Milwaukee polling site is likely to increase participation in Tribal elections" and which resulted in the Stay of the already delayed Special Election, when the Respondents could and

should have instead insisted – as they subsequently did – that the Southeastern Oneida Tribal Services facility be used as a polling site for the election of Judges to the Judiciary.

The glaring bias in favor of the Respondents exhibited by the poor attempt at revisionism evidenced by the unfair and untrue claims in the letter dated October 17, 2014, as issued by the Judiciary's Chief Judges [Exhibit C], which improperly and wrong-headedly attempts to preemptively exonerate the Respondents from any blame for the delays of the Judiciary election which they caused, only proves that the highest officials of the Judiciary cannot be trusted to treat the Appellants impartially; highlights the Judges' lack of competency or ethics regarding their ability to render just decisions on electoral matters, especially their own; and serves as another reason why Respondents' request to transfer this case to the Judiciary should be denied.

The one-sided, inaccurate statement by the Chief Judges of the Judiciary stands in contrast to the Oneida Tribal Judiciary Canons of Judicial Conduct, Canon 1.10: "A Judge may not, while a proceeding is pending in any court, make any public comment that may reasonably be expected to affect the outcome or impair the fairness of a matter before the Judge or before the Judiciary."

In fact, the actions by the Respondents to delay the Judiciary's implementation also thereby invalidates the Notice issued by Clerk of Appellate Court Vicki L. Kochan on October 9, 2014 [Exhibit F] which was presumably mailed to all parties of all ongoing cases currently before the Appeals Commission regarding the transfer of cases to the Judiciary which states, "Pursuant to GTC Resolution 01-07-13-B, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin has adopted a new Judiciary which will go into effect and start receiving filings on November 1, 2014."

Obviously, the clear implication in Kochan's letter is that the Judiciary would begin scheduling hearings on cases now before the Appeals Commission starting November 1, 2014, or shortly thereafter. Thus, the very basis for the Respondents' request to the Appellate Court for this case to be transferred to the Judiciary is rendered moot by the Respondents' own decisions and actions to delay the implementation of the Judiciary until January 5, 2015, at the earliest.

Indeed, the actions taken by the Respondents during the Tuesday, October 28, 2014, OBC meeting now require the Appeals Commission to issue notice to all parties of all cases that the implications made by Kochan's October 9, 2014 Notice are no longer valid and therefore offer those who chose to transfer their cases to the Judiciary the option to rescind that decision due to the Respondents' actions taken to delay the Judiciary's implementation until January 5, 2015.

Additionally, any actions taken by the Respondents to delay implementation of the Judiciary disproves their claims in their August 29, 2014 Motion to Lift Stay on Special Election that the election of the Judiciary had to take place as soon as possible because the November 1, 2014 implementation date was "required" of them by General Tribal Council and therefore had to be treated by the Court as some kind of immutable "deadline" [Exhibit G].

Moreover, the very existence of the Respondents' ridiculous request for transfer which is rooted in the notion that it would somehow be appropriate to involve the Judiciary in deliberation regarding the validity of the election process of its own members and the validity of its own existence, is so inappropriate and absurd on its face that it clearly calls into question not only the Respondents' competence and ethics, and highlights their obvious desperation to avoid by any means conceivable the adjudication by the Appeals Commission of the serious matters involved. In sum, the Respondents don't know how or simply don't want to have to treat people fairly.

Therefore, Appellants hereby strongly object to the Respondents' request to transfer this

case to the Oneida Judiciary which would create an unnecessary and avoidable delay due to the

actions of the Respondents' resulting in the Judiciary not scheduling cases until January 5, 2015

at the earliest, and would create unnecessary conflicts of interest by involving members of the

Judiciary in questions regarding the specific election that resulted in them being Judges.

Instead, Appellants ask that this case stay where it is within the process of the Oneida

Appeals Commission for timely adjudication which will hopefully be free of the demonstrated

bias of the Chief Judges of the Judiciary, as well as free of the inherent conflict of interest and

unnecessary delay of a decision that would undeniably and unjustly result if the Judiciary were to

be appointed with adjudication of this case.

Signed this 30th day of October, 2014, on behalf of co-Appellants Michael T. Debraska,

Franklin Cornelius, John G. Orie and Bradley Graham,

Leah Sue Dodge

Leah Sue Dodge

P. O. Box 95

Oneida, WI 54155

920-321-8133

# Oneida Business Committee

#### **EXHIBIT A Special Meeting** 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2014 BC Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Norbert Hill Center

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Minutes - DRAFT

Present: Chairwoman Tina Danforth, Vice-Chairwoman Melinda J. Danforth, Treasurer Trish King, Secretary Lisa Summers, Council members Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster:

Not Present: Council members Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens;

Others present: Joanne House, Jessica Wallenfang, Lynn Franzmeier, Jean Webster, Phil Wisneski, John Powless III, Layatalati Hill, Denice Beans, Danelle Wilson, Gerald L. Hill, Chad Hendricks, Fawn Cottrell, Michelle Mays, Diane House, Paul Stenzel, Sharon House

- I. Call to Order by Chairwoman Tina Danforth at 1:30 p.m.
- II. Opening by Councilman Tehassi Hill.

#### III. Adopt the agenda

Motion by Lisa Summers to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Trish King. Motion carried unanimously:

Ayes: Melinda J. Danforth, Trish King, Lisa Summers, Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster;

Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens; Not Present:

#### IV. **Unfinished Business**

#### A. Approve adjustment to Judiciary transition timeline

Melinda J. Danforth, Tribal Vice-Chairwoman

Excerpt from October 22, 2014: Melinda J. Danforth to direct the Tribal Secretary to schedule a special Business Committee meeting so the Business Committee can formally address the amendment to GTC Resolution # 01-07-13-B, which gave the Business Committee the authority to amend the transition plan. to allow for the court opening and the hearing of new cases for the new Judiciary to begin January 5, 2015 and also for the Business Committee to consider amending the effective dates of the civil rules of procedure, the appellate rules of procedure, and the rules of evidence to January 5, 2015, seconded by Trish King. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Melinda J. Danforth to adopt resolution 10-28-14-A Amendment to Resolution # GTC-01-07-13-B Regarding Case Acceptance by the Oneida Appeals Commission as Authorized by the General Tribal Council with one correction: 1) Under the first resolve, add "[the remainder of the resolution remains the same]" to the end of the resolve, seconded by Lisa Summers. Motion carried unanimously:

> Ayes: Melinda J. Danforth, Trish King, Lisa Summers, Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster;

Not Present: Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens;

Motion by Melinda J. Danforth to adopt resolution 10-28-14-B Amending Implementation Date in Resolution # BC-4-25-14-A Which Adopted the Rules of Civil Procedure, seconded by Tehassi Hill. Motion carried unanimously:

Melinda J. Danforth, Trish King, Lisa Summers, Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster; Aves:

Not Present: Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens;

Motion by Tehassi Hill to adopt resolution 10-28-14-C Amending Implementation Date in Resolution # BC-4-25-14-B Which Adopted the Rules of Appellate Procedure, seconded by Trish King. Motion carried unanimously:

Melinda J. Danforth, Trish King, Lisa Summers, Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster; Aves:

Not Present: Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens: Motion by Melinda J. Danforth to adopt resolution 10-28-14-D Amending Implementation Date in Resolution # BC-4-23-14-A Which Adopted the Rules of Evidence, seconded by Tehassi Hill. Motion carried unanimously:

Ayes: Melinda J. Danforth, Trish King, Lisa Summers, Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster;

Not Present: Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens;

For the Record: Tina Danforth stated based on these resolutions and the occurrences regarding

these amendments to General Tribal Council resolution 01-07-13-B, I feel that this needs to be brought forward to General Tribal Council to make these changes around the implementation of the Judiciary, they are going forward, they were not regarding the transition to establish a Judiciary and that is my concern.

Motion by Melinda J. Danforth to direct the Judiciary Transition Team to provide a close out report to the General Tribal Council during the January 5, 2015, Annual Meeting including an introduction of all the new judges at the January 5, 2015, Annual General Tribal Council meeting, seconded by Tehassi Hill. Motion carried unanimously:

Ayes: Melinda J. Danforth, Trish King, Lisa Summers, Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster;

Not Present: Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens;

#### V. Adjourn

Motion by Tehassi Hill to adjourn at 2:28 p.m., seconded by Trish King. Motion carried unanimously:

Ayes: Melinda J. Danforth, Trish King, Lisa Summers, Tehassi Hill, Jenny Webster;

Not Present: Fawn Billie, Brandon Stevens;

Minutes prepared by Lisa Liggins, Executive Assistant Minutes approved as presented/corrected on
Lisa Summers, Tribal Secretary ONEIDA BUSINESS COMMITTEE

**EXHIBIT A** 

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# EXHIBIT B Page 1 of 1

# Memo

To: Oneida Business Committee

From: Melinda J. Danforth, Vice-Chairwoman **MJD** (ES)

Date: October 16, 2014

Re: Chief Judges' Request to Adjust Judiciary Transition Timeline – Add On

This memorandum serves as a request for the Oneida Business Committee (OBC) to accept the recommendation from the new Judiciary Chief Judges, Gerald L. Hill and Denise Beans, to adjust the Judiciary transition implementation timeline.

### **Background**

On Thursday, October 16, 2014, the Tribal Secretary was briefed by the Chief Judges on the situational analysis they completed this week. Through this briefing, the Chief Judges are bringing to our attention the need to make adjustments to the transition resolution which provides the guidance for implementing the new Judiciary.

The attached correspondence from the Chief Judge(s) indicates the delay in the election of the Judges has created a ripple effect. In order to ensure a successful transition into the new system for both the incoming Judges and the community, the recommended case acceptance date is January 5, 2015.

Upon review of the remainder of the transition resolution, there are no other anticipated adjustments at this time.

#### **Requested Action**

- 1. Accept the Chief Judges requested action to adjust the Judiciary transition timeline to January 5, 2015,
- 2. Direct the Judiciary transition team to provide a close out report to General Tribal Council during the January 5, 2015 Annual meeting, including an introduction of all the new Judges at the January 5, 2015 Annual General Tribal Council Meeting, and
- 3. Direct the Judiciary Communication Sub-Team to work with the new Chief Judges to communicate the timeline adjustment to tribal members

cc: Judiciary Transition Team

# **EXHIBIT C**

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ONEIDA TRIBAL JUDICIARY
Oneida Judicial Center
P. O. Box 19
3719 W. Mason Street
Oneida, WI 54155

October 17, 2014

Melinda Danforth Vice Chairwoman Oneida Business Committee PO Box 365 Oneida, WI 54155

RE: Oneida Tribal Judiciary: Adjusted Date of Implementation: OBC Resolution 01-07-13-B

Dear Vice Chairwoman Danforth:

We are writing to inform you that we have determined it is in the best interest of the Oneida Tribe and the Oneida Tribal Court to adjust the date of implementation of the new Judiciary to January 5, 2015 rather than November 1, 2014, as indicated in the OBC Resolution cited above. The adjusted date will not affect the intent of the Resolution but will allow the accommodation of unforeseen delays resulting from two delays in the election of the new judges. This in turn resulted in the need to readdress the proposed training schedule to insure that all personnel as well as the Tribal membership will be informed as to when cases may be filed. Effectively, new cases may be filed on November 1, 2014 under the new system, with the understanding that scheduling of these cases will not be heard until January 5, 2015, or under the old system to be heard by sitting Oneida Judicial Officers under the old rules. The clerks will be informed to provide this information to any inquiries. This will insure that no parties or transition schedules will be delayed by the recommended adjusted date of January 5, 2015.

The delays are not the fault of the Business Committee or the Court and, accordingly the determination to readjust the date of implementation is to accomplish the necessary training and preparations for the new Judges, the Judicial Officers, the staff and facilities, including preparation of the facilities, now expected by the end of November, as well as the physical logistics; e.g. records, hardware, furniture and personnel working arrangements.

# **EXHIBIT C**

## Page 2 of 2

Since the delays have occurred and based on our assessment of the situation over the last week, after multiple meetings with Oneida Judicial Officers, Judges, attorneys and personnel it is apparent that the Transition Plan will be a smoother and cleaner by readjusting the Judiciary implementation to January 5, 2015 as set forth above.

We have consulted with and advised existing Court staff as well as advising the new judges-elect as to recommendation to reschedule the start date to January 5, 2015. The remainder of the Resolution is intact, and the date of full implementation of the Oneida Judiciary will not be affected.

Sincerely,

Gerald L. Hill

Chief Appellate Judge

Denice Beans

Chief Trial Judge

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So Frank's request for a motion at this time is out of order. Once we get the main motion voted on, if you want to make, if the group will allow you and entertain a second motion from you, you can do that but we have to work through this process first. Is that correct?

John Orie: If we could vote on my amendment also, please. It is still on the floor.

Greg Matson: It didn't get support John. We are going to the main motion. The main motion reads to approve the agenda with time limits up to 15 minutes for presentation and 3 minutes per individual for questions. I'd like to vote on that with a show of hands all those in favor of that motion, raise your right hand. Those opposed, please raise your right hand. Abstentions. Motion carries. Thank you, we have an agenda. I can see in the other room was overwhelming as well, Leyne.

Greg Matson: First on the agenda is the judiciary transition update and the amendments. We are going to have Councilwoman Melinda Danforth give you the presentation. It is going to include the adoption resolution of the judiciary law, transition update as well as the adoption resolution for compensation for the judges.

#### **New Business**

#### 5. Judiciary transition update and amendments

Melinda Danforth: Good evening General Tribal Council I apologize because we have 15 minutes for a presentation so I'm going to go over some of the history very quickly. My name is Melinda Danforth, I'm an elected Councilwoman for the Oneida Business Committee and I also currently serve as the Chairperson of the legislative operation committee which is that body as the LOC or the law making body for the tribe. This evening I'm pleased to you present to you an update on the transition from the Oneida's current judicial system also known as the Oneida Appeals Commission to the new judiciary system that the GTC passed in January 2013. I will make this as brief as possible as I only have 15 minutes, we'll try to go over this presentation quickly. First, we'll briefly go over some of the key decisions that lead us to today. We're going to look over the transition process that we've been using to transition from the Appeals Commission to the new judiciary. We'll also include key progresses and seven different categories of work that our transition team has been working on. After we complete the review of the transition process, I will share with you what the projected next steps are and what the community can see and I will ask you to consider approving our requested actions. Today, we have 3 requested actions. 1. Is a request to the GTC to withhold one of the trial judge positions that was approved in the judiciary in January 2013 and hire an additional family court judge. The second is to approve the resolution that would set the compensation for the judges as that item is in the judiciary law where by GTC has the sole authority to set the first compensation's for the judges. On the agenda, it is listed as 1 a. qualifications of judges, 2. Would be the withholding of the trial court judges for the family court position and item C is the compensation. We are going to go over B & C because I think item 1. A, is going to be lively discussion so we are going to try to get through these 2 agenda items first. Here is some of the background information, in 1982 the GTC directs the BC to stay out of the day to day affairs and they talked about developing a tribal court. In 1991 GTC adopted the APA that created the appeals commission. In November 2010 GTC reviewed the proposed judiciary act and determined that more information is needed and again, it tabled the proposed law in 2011. In May 2011, the presentation to the GTC on qualifications was presented for the judges. That again, was tabled. In January 2012 the GTC directed that additional work be completed on the qualification s of judges. In that mean time, sorry, I'm going back, between May 2011 and January 2012 a new BC was elected and a lot of the work that had been done on the judiciary was purposely done the former LOC Chair, Trish King. Some of the reasons for the tabling is because we asked for it to be tables so we could work on the law a little bit more. On January 2013, the GTC approved the judiciary act with the following changes. These changes came right off the floor of the GTC meeting. They added judicial, paralegal or family law to the list of bachelor degrees that a perspective non chief judge must have to qualify. They added the qualification for judge cannot be mentally disabled or unstable. They eliminated the small claims division, believe that mentally stable, disabled was a hard one to implement but we did it. GTC changed the age requirements to 30 years of age and GTC also directed that members of the judiciary judges cannot attend GTC meetings. The changes that GTC had requested went into the law and was adopted with that law on January 7, 2013. Here is what the very high level structure of the new judiciary looks like. We have a court of appeals, we have a family division, which the family division will handle all family matters including, child support,

child custody, marriage and divorce issues. The general/civil division will handle matters such as debt, evictions, contract disputes and injunctions and a peace making / mediation division is pretty selfexplanatory. Transitioning from the current appeals commission to the new judiciary required a lot of work and we developed a team approach to this and there were seven categories of teams that were developed and 15 members were a part of that entire team. We tackled areas like legislative that will deal with all legislation that necessary so that when GTC adopted the judiciary in 2013, you told us that you wanted a judicial canons of ethics, you wanted administrative procedures act to change, the legislative act needed to be enacted, the removal law had to be changed so that team focused on purely legislation. The administrative team focused purely on administrative issues such as development of court seals, proper time and attendance standards along with any policies and procedures that were necessary in order for the court to be up and running at the time. The communication team was responsible working on information pieces that will help the judiciary customers understand what changes may be taking place for things such as filing paperwork or new fee schedules. The personnel team focused on transitioning the current employees, the permanent employees like the court administrator and the clerks. GTC when they passed the resolutions said that those employees would continue to work in to the new system. We worked with HRD to try to make that smooth transition also developing job descriptions for the new judges. The budget team was being led by the Assistant Chief Financial Officer and the current judicial administrator. Both have been working hard to ensure that items that might overlap in 2014 and next year 2015 are being taken care of. Our space location team they were on task to locate a new facility for the judiciary as the current Ridgeview space is inadequate for the new judicial system. The last team is the law training, the development of a training plan for the judges as well as training for the community so there is an understanding how to utilize the new system when it is up and running. By using the team approach we've been able to be inclusive as possible of all the stakeholders and have been able to identify areas that need to be addressed before the new judges are elected. Some of the things that we did, we've been providing the BC with a regular transition update. Our first one was June 12, 2014 and have been quarterly since. Also, as needed when, as you know, implementing a new law or entity of this complexity we have a lot of issues that came forward so the BC has been kept abreast of those issues as well. The election of judges will take place; we'll talk about that today, in 2014 in July. The development of the 2015 judiciary budget which is being completed through the budget process and GTC will see that budget in August of this year. Other major aspects of the implementation of the law, the location for the new judicial system will be the former Human Resources building at the corner of West Mason and Packerland. It is projected to be opened sometime in November, middle of November. The training plan is now complete for the judges and communication efforts are being made through the tribal newspaper and tribal website on how we are transitioning the new judicial system. When GTC passed the judiciary law, there was a resolution that was attached to it that adopted the judiciary and it also gave the Business Committee directions and directives on how to go about completing the transition. The GTC also gave the BC authority to make modification that are needed in order to implement the transition smoothly as possible. The 1st decision that the GTC is going to be asked to make today is to withhold 1 trial judge position from the election and approve utilizing that position in the family court. The reason we are asking for GTC to support that is the BC received a report and you have to remember that new family court has been up and running about 6 or 7 months since October of last year. The family court judge has been providing us statistics on the number of cases he's hearing, the number of new cases that are being filed. When we looked at the family court judges case load and looked at the number of cases that were in the judicial system as a whole, a lot of the cases that are being in the judicial system right now are in family court. As we are continuing to be in cost containment we didn't want to add another judge position to the budget there fore, we are asking GTC to withhold and not elect one of the trial judges and to allow for that judge position to be in family court because that is where most of the cases are at, at this point. We also made that decision, the BC was asked to make that decision because we're looking futuristically at the case load of the family court and is totality. Right now, the family court is hearing cases, child support cases, child custody cases here in Oneida, from Brown county and Outagamie county and we are anticipating also getting the cases from Milwaukee and also the child protective board and Wes martin, I think he spoke at the judiciary adoption in January 2013, looking at taking on Indian child welfare cases. The child protective board is pushing for that so looking futuristically at what the family court is going to be handling that is also another reason for our request. Very briefly, here is a snap shot on the family court filings and hearings, the report that we received from Judge Collins. In September 2013 he had 56 new filings and 2 hearings held, 58 new

filings, 55 hearings, 47 new filings in November 2013 and 31 hearings and you can go on from there. As you can see, it has been increasing for the most part in April of 2014. He had 60 new filings with 53 hearings that month and we have one judge hearing those cases. We thought we'd break down the information a little bit further and show you exactly, I'm sorry this is not big enough for all you to see, if you have binoculars, that'd be wonderful. What it says is if you start on the red on the upper left paternity is 28% of his cases, custody and placement is 29%, divorce is 7%, child support is 10% and contempt is 23% and custodianship is 3% within the family court. Again, the tribal court case load, not the family court side, but the appeals commission side, the breakdown of cases is 87 active cases for trial court and 8 active cases for appellate court. Most of the cases certainly in that room are tribal debt and garnishments so, again, on the green part it says tribal debt 59% garnishment, 37% workers comp is 1% of caseload and other is 3%. The second issue that we'll be talking to GTC about tonight is the compensation of judges. When the GTC adopted the judiciary law there was a prevision within the law that states compensation for judges shall be initially established by the passage of a resolution by the Oneida GTC, future compensation shall be in accordance with the tribal budget process. So basically what that means is that you all get to establish the initial compensation for the judges and that all the compensation for the judges will continue to be in the budget process for future years so you will only see it once. As such, the team, the personnel team requested that the Human Resources Department perform a compensation analysis for judges just like they do for any other positions within the tribal organization. They get the information on the qualifications and they go out and do an assessment. You'll find that recommendation from HRD on page 40. Basically HRD went out and researched what other tribal court judges get paid, they also went and researched what local municipalities and county judges get paid and from that analysis they came up with a figure which is in your packet as well on page 40. So basically full time judges range from 50,000 – 80,000 chief judges 57,000 – 90,000 part time appellate judges based on 29 hours per week is 45,000. As you can see the judiciary team has been working hard and the next steps we want to complete the budget for fy 15 which will occur again in August. We need to discuss the election of judges for the 2014 general elections yet and we hope to open the door to the new judiciary in November 2014. Here are the requested actions, but we still need to talk about 1.a. how do you want to proceed? Because I am out of time.

Greg Matson: Go into discussion.

Melinda Danforth: This is why 15 minutes isn't enough.

Greg Matson: We can go into discussion, Vince.

Vince DelaRosa: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Melinda, I wonder if you can respond to, I know I painted this at the LOC level and I don't recall where we went with this. One of the things that people need to be aware of and think about might not be able to do within the next year but, we should do it soon. The idea on your behalf as it relates to your resources, who is prosecuting on your behalf. I think you need to think that one through. Usually, a court system will have, as an anchor, on behalf of the people's resources. There will be some sort of an enforcement, a district attorney, an attorney general, you name it. I think that is critically important. I did point that out. I don't recall where our discussions went around that particular issue but you know, within the next year or so, I think you guys will want to insist that on your behalf there is someone prosecuting any offenses against your treasurer or whatever it may be. You might want to think about that in the future fyi.

Melinda Danforth: That issue has been brought up by the LOC, as a matter of fact, my office drafted the legislative enforcement ordinance which would give that mechanism which would require prosecutor but since we've been kind of been in cost containment the last couple of years we have to figure how we can free up some resources in order to fund that kind of a position for the GTC on behalf of the thing, but we wanted to do it creatively so one of the things that the LOC and 5 of the member of the BC are on the LOC was to create possibly an administrative hearing body that would consolidate some of the hearing bodies in the tribe as a whole so there is a possibility we'd be able to free up some money from there. Again, that takes time, it takes policy and it takes the ability to consolidate those entities that would fall under that category.

Greg Matson: Madam Treasurer

Tina Danforth: General Tribal Council I would like to clarify something for everybody's consideration. Withholding a judge because of cost containment for hire is inaccurate. As the Treasurer for the last 6 years, any GTC mandate that has been ordered and directed of the BC, especially from a financial standpoint has been taken care of. There was no reason to withhold a judge position of cost containment, that is inaccurate and I did tell my peers that at the time they took action. I did not vote in favor of withholding a judge position because of cost containment or any financial matters. GTC comes first. Mandates comes first. We will fund them.

Melinda Danforth: Mr. Chairman, I guess I'd like to clarify. It wasn't an excuse to withhold the judge, it was the fact that we looked at the data from what the court was giving us and we saw that the workload was in family court so recognizing that the tribe is in cost containment and respecting the fact that we needed to save dollars, we made that decision to try save GTC and the tribe dollars so that we didn't have to go forward with judges in the trial court area and we wanted to reallocate those resources into the family court. It wasn't an excuse, it was an actual thought out thing, where we wanted to base our decision off of data and actually try not to spend additional resources so that would free up money for other areas within the tribe.

Tina Danforth: Your clarification is contradictory because you said cost containment twice, we did not withhold the election of a judge because of finances, because of cost containment or any other consideration. Like I said, GTC is the governing body and they direct us, the BC to act accordingly. \\

Greg Matson: Thank you, both. Loretta, at the microphone.

Loretta Metoxen: Mr. Chairman and BC and Melinda, thank you for that update. I'm in complete concurrence with that stuff but I have a question for you. Is there a challenge on the election roster for pany of the judges? And if so, how did the BC handle that?

Melinda Danforth: That is the last item that we wanted to speak to. I was asking Greg how he wants to hadle this because we have some decisions to make on either asking GTC to withhold the one judge also compensation and that would be the last discussion. If we can, I don't know Greg, how do you want to do this, do you want to just try to go in order to decide on the withholding then save the discussion for last on the gualifications?

Greg Matson: If we address all 3 at the ends, we can have that discussion.

Loretta Metoxen: Then I may have some more questions, it depends on what that report is. Thank you.

Melinda Danforth: The last discussion that we need to have is, so this is all great news and we've been doing well so far but with any large project of this nature there is going to be a tendency to over sigh on an issue and unfortunately, we do have an over sight on one issue. That is the qualifications for the judges. I don't have it on the presentation. The BC met this morning on an emergency basis to try to address the issue. I will try to explain the issue and then because it becomes very convoluted and very complex but at the end we have a solution and I hope GTC will be amenable to that.

Greg Matson: Time.

Melinda Danforth: I know that is what I mean, do we have time or not.

Greg Matson: There again, if we can move towards the ability for discussion on this 3<sup>rd</sup> item with the new time set then we can do that and give you 3 minutes

Melinda Danforth: Is that ok with you guys, 3 minutes? No, yes? Yes? Thank you.

438 Greg Matson: Thank you.

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qualifications for judges and at that time the qualifications for chief judges, and we're going to call them non chief judges, so chief judges are chief judges appellate court, chief judge of trial court and also the non-chief judges would be the trial court judges, they are not chief judges. Basically the GTC approved 2 sets of qualifications. They said that for chief judges you have to meet all of these qualifications, you have to either have a Juris doctorate degree, a master's degree and you have to have bachelor's degree, it didn't matter, in any kind of field. And also 3 years of experience. For the non-chief judges it was Juris doctorate degree, a master's degree and a bachelor's degree and the GTC laid out a whole entire field of degrees that would have to, a bachelor's degree in one of the following fields and it lists out criminal justice, education, political science, human rights, journalism, legal studies, etc. But at the time GTC was in discussion of January 2013 they also added provisions as you seen in the presentation off the floor. They added in a degree in family law which you can't go get a family law degree in any accredited institution, they added a number of other degrees. So basically, there were 2 sets of qualifications when you passed the law in January 2013. What had transpired when our team, our judiciary team was looking at the qualifications it was thought the GTC was intending that those bachelor's degree fields would apply also for the chief judges. In March of this past year, the BC took emergency action, which they have the right to do under the legislative procedures act, we have a right to change laws based on an emergency basis and the qualifications of judges were changed to include those specific bachelor degree for chief judges positions. When that occurred, the candidates went to go apply and after that, in April the candidates went and applied to be a judge, this is the position I'm running for. And unfortunately, the information that was in the candidates packet that the election board had sent out had incorrect information on the qualifications for judges. At that time as well, we were going through the process these last couple of weeks as well because we did receive a challenge. The election board did receive a challenge from an applicant that thought they were qualified based upon GTC's motion in January 2013. Therefore, the BC, the LRO, my staff, parts of the judiciary team that were responsible for legislation went back and looked through all the documents. They went through the GTC meeting minutes, line by line. They went through the LOC meetings to look at the intent. They went through all the record to say what is exactly it is the intent of the GTC. At that time, the GTC intent was that there were 2 sets of qualifications that were distinctly different for chief judges and non-chief judges. The March 26, 2014 action by the BC was nullified this morning by the BC. However, because it would potentially, negatively impact affect the applicants and the candidates that had applied and those who may have applied, it is the recommendation that we motion to withdraw from this election all of the judges positions and that they be rescheduled to a new special election. That would be fair to all the applicants, it would be fair to the GTC and it unfortunately it is a mistake and an oversight, we'll take responsibility for that.

Melinda Danforth: Basically, in January 7, 2013 when the GTC passed the judiciary they also passed the

Greg Matson: Thank you, Melinda.

Loretta Metoxen: Mr. Chairman. I move that recommendation.

Greg Matson: We're going to have some discussion on that as well. Loretta, your motion is to support the special election?

Loretta Metoxen: Pardon?

Greg Matson: Your motion is to recognize what Melinda is proposing and that is to hold a special

Loretta Metoxen: Yaw<ko, and there is a second right behind me here.

Greg Matson: We have a motion by Loretta, supported by Don McLester. Discussion, Vince.

Vince DelaRosa: Loretta and all due respect Mr. McLester and Melinda, we talked about this earlier Melinda. We really could just reopen the application process. We could simply just do that. That is all we'd have to do is just because we have a course that is already set. All we have to do is just reopen the

494	application process. I would suggest, that is an easier course but I'll throw it back to you and we can ta
495	here.
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497	Greg Matson: We have a motion with support, still in discussion. Corinne.
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499	Corinne Robelia-Zhuckkahosee: My privileged question is, will that affect the process of, what do you
500	call that before, you go through the primary?
501	
502	Melinda Danforth: No, it will not affect the primary because the judges did not have to go through the
503	primary.
504	
505	Corinne Robelia-Zhuckkahosee: Oh, ok.
506	**************************************
507	Melinda Danforth: Thank you.
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509	Greg Matson: There is a privileged question, Sharon House; can you get to the microphone, Sharon?
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511	Sharon House: Good afternoon, has anyone asked for any other ideas how to deal with this? With all
512	due respect, or was it just the council?

Melinda Danforth: It was just the council in discussion this morning.

515 516 Sharon House: It is my understanding that was a chief justice position that was in question? Is that correct?

Melinda Danforth: Yes.

Sharon House: And it was the trial judge's chief judge? Is that correct?

Melinda Danforth: It would be the chief judges all together.

525 Sharon House: Was anyone else denied?

Melinda Danforth: I'm not sure about that. 527

Greg Matson: That's where we're not sure if there would have been other applicants or not.

531 Sharon House. Would you ask who the election board if it was denied, they are sitting there right? Was 532 somebody else denied, with all due respect? The suggestion is no matter what she says, just kidding, is 533 to just do it for that position then instead of a whole new election for everyone. To open up the 534 application s for that position because how much does it cost for an election? 535

Greg Matson: That is what we're talking about, where Vince's recommendation was to open that up.

Sharon House: I would recommend, with all due respect, dealing with just the chief judges position because we have 4 weeks approximately. Please answer.

isa Liggins: There were 5 denials for eligibility, total. 1 for chief judicial judge and the rest were non chief judges. Does that answer the question? Ok, thank you.

Greg Matson: Thank you. We have a motion with support and a call for the question.

Tina Danforth: Mr. Chairman, can you clarify the motion because it was hard to read it as she was saying and I didn't know that was going to be the motion so I would have wrote more notes. I'm not really sure what I'm voting on right now.

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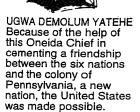
Oneidas bringing several hundred bags of corn to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge, after the colonists had consistently refused to aid them.

# Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin BUSINESS COMMITTEE



# **EXHIBIT E**

Page 1 of 3



P.O. Box 365 • Oneida, WI 54155 Telephone: 920-869-4364 • Fax: 920-869-4040

# Resolution # 3-13-02-0 Milwaukee Polling Site

- WHEREAS, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States; and
- WHEREAS, the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin; and
- WHEREAS, the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1 of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council, and
- WHEREAS, the Oneida Constitution reflects an intent to promote the participation of Oneida people in their governance; and
- WHEREAS, there is a large community of Oneida members located in the Milwaukee area, which constitutes the largest Oneida community outside of the Green Bay area; and
- WHEREAS, members of the Oneida community in Milwaukee have sought the establishment of a polling site in Milwaukee, and
- WHEREAS, there is an Oneida tribal facility located in Milwaukee, the Southeastern Oneida Tribal Services ("SEOTS") Building, which qualifies as a polling site under the Oneida Election Law; and
- WHEREAS, Oneida members serving as local police in the Milwaukee area have offered their services at the polls; and
- WHEREAS, the use of such polling site is likely to increase participation in tribal elections:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that an approved facility in compliance with the Oneida Election Law, 2.8-0, Section B, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is hereby designated as a second polling site for Oneida triennial elections, beginning with the July, 2002, election;

# **EXHIBIT E**

Resolution 3-13-02-O Page 2 Page 2 of 3

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Oneida Police Chief is hereby authorized and directed to provide two (2) Oneida Police Officers for the Milwaukee polling site in order to provide the requisite police presence at the polling site required by the Oneida Election Law, at the July, 2002 elections, and for future triennial elections;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that votes shall be tabulated at the location where the votes were cast and the Election Board shall arrange for the video taping of the vote tallying at the polling locations;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) is hereby appropriated from the fiscal year 2002 General Fund, to cover the costs of providing the additional personnel needed at the site, and their expenses, such expenditures to be made at the direction of the Election Board Chairman; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Election Board Chairman and the Election Board official designated to serve at the Milwaukee polling site shall arrange a code providing for the secure telephonic or fax transmission of the Milwaukee count for release as preliminary returns at the time the reservation polling site count is released.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: that the Oneida Election Board will work cooperatively with the Southeastern Oneida Tribal Services (SEOTS) Board to determine the location of the Milwaukee polling site.

#### Certification

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum. 8 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 13th day of March, 2002; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 7 members for; 0 members against; and 0 members not voting; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Julie Barton, Tribal Secretary Oneida Business Committee

# **EXHIBIT E**

Page 3 of 3

#### Statement of Effect

Resolution Establishing a Milwaukee Polling Site, Providing for a Police Presence, Appropriating Funds for Personnel Cost, and Providing for Transmission of Milwaukee Results

#### **Summary**

This resolution is designed for the purpose of facilitating the casting of votes by members of the Oneida community in the Milwaukee area by establishing a tribal polling site in that area, beginning with the July, 2002 election. The resolution (a) designates a facility in Milwaukee be chosen in accordance with the Oneida Election Law, as a second polling site for the July, 2002 and future Oneida elections; (b) authorizes and directs Oneida Police Officer presence as required under the Oneida Election Law; (c) appropriates \$15,000 to cover the cost of election day staffing at the Milwaukee site; (d) and directs Election Board officials to devise a simple code to assure that preliminary Milwaukee returns reported by telephone or fax are authentic.

A public hearing was held on November 15, 2001. Revisions added since the public hearing include: votes shall be tabulated at the location where the votes were cast; and the Election Board shall arrange for the video taping of the vote tallying at the polling locations. Both the Tribal Election Board and Director of SEOTS have reviewed the revised resolution.

#### Conclusion

There are no legal issues which would preclude adoption of this Resolution.

# Oneida Tribal Judicial System

October 9, 2014

On yote ? a ka Tsi? Shakotiya? Tolé hte

Michael T. Debraska, Leah Sue Dodge, Franklin Cornelius, John Orie, Bradley Graham c/o Leah Sue Dodge P.O. Box 95 Oneida, WI 54155

Attorney Patricia M. Garvey
Oneida Law Office
Page 1 of 2

Oneida Law Office P.O. Box 109 Oneida, WI 54155

Re: Notice

Docket #14-AC-012, Michael T. Debraska, Leah Sue Dodge, Franklin Cornelius, John Orie, Bradley Graham vs. Oneida Business Committee, Oneida Election Board, Oneida Law Office

Pursuant to GTC Resolution 01-07-13-B notice is being provided to all parties with pending cases before the Oneida Tribal Judicial System, Appellate Court. All parties have the right to request that their case be transferred to the new Oneida Nation Judiciary. Please read the enclosed Notice which contains more detailed information and instructions.

A Request to Have Case Transferred to the Oneida Judiciary form has been provided for your convenience should you choose to transfer your pending case.

Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions that you may have in this matter.

Sincerely.

Vicki L. Kochan

Clerk of Appellate Court

enc:

Notice

Request Form

Chapter 153 Oneida Judiciary Rules of Civil Procedure Chapter 154 Oneida Judiciary Rules of Appellate Procedure

c:

file

Post Office Box 19 • Oneida, WI 54155 Phone: 920-497-5800 • Fax: 920-497-5805

# **EXHIBIT F**

## Page 2 of 2

# **NOTICE**

# To: ALL PARTIES TO ANY CASE ON THE DOCKET IN THE ONEIDA TRIBAL JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Pursuant to GTC Resolution 01-07-13-B, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin has adopted a new Judiciary which will go into effect and start receiving filings on November 1, 2014. Beginning November 1, 2014, the Oneida Tribal Judicial System will no longer be accepting new filings. The Oneida Tribal Judicial System will be dissolved on March 1, 2015.

You have a case pending before the Oneida Tribal Judicial System. Please be aware of the following:

- 1. You have the option of having your case transferred to the Oneida Judiciary.
  - a. If the parties disagree as to whether their case should be transferred, the Oneida Tribal Judicial System shall determine where the case shall be heard.
  - b. All cases transferred to the Oneida Judiciary shall be heard in accordance with the Judiciary's applicable rules of procedure (*See* Oneida Code of Laws Chapters 153 and 154).
  - c. Cases transferred in accordance with GTC Resolution 01-07-13-B shall not be subject to any transfer or filing fees.
- 2. If you do not request a transfer to the Oneida Judiciary, your case will remain with the Oneida Tribal Judicial System until it is concluded or until March 1, 2015, whichever occurs first.
- 3. If your case remains with the Oneida Tribal Judicial System and is not concluded by March 1, 2015, then the case will be dismissed without prejudice and the parties may refile in the Oneida Judiciary, as is appropriate and if the Judiciary is authorized to hear the case. Individuals who re-file a case in accordance with GTC Resolution 01-07-13-B shall not be subject to any filing fees.
- 4. Although there is no deadline set by law for receiving requests to transfer, we recommend that any request for transfer be submitted as soon as possible to allow adequate time for processing.

If you wish to have your case transferred to the Oneida Judiciary, please file the enclosed Request with the court with proof that the other parties have been served on the same day or prior pursuant to Rule 3(A) of the Oneida Tribal Judicial System's Rules of Civil Procedure. Pursuant to Rule 5(C)(2), the other parties shall have fifteen (15) calendar days from the date that the Request is filed to file a written objection to the transfer with proof that the other parties have been served on the same day or prior. A contested transfer shall be decided by the Oneida Tribal Judicial System. A party's failure to file a written objection in a timely manner shall result in the transfer of the case.

For questions, you may contact the Clerk at (920) 496-5320.

Sincerely,

Vicki L. Kochan

Clerk of Appellate Court

Enclosure

c: File

# **EXHIBIT G**

### Page 1 of 5

#### ONEIDA TRIBAL JUDICIAL SYSTEM

Onnyote<sup>9</sup>a·ka Tsi<sup>9</sup> Shakotiya<sup>9</sup> Toléhte

#### APPELLATE COURT

Michael T. Debraska, Leah Sue Dodge, et.al,

Appellant,

v.

Docket No. 14-AC-012

Oneida Business Committee, Oneida Election Board, et.al.

Date:

August 29, 2014

### Respondent.

### RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO LIFT STAY ON SPECIAL ELECTION

COMES NOW, Respondent, by and through their attorney, Patricia M. Stevens Garvey, and requests this Court, pursuant to Oneida Rules of Appellate Procedure, Rule 11, lift the stay on Judiciary Special Election to elect judges and states as follows:

- 1. A General Election for the election of Oneida Business Committee members and Tribal judges was scheduled for July 12, 2014.
- 2. A GTC action at the June 16, 2014 meeting withdrew the election of Tribal judges from the July 12, 2014 General Election and rescheduled the Tribal judges election to a Special Election.
- 3. The Special Election for Tribal judges was scheduled for August 23, 2014.
- 4. On August 20, 2014, the Appellant filed an "Application for a TRO & Preliminary Injunctive Relief re: the 8/23/2014 Special Election" with the Trial Court of the Oneida Tribal Judicial System.
- 5. On August 21, 2014, the Trial Division denied the request for an Injunction/Temporary Restraining Order.
- 6. On August 22, 2014, the Appellant filed a Notice of Appeal with the Appellate Court claiming the decision of the Trial Court was "arbitrary and capricious".

## Page 2 of 5

- 7. On August 22, 2014, the Appellate Court accepted the Appeal and ordered an Appellate Brief to be filed by September 22, 2014.
- 8. Although the Appellant failed to request relief, the Appellate Court, pursuant to Rule 17(B), issued a "stay on the August 23, 2014 Special Election of the Oneida Judiciary...."
- 9. On August 28, 2014, the Oneida Business Committee passed Resolution 08-28-14-A, "Authorizing an Exception to Conducting the Special Election to Elect Judges for New Judiciary to Include Polling Places in Both Oneida and Milwaukee." ATTACHMENT
- 10. The Resolution provides in the second resolve, "the Oneida Business Committee finds that to maintain the transition timelines set forth in resolution #GTC-01-07-13-B, as amended by the two-thirds vote of the General Tribal Council on June 16, 2014, a Special Election is called for the Judiciary and a one-time exception to conduct the Special Election shall include polling sites in Oneida and Milwaukee."

The Respondent requests the stay on the Special Election be lifted as the Milwaukee polling site will now be included pursuant to Resolution BC 08-28-14-A. In addition, pursuant to Rule 11(B)(1), the Respondent requests an exception to the 10 day requirement for a response as this request is a non-substantive or procedural motion which does not give either party additional substantive rights and is so minor in nature that the lead Judicial Officer can grant the motion as the granting of the motion will not bring any harm to the other parties in the case.

By:

Patricia M. Stevens Garvev

Wisconsin State Bar No. 1075618

Attorney for Respondent

ONEIDA LAW OFFICE N7210 Seminary Road Post Office Box 109 Oneida, WI 54155

Phone: 920-869-4327 920-869-4065

Fax:

E-mail: pgarvey@oneidanation.org

# **Certificate of Service**

On August 29, 2014, the Respondent delivered, via certified mail, return receipt requested, to Leah S. Dodge, P.O. Box 95, Oneida, WI 54155 a copy of the Motion to lift stay of Special Election.

atricia M. Stevens Garvey

**EXHIBIT G** 

Page 3 of 5

# Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin



Oneidas bringing several hundred bags of corn to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge, after the colonists had consistently refused to aid them.

WHEREAS,

be included.



# **EXHIBIT G**

Page 4 of 5

UGWA DEMOLUM YATEHE Because of the help of this Oneida Chief in cementing a friendship between the six nations and the colony of Pennsylvania, a new nation, the United States was made possble.

#### BC Resolution 08-28-14-A

# Authorizing an Exception to Conducting the Special Election to Elect Judges for new Judiciary To Include Polling Places in Both Oneida and Milwaukee

WHEREAS,	the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin is a federally recognized Indian Government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
WHEREAS,	the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin; and
WHEREAS,	the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
WHEREAS,	the General Tribal Council as adopted an Election Ordinance which identifies General Elections to be held every three years and Special Elections that would be held in the intervening years; and
WHEREAS,	Resolution # BC-03-13-02-O designated Milwaukee as a second polling site for Oneida Triennial (General Elections) only, not for Special Elections; and
WHEREAS,	the General Tribal Council adopted Resolution # GTC-01-07-13-B which requires the new Judiciary to officially open as of November 1, 2014 and requires the newly elected Judges to have sixty (60) hours of training; and
WHEREAS,	GTC action at the June 16, 2014 meeting, by two-thirds vote, amended the directives in Resolution # GTC-01-07-13-B by withdrawing the election of the Judges from the 2014 general election and rescheduled it to a Special Election; and
WHEREAS,	a request for an Injunction to stop the election of judges on August 23, 2014 was filed on August 20, 2014, denied by the Trial Court of the Oneida Appeals Commission, but granted on appeal on August 22, 2014 by the Appellate Court of the Oneida Appeals Commission; and
WHEREAS,	the Appellate Court is not expediting the appeal and has scheduled the appellants to submit a brief in support of their complaint by September 22, 2014 after which the Tribe will be scheduled to submit response briefs thus causing an undue delay to the implementation of the Judiciary as directed by the General Tribal Council; and
WHEREAS,	further delay of elections for the new Judiciary until the Appellate Court of the Oneida Appeals Commission rules on the merits of the case would make it impossible to train new Judges and have them ready by the November 1, 2014 deadline; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Oneida Business Committee finds that having the election take place in Milwaukee is not required by Resolution # BC-03-13-02-O nor the GTC action that took place on June 16, 2014;

it is the intent of the Oneida Business Committee to support the Judiciary and be proactive by approving

an exception to the rule that Special Elections are held only in Oneida and that a Milwaukee polling site

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Oneida Business Committee finds that to maintain the transition timelines set forth in resolution # GTC-01-07-13-B, as amended by the two-thirds vote of the General Tribal Council on June 16, 2014, a Special Election is called for the Judiciary and a one-time exception to the conduct of the Special Election shall include polling sites in Oneida and Milwaukee.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 9 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014; that the forgoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 8 members for, 0 members against, and 0 members not voting; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Lisa Summers, Tribal Secretary Oneida Business Committee

\*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."

**EXHIBIT G** 

Page 5 of 5