

**March 02, 2022**

**Mailbag 07 – 2022**

**REMINDERS FOR TRIBAL COURT ORDERS, DECREES AND JUDGMENTS AND  
RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL OF CHIEFS' DIRECTIVES**

All DMV issuing offices must recognize orders, decrees and judgments issued by Indian tribal courts and directives issued by Councils of Chiefs. Examples include orders related to divorces, name changes, and Letters of Administration issued by a tribal Surrogate's Court, and letters from a Council of Chiefs concerning estate administration.

With the exception of orders directing issuance of title to seized vehicles, which should be directed to the DMV legal bureau, staff must honor all orders, decrees and judgments issued by the following New York State tribes: Cayuga Nation, Oneida Nation of New York, Onondaga Nation of New York, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Seneca Nation of Indians, Tonawanda Band of Seneca, Tuscarora Nation, Shinnecock Indian Nation and Unkechaug Nation. Staff must honor all directives received from a Council of Chiefs. Offices must also honor orders, decrees and judgments issued by tribes from non-NY states recognized by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. A list of recognized tribes can be found at the [Bureau of Indian Affairs](#). If you have any questions regarding the authenticity of a document when it is presented, please contact the IOCU for assistance.