



Spirit Lake Tribal Court

PO Box 30 Fort Totten, ND 58335

Phone (701) 766-4244 Fax (701) 766-4776

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding meets our common goal of protecting children's confidential information and family privacy and sets forth Northeast Judicial District's and Spirit Lake Nation Tribal Court's responsibilities regarding confidential information obtained and exchanged on Juveniles.

Northeast Judicial District Juvenile Court Staff for the counties of Benson, Ramsey and Towner Counties and Spirit Lake Tribal Court (Juvenile Division) will exchange information for the following reasons:

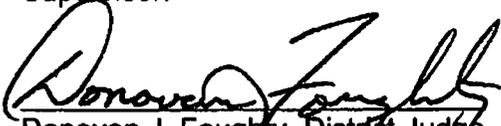
1. An emergency exists regarding the safety and well-being of a minor child and issues arise regarding minor's warrants, juvenile delinquency issues or other legal questions exist regarding the child.
2. Northeast Judicial District is requesting Spirit Lake Tribal Court's assistance regarding a minor child from the Spirit Lake Tribe or Spirit Lake Tribal Court is requesting Northeast Judicial District's assistance regarding a minor child from Benson, Towner or Ramsey County.
3. Northeast Judicial District or Spirit Lake Tribal Court may have an Extradition Warrant or other legal issue regarding the minor Child wherein Northeast Judicial Court or Spirit Lake Tribal Court has jurisdiction.

Information received as a result of the above circumstances is confidential and cannot be released to persons other than the North Dakota Court system, except as listed in Section 27-20-51 N.D.C.C. North Dakota Juvenile Court records are confidential and closed to the public.

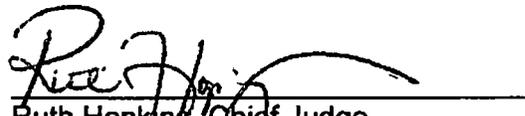
Information will be requested by the following staff:

From the Spirit Lake Tribal Court: Cora Whiteman, Spirit Lake Tribal Court Juvenile Court Intake Officer or her designee as assigned by the Juvenile Judge or the Chief Judge.

From the Northeast Judicial District: Patricia Rime, Juvenile Court Supervisor (Benson, Ramsey, and Towner Counties), Lisa Nihill and Vanessa Weber, Juvenile Court Officers II, as acting Juvenile Court Supervisor.


Donovan J. Foughty, District Judge
North Dakota Supreme Court

Date: 1-20-15


Ruth Hopkins, Chief Judge
Spirit Lake Tribal Court

Date: 1/20/15

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN WODAKOTA: TRADITIONAL COURT AND THE NORTHEAST
JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUVENILE COURT**

The Spirit Lake Tribal Council supports the attached Memorandum of Understanding. Wherein Juvenile status offenders from Spirit Lake Nation committing offenses off the Spirit Lake Nation are referred to the Wodakota: Traditional Court from the Northeast District Juvenile Court for disposition.

Dated this _____ day of June, 2015.

Myra Pearson, Chair
Spirit Lake Nation

Nancy Green Robertson, Secretary
Spirit Lake Nation



Wodakota: Traditional Court

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding meets our common goal of finding an alternative sentencing route for juvenile offenders whom are enrolled members of the Spirit Lake Nation in Benson, Ramsey & Towner Counties who are referred to Juvenile Court in the Northeast Judicial District for the aforementioned counties.

Juvenile Court Supervisor for the Northeast Judicial District for Benson, Ramsey and Towner Counties would refer first time status offenders to the Wodakota: Traditional Court which is a diversionary court system, a division of the Spirit Lake Tribal Court. Wodakota utilizes Dakota cultural influences to aide in a restorative approach to justice.

1. Referrals of the juvenile offenders from the Northeast Judicial District Juvenile Court for Benson, Ramsey and Towner Counties will come from the Juvenile Court Supervisor or a Juvenile Court Officer II (as acting Juvenile Court Supervisor).
2. The referral from Juvenile Court will be a voluntary agreement to attend and participate in the Wodakota: Traditional Court process. The voluntary agreement will be signed by the Juvenile Court Supervisor, juvenile and his or her parent/guardian.
3. Juveniles who are referred to Wodakota will remain on unsupervised probation with the Northeast Judicial Court Supervisor until the Wodakota: Traditional Court process is successfully completed.
4. Juveniles referred to Wodakota: Traditional Court will sign a peacemaking compact with the Traditional Court in place of court sanctions. This compact may include but is not limited to Dakota elder mentoring, peacemaking circles, Dakota cultural activities and community service.
5. Upon successful completion of the Traditional Court process the Traditional Court Director shall forward a letter finalizing completion to the Northeast Judicial Juvenile Court. The Northeast Judicial Juvenile Court will then close the juvenile's case and there will be no referral to formalize the case in the Northeast District Juvenile Court for the offense.
6. Non-compliance of the peacemaking compact: Consequences for failure to do so. The juvenile shall comply with all the terms and conditions of the peacemaking compact. If he/she fails to do so, the case will be transferred back to the Northeast Judicial Juvenile Court.
7. The Wodakota: Traditional Court peacemaking compact remains confidential.

Laurie Fontaine, Presiding Judge
State of North Dakota
Northeast Judicial District

Natasha Gourd,
Traditional Court Director

Shawn Peterson, Director
NEJD Juvenile Court

Peter Belgarde Jr
Traditional Court Peacemaker

Aileen Littleghost
Traditional Court Peacemaker

Aloysious Cloud
Traditional Court Peacemaker

Eugene Hale
Traditional Court Peacemaker

Demus Mcdonald
Traditional Court Peacemaker