

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SENECA COUNTY

Waterloo, New York 13165

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DENIES RIGHT OF CAYUGA INDIAN NATION TO EXERCISE POLICE POWER IN SENECA COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 235-18 moved by Sprvr. Hayssen, second by Sprvr. Lazzaro and adopted.

WHEREAS, Cayuga Indian Nation has formed a security force which they have designated a "police department" and hired employees whom they have designated as "police officers"; and

WHEREAS, the Seneca County Board of Supervisors is aware of the United States Supreme Court Decision in Oneida Indian Nation v. City of Sherrill; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has expressly ruled that the Cayuga Indian Nation is denied the right to exercise sovereign authority over the former Indian Land Claim territory; and

WHEREAS, exercise of police authority is one which may only be exercised by the sovereign; and

WHEREAS, employees of Cayuga Indian Nation are currently traveling through Seneca County operating cars fully equipped with the markings and lights indicating that they are police vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the safety of Seneca County residents is endangered by the possibility that citizens in emergency situations may mistakenly believe that these tribal employees have police power in New York State; and

WHEREAS, this resolution has been duly brought from the floor under Rule 29 of the Rules of Order; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Seneca County Board of Supervisors denies the authority of employees of Cayuga Indian Nation to engage in law enforcement activities in Seneca County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors issues hereby, a warning to the residents of and visitors to the County of Seneca, those employees of Cayuga Indian Nation have no law enforcement authority in this County or in the State of New York and are not authorized to stop, question, arrest or detain any person as police officers.

*I do hereby certify that I have compared the preceding with the original thereof, on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at Waterloo, New York, and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original; and that said original was duly **adopted at a Special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Seneca County held at Waterloo, New York on the 11 day of September 2018.***

STATE OF NEW YORK  
County of Seneca}

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Margaret E. Li, Clerk, Board of Supervisors  
Seneca County, Waterloo, New York 13165

Given under my hand and official seal \_\_\_\_\_