

# CIVIL PROCEDURE

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### PROVISIONAL AND FINAL REMEDIES AND SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS

#### **Section 801. Seizure of Person or Property**

At the commencement of and during the course of an action, all remedies providing for seizure of person or property for the purpose of securing satisfaction of the judgment ultimately to be entered in the action are available under the circumstances and in the manner provided by the law of the Tribe, existing at the time the remedy is sought.

#### **Section 802. Receivers Appointed by Tribal Courts**

An action wherein a receiver has been appointed shall not be dismissed except by order of the Court. The practice in the administration of estates by receivers or by other similar officers appointed by the Court shall be in accordance with Tribal probate law, or, if none, then the practice heretofore followed in the courts of the United States or as provided in rules promulgated by the District Court. In all other respects the action in which the appointment of a receiver is sought or which is brought by or against a receiver is governed by this Title.

#### **Section 803. Deposit in Court**

In an action in which any part of the relief sought is a judgment for a sum of money or the disposition of a sum of money or the disposition of any other thing capable of delivery, a party, upon notice to every other party, and by leave of Court, may deposit with the Court all or any part of such sum or thing. Money paid into Court under this Section shall be deposited and withdrawn in accordance with Tribal law detailing accounting procedures for the Court Clerk's Office, and if there be none, then in accordance with the Tribal procedure for the administration and accounting of federal grant monies, upon order of the Court.

#### **Section 804. Process in Behalf of and Against Persons not Parties**

When an order is made in favor of a person who is not a party to the action, he may enforce obedience to the order by the same process as if he were a party; and, when obedience to an order may be lawfully enforced against a person who is not a party, he is liable to the same process for enforcing obedience to the order as if he were a party.

**Section 805. Security — Proceedings Against Sureties**

Whenever this Title or other Tribal law requires or permits the giving of security by a party, and security is given in the form of a bond or stipulation or other undertaking with one or more sureties, each surety submits himself to the jurisdiction of the Court and irrevocably appoints the Clerk of the Court as his agent upon whom any papers affecting his liability on the bond or undertaking may be served. His liability may be enforced on motion without the necessity of an independent action. The motion and such notice of the motion as the Court prescribes may be served on the Clerk of the Court, who shall forthwith mail copies to the sureties if their addresses are known.

Any surety authorized to give a bond or stipulation or other undertaking in either the Federal courts or the State courts within the State within which any portion of the Tribal jurisdiction lies, and any individual approved by the Court who resides within the jurisdiction of the Tribe (except officers of the Court or elected Tribal officials) shall be eligible to give such bond or stipulation, or undertaking in the District Court under this Title of other Tribal law unless otherwise prohibited by Tribal law.

**Section 806. Execution**

(a) **In General.** Process to enforce a judgment for the payment of money shall be a writ of execution, unless the Court directs otherwise. In aid of the judgment or execution, the judgment creditor or his successor in interest when that interest appears of record, may obtain discovery from any person, including the judgment debtor, in the manner provided in this Title.

(b) **Against Certain Public Officers.** When a judgment otherwise authorized has been entered against a collector or other officer of revenue of the Tribe or against an officer, or employee, or agency of the Tribe in their official capacity; or if judgment is entered against an individual in his personal capacity who purported to act as an officer or employee of the Tribe, and the Court has given certificate of probable cause for his act wherein the Court determines that the individual had probable cause to believe that his action was authorized by the Tribe in his official capacity, execution shall not issue against the officer or his property but the final judgment shall be satisfied as may be provided by appropriation of such judgment (or such part thereof as the Legislative Body of the Tribe deems permissible considering the extent of available Tribal resources) from available Tribal funds. This section is not intended, nor shall it be construed, as a waiver of sovereign immunity.

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## SUBCHAPTER A

### INJUNCTIONS

#### **Section 811. Injunction Defined**

The injunction provided for by this Chapter is a command to refrain from or to do a particular act for the benefit of another. It may be the final judgment in an action, or may be allowed as a provisional remedy, and when so allowed, it shall be by order.

#### **Section 812. Cause for Injunction — Temporary Restraining Order**

When it appears, by the verified complaint or an affidavit that the plaintiff is entitled to the relief demanded, and such relief, or any part thereof, consists in restraining the commission or continuance of some act, the commission or continuance of which, during the litigation, would produce injury to the plaintiff; or when, during the litigation, it appears that the defendant is doing, or threatens, or is about to do, or is procuring or suffering to be done, some act in violation of the plaintiff's rights respecting the subject of the action, and tending to render the judgment ineffectual, a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction may be granted to restrain such act. And when, during the pendency of an action, it shall appear, by affidavit or proof, that the defendant threatens or is about to remove or dispose of his property with intent to defraud his creditors, or to render the judgment ineffectual, a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction may be granted to restrain such removal or disposition. It may, also, be granted in any case where it is specially authorized by statute.

#### **Section 813. Temporary Restraining Order; Notice; Hearing; Duration**

A temporary restraining order may be granted after commencement of the action without written or oral notice to the adverse party or his attorney only if:

(a) it clearly appears from specific facts shown by affidavit or by the verified complaint that immediate and irreparable injury, loss, or damage will result to the applicant before the adverse party or his attorney can be heard in opposition, and

(b) the applicant's attorney certifies to the Court in writing the efforts, if any, which have been made to give the notice and the reasons supporting his claim that notice should not be required.

Temporary restraining orders should not be granted except in cases of extreme urgency. Every temporary restraining order granted without notice

shall be indorsed with the date and hour of issuance; shall be filed forthwith in the clerk's office and entered of record; shall define the injury and state why it is irreparable and why the order was granted without notice; and shall expire by its terms within such time after entry, not to exceed ten (10) days, as the Court fixes, unless within the time so fixed the order, for good cause shown, is extended for like period or unless the party against whom the order is directed consents that it may be extended for a longer period. The reasons for the extension shall be entered of record. In case a temporary restraining order is granted without notice, the motion for a preliminary injunction shall be set down for hearing at the earliest possible time and take precedence of all matters except older matters of the same character; and when the motion comes on for hearing the party who obtained the temporary restraining order shall proceed with the application for a preliminary injunction and, if he does not do so, the Court shall dissolve the temporary restraining order. On two (2) days notice to the party who obtained the temporary restraining order without notice or on such shorter notice to that party as the Court may prescribe, the adverse party may appear and move its dissolution or modification and in that event the Court shall proceed to hear and determine such motion as expeditiously as the ends of justice require.

**Section 814. Temporary Restraining Order — Service**

Temporary restraining orders shall be served in the same manner as provided for service of the summons and complaint.

**Section 815. Preliminary Injunction**

(a) **Notice.** No preliminary injunction shall be issued without notice to the adverse party. Notice may be in the form of an order to appear at a designated time and place and show cause why a proposed preliminary injunction should not be issued, or in such form as the Court shall direct. The burden of showing the criteria for issuance of a preliminary injunction remains with the moving party.

(b) **Consolidation of Hearing With Trial on Merits.** Before or after the commencement of the hearing of an application for a preliminary injunction, the court may order the trial of the action on the merits to be advanced and consolidated with the hearing of the application. Even when this consolidation is not ordered, any evidence received upon an application for a preliminary injunction which would be admissible upon the trial on the merits becomes part of the record on the trial and need not be repeated upon the trial. This Subsection shall be so construed and applied as to save to the parties any rights they may have to trial by jury.

**Section 816. Preliminary Injunction — Criteria**

Unless a statute of the Tribe provides specifically for preliminary injunctive relief upon a showing of particular circumstances, no preliminary injunction shall be granted unless upon hearing the evidence presented by the parties the Court determines that:

(a) There is a substantial likelihood that the moving party will eventually prevail on the merits of their claim for a permanent injunction or other relief, and

(b) The moving party will suffer irreparable injury unless the preliminary injunction issues. Irreparable injury means an injury which cannot be adequately remedied by a judgment for money damages, and

(c) The threatened injury to the moving party outweighs whatever damage or injury the proposed preliminary injunction may cause the opposing party, and

(d) The preliminary injunction, if issued, would not be adverse to the public interest, and would not violate the public policy of the Tribe or the United States.

**Section 817. Form and Scope of Injunction or Restraining Order**

Every order granting an injunction and every restraining order shall set forth the reasons for its issuance; shall be specific in terms; shall describe in reasonable detail, and not by reference to the complaint or other document, the act or acts sought to be restrained; and is binding only upon the parties to the action, their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and upon those persons in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of the order by personal service or otherwise.

**Section 818. Employer and Employee; Interpleader; Constitutional Cases**

This Subchapter does not modify any statute of the Tribe relating to temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions in actions affecting employer and employee; or relating to preliminary injunctions in actions of interpleader or in the nature of interpleader; or any other case where temporary restraining orders or preliminary injunctions are expressly authorized or prohibited upon certain express terms or conditions.

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### **Section 823. Modification of Preliminary Injunction**

If the preliminary injunction be granted, the defendant, at any time before the trial, may apply, upon notice, to the Court to vacate or modify the same. The application may be made upon the complaint and affidavits upon which the injunction is granted, or upon affidavits on the part of the party enjoined, with or without answer. The order of the judge, allowing, dissolving or modifying an injunction, shall be returned to the office of the Clerk of the Court and recorded.

### **Section 824. Modification of Permanent Injunction**

A final judgment containing a permanent injunction may be modified or dissolved by separate action upon a showing that the facts and circumstances have changed to the extent that the injunction is no longer just and equitable, or that the injunction is no longer needed to protect the rights of the parties.

### **Section 825. Injunctions Tried to the Court**

All injunctive actions shall be tried to the Court and not to a jury unless the Court orders an advisory jury pursuant to Section 704(c) of this Title.

### **Section 826. Enforcement of Restraining Orders and Injunctions**

A restraining order of injunction granted by a Judge may be enforced as the act of the Court. Disobedience of any injunction may be punished as a contempt, by the Court or any Judge who might have granted it. An attachment may be issued by the Court or Judge, upon being satisfied, by affidavit or testimony, of the breach of the injunction, against the party guilty of the same, who may be required to make immediate restitution to the party injured, and give further security to obey the injunction; or, in default thereof, he may be committed to close custody, until he shall fully comply with such requirements, or be otherwise legally discharged, or be punished by fine not exceeding Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for each day of, or separate act of, contempt, to be paid into the Court fund, or by confinement in the Tribal jail for not longer than sixty (60) days.

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### **Section 818. Security**

(a) No restraining order or preliminary injunction shall issue except upon the giving of security by the applicant, in such sum as the Court deems proper, for the payment of such costs, damages, and a reasonable attorney fee as may be incurred or suffered by any party who is found to have been wrongfully enjoined or restrained. No such security shall be required of the Tribe or of an officer or agency thereof.

(b) The provisions of Section 805 apply to a surety upon a bond or undertaking under this Section.

(c) A party enjoined by a preliminary injunction may, at any time before final judgment, upon reasonable notice to the party who has obtained the preliminary injunction, move the Court for additional security, and if it appears that the surety in the undertaking has removed from the Tribal jurisdiction, or is insufficient, the Court may vacate the preliminary injunction unless sufficient surety be given in a reasonable time upon such terms as may be just and equitable.

### **Section 820. Use of Affidavits**

On the hearing for a restraining order or preliminary injunction, each party may submit affidavits which shall be filed as a part of the record.

### **Section 821. Injunction by Defendant**

A defendant may obtain a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction upon filing his answer containing an appropriate counterclaim. He shall proceed in the manner hereinbefore prescribed.

### **Section 822. Injunction is Equitable**

Relief by way of a restraining order, preliminary, or permanent injunction is of equitable cognizance and shall be issued or refused in the sound discretion of the Court. Relief by way of injunction shall be denied where the moving party may be adequately compensated for his injuries in money damages. The District Court shall not enjoin the enforcement of the Tribal tax laws or the collection of Tribal taxes except to the extent that such relief is specifically provided for in those tax laws. No injunction shall issue to control the discretion or action of a Governmental officer or employee when such officer or employee has been delegated the authority to exercise his discretion in determining how to act upon the subject matter, and is acting or refusing to act in a manner not prohibited by Tribal law or the Indian Civil Rights Act.

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## SUBCHAPTER B

### REPLEVIN

#### **Section 831. Order of Delivery — Procedure**

(a) The plaintiff in an action to recover the possession of specific personal property may claim the delivery of the property at the commencement of suit, as provided herein.

(1) The complaint must allege facts which show:

(i) a description of the property claimed,

(ii) that the plaintiff is the owner of the property or has a special ownership or interest therein, stating the facts in relation thereto, and that he is entitled to the immediate possession of the property,

(iii) that the property is wrongfully detained by the defendant,

(iv) the actual value of the property, provided that when several articles are claimed, the value of each shall be stated as nearly as practicable,

(v) that the property was not taken in execution on any order or judgment against said plaintiff, or for the payment of any tax, fine or amercement assessed against him, or by virtue of an order of delivery issued under this Title, or any other mesne or final process issued against said plaintiff; or, if taken in execution or on any order or judgment against the plaintiff, that it is exempt by law from being so taken, and,

(vi) the prayer for relief requests that the Court issue an order for the immediate delivery of the property.

(2) The above allegations are verified by the party or, when the facts are within the personal knowledge of his agent or attorney and this is shown in the verification, by said agent or attorney.

(3) A notice shall be issued by the Clerk and served on the defendant with the summons which shall notify the defendant that an order of delivery of the property described in the complaint is sought and that the defendant may object to the issuance of such an order by a written objection which is filed with the Clerk and delivered or mailed to the plaintiff's attorney within five (5) days of the service of the summons. In the event that no written objection is filed within the five-day period, no hearing is necessary and the Court Clerk shall issue the order of delivery. Should a written objection be filed within the five-day period specified, the Court shall, at the request of either party, set the matter for prompt hearing. At such hearing the Court shall proceed to determine whether the order for prejudgment delivery of the property

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should issue according to the probable merit of the plaintiff's complaint. Provided, however, that no order of delivery may be issued until an undertaking has been executed pursuant to Section 833 of this Title.

(4) Nothing in this Title contained shall prohibit a party from waiving his right to a hearing or from voluntarily delivering the goods to the party seeking them before the commencement of the proceedings or at any time after institution thereof.

(b) Where the notice that is required by subsection (a) of this Section cannot be served on the defendant but the Judge finds that a reasonable effort to serve him was made and at the hearing the plaintiff has shown the probable truth of the allegations in his complaint, the Court may issue an order for the prejudgment delivery of the property. If an order for the prejudgment delivery of the property is issued without actual notice being given the defendant, the defendant may move to have said order dissolved and if he does not have possession of the property, for a return of the property. Notice of the right to move for return of said property shall be contained in the order for seizure and delivery of such property which shall be served upon the defendant or left in a conspicuous place where the property was seized, and the Chief of the Tribal Police shall hold said property in such cases for three (3) working days prior to delivery to the plaintiff in order to give the defendant a reasonable opportunity to move for the return of such property. Notice of said motion with the date of the hearing shall be served upon the attorney for the plaintiff in the action. The motion shall be heard promptly, and in any case within ten (10) days after the date it is filed. The Court must grant the motion unless, at the hearing on defendant's motion, the plaintiff proves the probable truth of the allegations contained in his complaint. If said motion and notice is filed before the Chief of the Tribal Police turns the property over to the plaintiff, the Chief of the Tribal Police shall retain control of the property pending the hearing on the motion.

(c) The Court may, on request of the plaintiff, order the defendant not to conceal, damage or destroy the property or a part thereof and not to remove the property or a part thereof from the tribal jurisdiction pending the hearing on plaintiff's request for an order for the prejudgment delivery of the property, and said order may be served with the summons.

### **Section 832. Penalty for Damage of Property Subject to Order of Delivery**

Any person who willfully and knowingly damages property in which there exists a valid right to issuance of an order of delivery, or on which such order has been sought under the provisions of this Title, or who conceals it, with the intent to interfere with enforcement of the order, or who removes it from the jurisdiction of the Court with the intention of defeating enforcement of an order of delivery, or who willfully refuses to disclose its location to an officer charged with executing an order for its delivery, or, if such property is in his possession, willfully interferes with the officer charged with executing such writ, may be held in civil contempt of Court, and shall be guilty of an offense, and if convicted of such offense shall be subject to a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and imprisonment for a term of not

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more than six (6) months, or both; and, in addition to such civil and criminal penalties, shall be liable to the plaintiff for double the amount of damage done to the property together with a reasonable attorney's fee to be fixed by the Court, which damages and fee shall be deemed bases on tortious conduct and enforced accordingly.

### **Section 833. Undertaking in Replevin**

The order shall not be issued until there has been executed by one or more sufficient sureties of the plaintiff, to be approved by the Court, an undertaking in not less than double the value of the property as stated in the complaint to the effect that the plaintiff shall duly prosecute the action, and pay all costs and damages which may be awarded against him, including attorney's fees and, if the property be delivered to him, that he will return the same to the defendant if a return be adjudged; provided, that where the Tribe or its agents or subdivisions is party plaintiff, an undertaking in replevin shall not be required of the plaintiff, but a writ shall issue upon complaint duly filed as provided by law. The undertaking shall be filed with the Clerk of the Court, and shall be subject to the provisions of Section 805 of this Title.

### **Section 834. Replevin Bond — Value**

On application of either party which is made at the time of executing the replevin bond or the redelivery bond, or at a later date, with notice to the adverse party, the Court may hold a hearing to determine the value of the property which the plaintiff seeks to replevy. If the value as determined by the Court is different from that stated in the complaint, the value as determined by the Court shall control for the purpose of Sections 833 and 838 of this Title.

### **Section 835. Order of Delivery**

The order for the delivery of the property to the plaintiffs shall be addressed and delivered to the Chief of the Tribal Police. It shall state the names of the parties, the Court in which the action is brought, and command the chief of the Tribal Police to take the property, describing it, and deliver it to the plaintiff as prescribed in this Title, and to make return of the order on a day to be named therein.

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### **Section 836. Order Returnable**

The return day of the order of delivery, when issued at the commencement of the suit, shall be the same as that of the summons; when issued afterwards, it shall be ten days after it is issued.

### **Section 837. Execution of Order**

The Chief of the Tribal Police shall execute the order by taking the property therein mentioned. He shall also deliver a copy of the order to the person charged with the unlawful detainer of the property, or leave such copy at his usual place of residence, or at the place such property was seized.

### **Section 838. Re-delivery on Bond**

If, within three working days after service of the copy of the order, there is executed by one or more sufficient sureties of the defendant, to be approved by the Court or the Chief of the Tribal Police, an undertaking to the plaintiff, in not less than double the amount of the value of the property as stated in the affidavit of the plaintiff, to the effect that the defendant will deliver the property to the plaintiff, if such delivery be adjudged, and will pay all costs and damages that may be awarded against him, the Chief of the Tribal Police shall return the property to the defendant. If such undertaking be not given within three working days after service of the order, the Chief of the Tribal Police shall deliver the property to the plaintiff.

### **Section 839. Exception to Sureties**

Any party for whose benefit an undertaking is made may except at any time to the sufficiency of the sureties on such undertaking. Such exception shall be made in writing and filed with the Clerk. Upon hearing, the Court shall make such order as is just to safeguard the rights of the parties.

### **Section 840. Proceedings on Failure to Prosecute Action**

If the property has been delivered to the plaintiff, and judgment rendered against him, or his action be dismissed, or if he otherwise fail to prosecute his action to final judgment, the Court shall, on application of the defendant or his attorney, proceed to inquire into the right of property, and right of possession of the defendant to the property taken.

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### **Section 841. Judgment — Damages — Attorney Fees**

In an action to recover the possession of personal property, judgment for the plaintiff may be for the possession, or for the recovery of possession, or the value thereof in case a delivery cannot be had, and of damages for the detention. If the property has been delivered to the plaintiff, and the defendant claim a return thereof, judgment for the defendant may be for a return of the property, or the value thereof in case a return cannot be had, and damages for taking and withholding the same. The judgment rendered in favor of the prevailing party in such action may include a reasonable attorney fee to be set by the Court, to be taxed and collected as costs.

### **Section 842. Officer May Break Into Buildings**

The Chief of the Tribal Police or other law enforcement officer, in the execution of the order of delivery issued by the Tribal Court, may break open any building or enclosure in which the property claimed, or any part thereof, is concealed upon probable cause to believe that the property is concealed therein, but not until he has been refused entrance into said building or enclosure and the delivery of the property, after having demanded the same, or if not person having charge thereof is present.

### **Section 843. Compelling Delivery by Attachment**

In an action to recover the possession of specific personal property, the Court may for good cause shown, before or after judgment, compel the delivery of the property to the officer or party entitled thereto by attachment, and may examine either party as to the possession or control of the property. Such authority shall only be exercised in aid of the foregoing provisions of this Subchapter.

### **Section 844. Improper Issue of Order of Delivery**

Any order for the delivery of property issued under this Subchapter without the affidavit and undertaking required, shall be set aside and the plaintiff shall be liable in damages to the party injured.

### **Section 845. Joinder of Cause of Action for Debt — Stay of Judgment**

In any action for replevin in the Tribal Court, it shall be permissible for the plaintiff to join with the claim in replevin a claim founded on debt claimed to be owing to the plaintiff if the debt shall be secured by a lien upon the

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property sought to be recovered in the claim in replevin. In such cases, the execution of the judgment for debt shall be stayed pending the sale of the property and the determination of the amount of debt remaining unpaid after the application of the proceeds of the sale thereto.

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## SUBCHAPTER C

### ATTACHMENT

#### **Section 851. Grounds for Attachment**

The plaintiff in a civil action for the recovery of money may, at or after the commencement thereof, have an attachment against the property of the defendant, and upon proof of any of the following grounds:

(a) When the defendant, or one of several defendants, is a foreign corporation, or a nonresident of the tribal jurisdiction (but no order of attachment shall be issued on this clause for any claim other than a debt or demand arising upon contract, judgment or decree, unless the claim arose wholly within the tribal jurisdiction), or

(b) When the defendant, or one of several defendants, has absconded with intention to defraud his creditors, or

(c) Has left the tribal jurisdiction to avoid the service of summons, or

(d) So conceals himself that a summons cannot be served upon him, or

(e) Is about to remove his property, or a part thereof, out of the jurisdiction of the Court with the intent to defraud his creditors, or

(f) Is about to convert his property, or a part thereof, into money, for the purpose of placing it beyond the reach of his creditors, or

(g) Has property or rights in action, which he conceals, or

(h) Has assigned, removed or disposed of, or is about to dispose of, his property, or a part thereof, with the intent to defraud, hinder or delay his creditors, or

(i) Fraudulently contracted the debt, or fraudulently incurred the liability or obligations for which the suit has been brought, or

(j) Where the damages for which the action is brought are for injuries arising from the commission of a criminal offense, or

(k) When the debtor has failed to pay the price or value of any article or thing delivered, which by contract he was bound to pay upon delivery, or

(l) When the action is brought by the Tribes, or their officers, agents, or political agencies or subdivisions for the purpose of collection of any Tribal tax, levy, charge, fee, assessment, rental, or debt arising in contract or by statute and owed to the Tribes.

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### **Section 852. Attachment Affidavit**

An order of attachment may be issued by the Court when:

(a) There is filed in the office of the court clerk a civil complaint stating a claim for relief and an application that the Court issue an order of attachment which states facts which show:

- (1) The nature of the plaintiff's claim,
- (2) That it is just,
- (3) The amount which the affiant believes the plaintiff ought to recover, and,
- (4) The existence of some one of the grounds for an attachment enumerated in Section 851 of this Subchapter.

(b) The application must be verified by the plaintiff, or, where his agent or attorney has personal knowledge of the facts, by said agent or attorney.

(c) The defendant has been served with a notice, issued by the Clerk, which shall notify the defendant that an order of attachment of property is requested and that he may object to the issuance of such an order by a written objection which is filed with the Court Clerk and mailed or delivered to the plaintiff's attorney within five (5) days of the receipt of the notice. A copy of plaintiff's application shall be attached to and served with the notice, and the notice and application may be served with the summons in the action.

(d) If no written objection is filed within the five day period, no hearing is necessary and the clerk may issue the order of attachment. If a written objection is filed within the five day period, the Court shall, at the request of either party, set the matter for a prompt hearing with notice to the adverse party. If the plaintiff proves the probable merit of his cause and the truth of the matters asserted in his application for an order of attachment, the Court may issue the order of attachment. Provided, however, before an order of attachment is issued by either the Court or the Clerk, the Plaintiff has executed an undertaking pursuant to Section 853 of this Title. The Tribe and their agents shall not be required to execute an undertaking.

(e) If the Court finds that the defendant cannot be given notice as provided herein, although a reasonable effort was made to notify him, but at the hearing the plaintiff proves the probable merit of his claim and the truth of the matters asserted in his application, the Court may issue the order of attachment. The defendant may subsequently move to have the attachment vacated as provided in Section 891.19 of this Title.

### **Section 853. Attachment Bonds**

The attachment bond for the benefit of the party whose property is attached shall be in such form and in such amount, not less than double the

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amount of the plaintiff's claim, as the Court shall direct, and shall guarantee payment of all damages, costs, and reasonable attorney fees incurred as a result of a wrongful attachment. No bond shall be required of the Tribe.

### **Section 854. Order of Attachment**

The order of attachment shall be directed and delivered to the Chief of the Tribal Police. It shall require him to attach the lands, tenements, goods, chattels, stocks, rights, credits, moneys and effects of the defendant within the tribal jurisdiction not exempt by law from being applied to the payment of the plaintiff's claim, or so much thereof as will satisfy the plaintiff's claim, to be stated in the order as in the affidavit, and the probable cost of the action not exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

### **Section 855. When Returnable**

The return day of the order of attachment when issued at the commencement of the action, shall be the same as that of the summons, and otherwise within twenty (20) days of the date of issuance.

### **Section 856. Order of Execution**

Where there are several orders of attachment against the defendant, they shall be executed in the order in which they are received by the Chief of the Tribal Police.

### **Section 857. Execution of Attachment Order**

The order of attachment shall be executed by the Chief of the Tribal Police without delay. He shall go to the place within the tribal jurisdiction where the defendant's property may be found, and declare that, by virtue of said order, he attaches said property at the suit of the plaintiff; and the officer shall make a true inventory and appraisal of all the property attached, which shall be signed by the officer and returned with the order, leaving a copy of said inventory with the person or in the place from which the property was seized.

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### Section 858. Service of Order

(a) When the property attached is real property, the officer shall leave a copy of the order with the occupant, or, if there be no occupant, then a copy of the order shall be posted in a conspicuous place on the real property. Where it is personal property, and he can get possession, he shall take such into his custody, and hold it subject to the order of the Court.

(b) When the property attached is real property, third parties shall not be affected until a copy of the attachment order and the legal description of the real property attached shall be filed and placed of record in the land tract book maintained by the Court Clerk.

### Section 859. Re-delivery on Bond

The Chief of the Tribal Police shall re-deliver the property to the person in whose possession it was found, upon the execution by such person, in the presence of the Chief of the Tribal Police, an undertaking to the plaintiff, with one or more sufficient sureties, to the effect that the parties to the same are bound, in double the appraised value thereof, that the property, or its appraised value in money, shall be forthcoming to answer the judgment of the Court in the action.

## SUBCHAPTER D

### GARNISHMENT

RESERVED FOR FUTURE PROVISIONS RELATING TO GARNISHMENT.

## SUBCHAPTER E

### PROVISIONS RELATING TO ATTACHMENT AND GARNISHMENT

RESERVED FOR FUTURE PROVISIONS RELATING TO BOTH ATTACHMENT AND GARNISHMENT.

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## SUBCHAPTER F

### RECEIVERS

#### **Section 892.1. Appointment of Receiver**

A receiver may be appointed by the Supreme Court, the District Court, or any Judge of either:

(a) In an action by a vendor to vacate a fraudulent purchase of property, or by a creditor to subject any property or fund to his claim, or between partners or others jointly owning or interested in any property or fund, on the application of the plaintiff, or of any party whose right to or interest in the property or fund, or the proceeds thereof, is probable, and where it is shown that the property or fund is in danger of being lost, removed or materially injured.

(b) In an action by a mortgagee for the foreclosure of his mortgage and sale of the mortgaged property, where it appears that the mortgaged property is in danger of being lost, removed or materially injured, or that the condition of the mortgage has not been performed, and that the property is probably insufficient to discharge the mortgage debt.

(c) After judgment, to carry the judgment into effect.

(d) After judgment, to dispose of the property according to the judgment, or to preserve it during the pendency of an appeal, or in proceeding in aid of execution, when an execution has been returned unsatisfied, or when the judgment debtor refuses to apply his property in satisfaction of the judgment.

(e) In the cases provided in this Title, and by special statutes, when a corporation has been dissolved, or is insolvent, or in imminent danger of insolvency, or has forfeited its corporate rights.

(f) In all other cases where receivers should be appointed to protect the property and rights of the parties thereto in dispute by the usages of the Court in equity.

#### **Section 892.2. Persons Ineligible**

No party, or attorney, or person so interested in an action, shall be appointed receiver therein except by consent of all parties thereto.

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### **Section 892.3. Oath and Bond**

Before entering upon his duties, the receiver must be sworn to perform them faithfully, and with one or more sureties, approved by the Court, execute an undertaking to such person and in such sum as the Court shall direct, to the effect that he will faithfully discharge the duties of receiver in the action, and obey the orders of the Court therein.

### **Section 892.4. Powers of Receiver**

The receiver has, under the control of the Court, power to bring and defend actions in his own name, as receiver; to take and keep possession of the property, to receive rents, to collect debts, to compound for and compromise the same, to make transfers, and generally to do such act respecting the property as the Courts may authorize.

### **Section 892.5. Investment of Funds**

Funds in the hands of a receiver may be invested upon interest, by order of the Court; but no such order shall be made, except upon the consent of all the parties to the action, or except by order of the Court when the principal and interest earned thereon are guaranteed by the Federal Government and may be withdrawn within a reasonable time.

### **Section 892.6. Disposition of Property Litigated**

(a) When it is admitted, by the pleadings or on oral or written examination of a person, that he has in his possession or under his control any non-exempt money or other thing capable of delivery, which, is held by him as trustee for a party, or which belongs or is due to a party, the Court may order the same to be deposited in Court or delivered to such party, with or without security, subject to the further direction of the Court.

(b) Any person abiding by an order of the Court in such cases and paying or delivering the money or other property subject to said order into Court, shall not thereafter be liable to the party for whom he held as trustee, or to whom the money or property belonged or was due, in any civil action for the collection or return of the property or money delivered or paid into Court.

(c) Such order may be made by ordering the party to procure the deposit or payment into Court of the property, which order may be enforced by contempt, or the Court, upon proper application, may order the person holding said property to be served with summons and brought into the action as a special defendant for the sole purpose of determining the nature and amount of property in his possession subject to payment into Court under this Section,

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and ordering said person to pay or deliver such non-exempt property into Court. After such payment has been made, the person shall be dismissed from the action.

(d) In cases where judgment has been obtained against the party whose property or money is to be paid into Court, it is not necessary to formally appoint a receiver for the money or property paid into Court under this Section, but the Court Clerk shall act as receiver as an aid to the enforcement of a judgment, and shall pay such money or deliver such property over to the person entitled thereto in conformity with the order of the Court.

### **Section 892.7. Punishment for Disobedience of Court**

Whenever, in the exercise of its authority, the Court shall have ordered the deposit or delivery of money or other thing, and the order is disobeyed, the Court, besides punishing the disobedience as for contempt, may make an order requiring the Chief of the Tribal Police to take the money, or thing, and deposit or deliver it, in conformity with the direction of the Court.

### **Section 892.8. Vacation of Appointment by Supreme Court**

In all cases in the Supreme Court in which a receiver has been appointed, or refused, by any Justice of the Supreme Court, the party aggrieved may, within ten (10) days thereafter have the right to file a motion to vacate the order refusing or appointing such receiver, and hearing on such motion may be had before the Supreme Court, if the same be in session, or before a quorum of the Justices of said Court in vacation, at such time and place as the said Court or the Justices thereof may determine, and pending the final determination of the cause, if the order was one of the appointment of a receiver, the moving party shall have the right to give bond with good and sufficient sureties, and in such amount as may be fixed by order of the Court or a Justice thereof, conditioned for the due prosecution of such case, and the payment of all costs and damages that may accrue to the Tribe, or any officer, or person by reason thereof, and the authority of any such receiver shall be suspended pending a final determination of such cause, and if such receiver shall have taken possession of any property in controversy in said action, the same shall be surrendered to the rightful owner thereof, upon the filing and approval of said bond.

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## SUBCHAPTER G

### EMINENT DOMAIN

#### **Section 893.1. Who May Exercise Authority**

The Executive Committee, and any officer or Agency of the Tribe specifically authorized to do so by statute may obtain real or personal property by eminent domain proceedings in conformance with the Tribal Constitution, the Indian Civil Rights Act, and this Subchapter.

#### **Section 893.2. What Property May be Condemned by Eminent Domain**

Except property made exempt from eminent domain by the Tribal Constitution and statutes, all property real and personal within the Tribal jurisdiction, not owned by the Tribe and their agencies, shall be subject to eminent domain except title to property held in trust by the United States for an Indians or Tribe, or property held by an Indian or Tribe subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States unless the United States has consented to the eminent domain of said property. Any lease or Tribally granted assignment, or other non-trust right to use such trust or restricted property conveyed by Tribal or federal law shall be subject to eminent domain in conformance with the Tribal Constitution and statutes and the Indian Civil Rights Act.

#### **Section 893.3. Condemnation of Property**

(a) **Applicability of Other Rules.** The Rules of Civil Procedure for the Courts of the Tribe govern the procedure for the condemnation of real and personal property under the power of eminent domain, except as otherwise provided in this Subchapter.

(b) **Joinder of Properties.** The plaintiff may join in the same action one or more separate pieces of property, whether in the same or different ownership and whether or not sought for the same use.

(c) **Amount to Be Paid.** The owner shall be entitled to receive just compensation for all property or rights to property taken from him in eminent domain proceedings.

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### **Section 893.4. Complaint**

(a) **Caption.** The complaint shall contain a caption as provided in Section 110(a), except that the plaintiff shall name as defendants the property, designated generally by kind, quantity, and location, and at least one of the owners of some part of or interest in the property.

(b) **Contents.** The complaint shall contain a short and plain statement of the authority for the taking, the use for which the property is to be taken, a description of the property sufficient for its identification, the interests to be acquired, and as to each separate piece of property a designation of the defendants who have been joined as owners thereof or of some interest therein. Upon the commencement of the action, the plaintiff need join as defendants only the persons having or claiming an interest in the property whose names are then known, but prior to any hearing involving the compensation to be paid for a piece of property, the plaintiff shall add as defendants all persons having or claiming an interest in that property whose names can be ascertained by a reasonably diligent search of the records, considering the character and value of the property involved and the interest to be acquired, and also those whose names have otherwise been learned. All others may be made defendants under the designation "Unknown Owners." Process shall be served as provided in Section 893.5 of this Subchapter upon all defendants, whether named as defendants at the time of the commencement of the action or subsequently added, and a defendant may answer as provided in Section 893.6 of this Subchapter. The Court meanwhile may order such distribution of a deposit as the facts warrant.

(c) **Filing.** In addition to filing the complaint with the Court, the plaintiff shall furnish to the clerk at least one copy thereof for the use of the defendants and additional copies at the request of the clerk or of a defendant.

### **Section 893.5. Process in Eminent Domain**

(a) **Notice; Delivery.** Upon the filing of the complaint the plaintiff shall forthwith deliver to the clerk joint or several notices directed to the defendants named or designated in the complaint. Additional notices directed to defendants subsequently added shall be so delivered. The delivery of the notice and its service have the same effect as the delivery and service of the summons.

(b) **Same; Form.** Each notice shall state the Court, the title of the action, the name of the defendant to whom it is directed, that the action is to condemn property, a description of his property sufficient for its identification, the interest to be taken, the authority for the taking, the uses for which the property is to be taken, that the defendant may serve upon the plaintiff's attorney an answer within twenty 20 days after service of the notice, and that the failure so to serve an answer constitutes a consent to the taking and to the authority of the Court to proceed to hear the action and to fix the compensation. The notice shall conclude with the name of the plaintiff's attorney and an address where he may be served. The notice need contain a

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description of no other property than that to be taken from the defendants to whom it is directed.

### (c) **Service of Notice.**

(1) **Personal Service.** Personal service of the notice shall be made in accordance with the rules for personal service of summons upon a defendant who resides within the United States or its territories or insular possessions and whose residence is known. A copy of the complaint may, but need not, be served.

(2) **Service by Publication.** Upon the filing of a certificate of the plaintiff's attorney stating that he believes a defendant cannot be personally served, because after diligent inquiry his place of residence cannot be ascertained by the plaintiff or, if ascertained, that it is beyond the territorial limits of personal service as provided in this Section, service of the notice shall be made on that defendant by publication in a newspaper published in the county where the property is located, or if there is no such newspaper, then in a newspaper having a general circulation where the property is located, once a week for not less than three successive weeks. Prior to the last publication, a copy of the notice shall also be mailed to a defendant who cannot be personally served as provided in this Section but whose place of residence is then known. Unknown owners may be served by publication in a like manner by a notice addressed to "Unknown Owners."

(3) **When Publication Service Complete.** Service by publication is complete upon the date of the last publication. Proof of publication and mailing shall be made by certificate of the plaintiff's attorney, to which shall be attached a printed copy of the published notice with the name and dates of the newspaper marked thereon.

(d) **Return; Amendment.** Proof of service of the notice shall be made and amendment of the notice or proof of its service allowed in the manner provided for the return and amendment of the summons.

### **Section 893.6. Appearance or Answer**

If a defendant has no objection or defense to the taking of his property, he may serve a notice of appearance designating the property in which he claims to be interested. Thereafter he shall receive notice of all proceedings affecting it. If a defendant has any objection or defense to the taking of his property, he shall serve his answer within twenty 20 days after the service of notice upon him. The answer shall identify the property in which he claims to have an interest, state the nature and extent of the interest claimed, and state all his objections and defenses to the taking of his property. A defendant waives all defenses and objection not so presented, but at the trial of the issue of just compensation, whether or not he has previously appeared or answered, he may present evidence as to the amount of the compensation to be paid for his property, and he may share in the distribution of the award. No other pleading or motion asserting any additional defense or objection shall be allowed.

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### **Section 893.7. Amendment of Pleadings**

Without leave of Court, the plaintiff may amend the complaint at any time before the trial of the issue of compensation and as many times as desired, but no amendment shall be made which will result in a dismissal forbidden by Section 893.9 of this Subchapter. The plaintiff need not serve a copy of an amendment, but shall serve notice of the filing, as provided in Section 231(b) of this Title, upon any party affected thereby who has appeared and, in the manner provided in Section 893.9 of this Subchapter, upon any party affected thereby who has not appeared. The plaintiff shall furnish to the clerk of the Court for the use of the defendants at least one copy of each amendment, and he shall furnish additional copies on the request of the clerk or of a defendant. Within the time allowed by Section 893.6 of this subchapter, a defendant may serve his answer to the amended pleading, in the form and manner and with the same effect as there provided.

### **Section 893.8. Substitution of Parties**

If a defendant dies or becomes incompetent or transfers his interest after his joinder, the Court may order substitution of the proper party upon motion and notice of hearing. If the motion and notice of hearing are to be served upon a person not already a party, service shall be made as provided in Section 893.5(c).

### **Section 893.9. Dismissal of Action**

(a) **As of Right.** If no hearing has begun to determine the compensation to be paid for a piece of property and the plaintiff has not acquired the title or a lesser interest in the property or taken possession thereof, the plaintiff may dismiss the action as to that property, without an order of the Court, by filing a notice of dismissal setting forth a brief description of the property as to which the action is dismissed.

(b) **By Stipulation.** Before the entry of any judgment vesting the plaintiff with title or a lesser interest in or possession of property, the action may be dismissed in whole or in part, without an order of the Court, as to any property by filing a stipulation of dismissal by the plaintiff and the defendant affected thereby; and, if the parties so stipulate, the Court may vacate any judgment that has been entered.

(c) **By Order of the Court.** At any time before compensation for a piece of property has been determined and paid and after motion and hearing, the Court may dismiss the action as to that property, except that it shall not dismiss the action as to any part of the property of which the plaintiff has taken possession or in which the plaintiff has taken title or a lesser interest, without awarding just compensation of the possession, title or lesser interest so taken, or, if the possession, title, or interest in such property is to be returned to the defendant upon dismissal by motion of the plaintiff, the

Court may also award reasonable actual damages incurred, not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) in excess of fair rental value of the premises during the period in which the plaintiff held possession or title against the plaintiff notwithstanding the doctrine of sovereign immunity. The Court at any time may drop a defendant unnecessarily or improperly joined.

(d) **Effect.** Except as otherwise provided in the notice, or stipulation of dismissal, or order of the Court, any dismissal is without prejudice.

**Section 893.10. Deposit and Its Distribution**

The plaintiff shall deposit with the Court any money required by law as a condition to the exercise of the power of eminent domain; and, although not so required, may make a deposit when permitted by statute. In such cases the Court and attorneys shall expedite the proceedings for the distribution of the money so deposited and for the ascertainment and payment of just compensation. If the compensation finally awarded to any defendant exceeds the amount which has been paid to him on distribution of the deposit, the Court shall enter judgment against the plaintiff and in favor of that defendant for the deficiency. If the compensation finally awarded to any defendant is less than the amount which has been paid to him, the Court shall enter judgment against him and in favor of the plaintiff for the overpayment.

**Section 893.11. Costs**

Costs shall normally be paid by the Plaintiff in condemnation actions unless the Court, in its discretion determines that a defendant should pay their own costs, which may include a reasonable portion of plaintiff's costs because of inequitable conduct or other statutory reason.

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CHAPTER NINE**

**JUDGMENT**

**Section 901. Judgments — Costs**

(a) **Definition; Form.** "Judgment" as used in this Title includes a final determination of the rights of the parties in an action, including those determined by a decree and any order from which an appeal lies. A judgment shall not contain a recital of pleadings, the report of a master, or the record of prior proceedings.

(b) **Judgment Upon Multiple Claims or Involving Multiple Parties.** When more than one claim for relief is presented in an action, whether as a claim, counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim, or when multiple parties are involved, the Court may direct the entry of a final judgment as to one or more but fewer than all of the claims or parties only upon an express determination that there are no just reasons for delay and upon an express direction for the entry of judgment. In the absence of such determination and direction, any order or other form of decision, however designated, which adjudicates fewer than all the claims, or rights and liabilities of fewer than all of the parties shall not terminate the action as to any of the claims or parties, and the order or other form of decision is subject to revision at anytime before the entry of judgment adjudicating all the claims and the rights and liabilities of all the parties.

(c) **Demand for Judgment; Default.** A judgment by default shall not be different in kind from or exceed in amount that prayed for in the demand for judgment. Except as to a party against whom a judgment is entered by default, every final judgment shall grant the relief to which the party in whose favor it is rendered is entitled, even if the party has not demanded such relief in his pleadings.

(d) **Costs.** Except when express provision therefor is made either in a statute of the Tribe or in this Title, costs shall be allowed as of course to the prevailing party unless the Court otherwise directs; but costs, including attorney fees and statutory authorization for collection of damages or requirement for bonds or undertakings, against the Tribe, its officers, and agencies shall be imposed only to the extent specifically permitted by Tribal law. A general statement in this Title that such are payable by a party or by the plaintiff or defendant is not authority to impose such costs, damages, or requirements upon the Tribe, its officers, and agencies. Costs may be taxed by the clerk on one (1) day's notice. On motion served within ten (10) days thereafter, the action of the clerk may be reviewed by the Court.

(e) **Applied to Probate Proceedings.** A judgment shall be considered a lawful debt in all proceedings held by the Department of the Interior or by the Tribal District Court in the distribution of decedent's estates.

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### Section 902. Default

(a) **Entry.** When a party against whom a judgment for affirmative relief is sought has failed to plead or otherwise defend as provided by this Title and that fact is made to appear by affidavit or otherwise, the clerk shall enter his default.

(b) **Judgment.** Judgment by default may be entered as follows:

(1) **By the clerk.** When the plaintiff's claims against a defendant is for a sum certain or for a sum which can, by computation, be made certain, the clerk upon request of the plaintiff and upon affidavit of the amount due shall enter judgment for that amount and costs against the defendant, if he has been defaulted for failure to appear and if he is not an infant or incompetent person.

(2) **By the Court.** In all other cases the party entitled to a judgment by default shall apply to the Court therefor; but no judgment by default shall be entered against an infant or incompetent person unless represented in the action by a general guardian, committee, conservator, or other such representative who has appeared therein. If the party against whom judgment by default is sought has appeared in the action, he (or, if appearing by representative, his representative) shall be served with written notice of the application for judgment at least three (3) days prior to the hearing on such application. If, in order to enable the Court to enter judgment or to carry it into effect, it is necessary to take an account or to determine the amount of damages or to establish the truth of any averment by evidence or to make an investigation of any other matter, the Court may conduct such hearings or order such references as it deems necessary and proper and shall accord a right of trial by jury to the parties when and as required by any statute of the Tribe.

(c) **Setting Aside Default.** For good cause shown the Court may set aside an entry of default and, if a judgment by default has been entered, may likewise set it aside in accordance with Section 909(b).

(d) **Plaintiff, Counterclaimants, Cross-Claimants.** The provisions of this Section apply whether the party entitled to the judgment by default is a plaintiff, a third-party plaintiff, or a party who has pleaded a cross-claim or counterclaim. In all cases a judgment by default is subject to the limitations of Section 901(c).

(e) **Judgment Against the Tribe.** No judgment by default may be entered against the Tribe, their officers, or agencies unless sixty (60) days written notice has been served upon the Chief Executive Officer and the Tribal Legislative Authority. If during such sixty- (60) day period the Tribe are without counsel, and the Tribe have submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs an attorney contract for approval, no default may be entered until thirty (30) days after approval of the contract. During such period, the Tribe, their agencies, or officers shall be allowed to cure any default. No judgment by default shall be entered against the Tribe, their agencies, or officers in any case unless the claimant establishes his claim or right to relief, including his authority to bring the suit, and his damages by evidence satisfactory to the Court.

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### **Section 903. Offer of Judgment**

At any time more than ten (10) days before the trial begins, a party defending against a claim may serve upon the adverse party an offer to allow judgment to be taken against him for the money or property or to the effect specified in his offer, with costs then accrued. If within ten (10) days after the service of the offer the adverse party serves written notice that the offer is accepted, either party may then file the offer and notice of acceptance together with proof of service thereof and thereupon the clerk shall enter judgment. An offer not accepted shall be deemed withdrawn and evidence thereof is not admissible except in a proceeding to determine costs. If the judgment finally obtained by the offeree is not more favorable than the offer, the offeree must pay the costs incurred after the making of the offer. The fact that an offer is made but not accepted does not preclude a subsequent offer. When the liability of one party to another has been determined by verdict or order or judgment, but the amount or extent of the liability, or both, remains to be determined by further proceedings, the party adjudged liable may make an offer of judgment, which shall have the same effect as an offer made before trial if it is served within a reasonable time not less than ten (10) days prior to the commencement of hearings to determine the amount or extent of liability.

### **Section 904. Judgment for Specific Acts — Vesting Title**

If a judgment directs a party to execute a conveyance of land or to deliver deeds or other documents or to perform any other specific act and the party fails to comply within the time specified, the Court may direct the act to be done at the cost of the disobedient party by some other person appointed by the Court and the act when so done has like effect as if done by the party. On application of the party entitled to performance, the clerk shall issue a writ of attachment or sequestration against the property of the disobedient party to compel obedience to the judgment. The Court may also in proper cases adjudge the party in contempt. If real or personal property is within the tribal jurisdiction, and the interest in said property at issue in the action is not held in trust by the United States as Indian lands, the Court in lieu of directing a conveyance of that interest may enter a judgment divesting the interest from any party and vesting it in others and such judgment has the effect of a conveyance executed in due form of law. When any order or judgment is for the delivery of possession, the party in whose favor it is entered is entitled to a writ of execution or assistance upon application.

### **Section 905. Summary Judgment**

(a) **For Claimant.** A party seeking to recover upon a claim, counterclaim, or cross-claim or to obtain a declaratory judgment may, at any time after the expiration of twenty (20) days from the commencement of the action or after service of a motion for summary judgment by the adverse party, move with or

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without supporting affidavits for a summary judgment in his favor upon all or any part thereof.

(b) **For Defending Party.** A party against whom a claim, counterclaim, or cross-claim is asserted or a declaratory judgment is sought may, at any time, move with or without supporting affidavits for a summary judgment in his favor as to all or any part thereof.

(c) **Motion and Proceedings Thereon.** The motion shall be served at least ten (10) days before the time fixed for the hearing. The adverse party prior to the day of hearing may serve opposing affidavits. The judgment sought shall be rendered forthwith if the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law. A summary judgment, interlocutory in character, may be entered on the issue of liability alone although there is a genuine issue as to the amount of damages.

(d) **Case Not Fully Adjudicated on Motion.** If on motion under this Section judgment is not rendered upon the whole case or for all the relief asked and a trial is necessary, the Court at the hearing of the motion, by examining the pleadings and the evidence before it and by interrogating counsel, shall if practicable ascertain what material facts exist without substantial controversy and what material facts are actually and in good faith controverted. It shall thereupon make an order specifying the facts that appear without substantial controversy, including the extent to which the amount of damages or other relief is not in controversy, and directing such further proceedings in the action as are just. Upon the trial of the action the facts so specified shall be deemed established, and the trial shall be conducted accordingly.

(e) **Form of Affidavits; Further Testimony; Defense Required.** Supporting and opposing affidavits shall be made on personal knowledge, shall set forth such facts as would be admissible in evidence, and shall show affirmatively that the affiant is competent to testify to the matters stated therein. Sworn or certified copies of all papers or parts thereof referred to in an affidavit shall be attached thereto or served therewith. The Court may permit affidavits to be supplemented or opposed by depositions, answers to interrogatories, or further affidavits. When a motion for summary judgment is made and supported as provided in this Section, an adverse party may not rest upon the mere allegations or denials of his pleading, but his response, by affidavits or as otherwise provided in this Section, must set forth specific facts showing that there is a genuine issue for trial. If he does not so respond, summary judgment, if appropriate, shall be entered against him.

(f) **When Affidavits are Unavailable.** Should it appear from the affidavits of a party opposing the motion that he cannot for reasons stated present by affidavit facts essential to justify his opposition, the Court may refuse the application for judgment or may order a continuance to permit affidavits to be obtained or depositions to be taken or discovery to be had or may make such other order as is just.

(g) **Affidavits Made in Bad Faith.** Should it appear to the satisfaction of the Court at any time that any of the affidavits presented pursuant to this Section are presented in bad faith or solely for the purpose of delay, the Court

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shall forthwith order the party employing them to pay to the other party the amount of the reasonable expenses which the filing of the affidavits caused him to incur, including reasonable attorney's fees, and any offending party or attorney may be adjudged guilty of contempt.

### **Section 906. Declaratory Judgments**

The procedure for obtaining a declaratory judgment in actions arising in equity, or through contract, or pursuant to any specific Tribal law authorizing a declaratory judgment, shall be in accordance with this Title, and the right to trial by jury may be demanded under the circumstances and in the manner provided in Sections 703 and 704. The existence of another adequate remedy does not preclude a judgment for declaratory relief in cases where it is appropriate. The Court may order a speedy hearing of an action for a declaratory judgment and may advance it on the calendar.

### **Section 907. Entry of Judgment**

(a) Subject to the provisions of Section 901(b), the Court shall promptly approve the form of the judgment, and the clerk shall thereupon enter it:

(1) upon a general verdict of a jury, or upon a decision by the Court that a party shall recover only a sum certain or costs or that all relief shall be denied, the clerk, unless the Court otherwise orders, shall forthwith prepare, sign, and enter the judgment without awaiting any direction by the Court,

(2) upon a decision by the Court granting other relief, or upon a special verdict or a general verdict accompanied by answers to interrogatories.

(b) Every judgment shall be set forth on a separate document. A judgment is effective only when so set forth and when entered in the civil docket book. Entry of the judgment shall not be delayed for the taxing of costs. Attorneys shall not submit forms of judgment except upon direction of the Court.

### **Section 908. New Trials — Amendments of Judgments**

(a) **Grounds.** A new trial is a re-examination in the same Court, of an issue of fact, or of law, or both and may be granted to all or any of the parties and on all or part of the issues for any of the following reasons:

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(1) Irregularity in the proceedings of the Court, jury, referee, or prevailing party, or any order of the Court or referee, or abuse of discretion, by which the party was prevented from having a fair trial, or

(2) Misconduct of the jury or prevailing party, or

(3) Accident or surprise, which ordinary prudence could not have guarded against, or

(4) Excessive or inadequate damages, appearing to have been given under the influence of passion or prejudice, or

(5) Error in the assessment of the amount of recovery, whether too large or too small, where the action is upon a contract, or for the injury or detention of property, or

(6) That the verdict, report, or decision is not sustained by sufficient evidence, or is contrary to law, or

(7) Newly-discovered evidence, material for the party applying, which he could not, with reasonable diligence, have discovered and produced at the trial, or

(8) Error of law occurring at the trial, and objected to by the party making the application, or

(9) When, without fault of the complaining party, it becomes impossible to make a record sufficient for appeal.

On a motion for a new trial in an action tried without a jury, the Court may open the judgment if one has been entered, take additional testimony, amend findings of fact and conclusions, and direct the entry of a new judgment.

(b) **Time for Motion.** A motion for a new trial shall be served not later than ten (10) days after the entry of the judgment, except that a motion based upon newly discovered evidence shall be made within one year from the date of the judgment.

(c) **Time for Serving Affidavits.** When a motion for new trial is based upon affidavits they shall be served with the motion. The opposing party has 10 days after such service within which to serve opposing affidavits, which period may be extended for an additional period not exceeding 20 days either by the Court for good cause shown or by the parties by written stipulation. The Court may permit reply affidavits.

(d) **On Initiative of Court.** Not later than 10 days after entry of judgment the Court of its own initiative may order a new trial for any reasons for which it might have granted a new trial on motion of a party. After giving the parties notice and an opportunity to be heard on the matter, the Court may grant a motion for a new trial, timely served, for a reason not stated in the motion. In either case, the Court shall specify in the order the grounds therefor.

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(e) **Motion to Alter or Amend a Judgment.** A motion to alter or amend the judgment shall be served not later than 10 days after entry of the judgment.

### **Section 909. Relief From Judgment or Order**

(a) **Clerical Mistakes.** Clerical mistakes in judgments, orders or other parts of the record and errors therein arising from oversight or omission may be corrected by the Court at any time of its own initiative or on the motion of any party and after such notice, if any, as the Court orders. During the pendency of an appeal, such mistakes may be so corrected before the appeal is docketed in the Supreme Court, and thereafter while the appeal is pending may be so corrected with leave of the Supreme Court.

(b) **Mistakes; Inadvertence; Excusable Neglect; Newly Discovered Evidence; Fraud, etc.** On motion and upon such terms as are just, the Court may relieve a party or his legal representative from a final judgment, order, or proceeding for the following reasons: (1) mistake, inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect; (2) newly discovered evidence which by due diligence could not have been discovered in time to move for a new trial under Section 908(b); (3) fraud (whether denominated intrinsic or extrinsic), misrepresentation, or other misconduct of an adverse party; (4) the judgment is void; (5) the judgment has been satisfied, released, or discharged, or a prior judgment upon which it is based has been reversed or otherwise vacated, or it is no longer equitable that the judgment should have prospective application; or (6) any other reason justifying relief from the operation of the judgment. The motion shall be made within a reasonable time, and for reasons (1), (2), and (3) not more than one year after the judgment, order, or proceeding was entered or taken. A motion under this subsection (b) does not affect the finality of a judgment or suspend its operation. This Section does not limit the power of a Court to entertain an independent action to relieve a party from a judgment, order, or proceeding, or to grant relief to a defendant not actually personally notified of the proceedings, or to set aside a judgment for fraud upon the Court. Writs of coram nobis, coram vobis, audita querela, and bills of review and bills in the nature of a bill of review, are abolished, and the procedure for obtaining any relief from a judgment shall be by motion as prescribed in this Title or by an independent action.

### **Section 910. Harmless Error**

No error in either the admission or the exclusion of evidence and no error or defect in any ruling or order or in anything done or omitted by the Court or by any of the parties is ground for granting a new trial or for setting aside a verdict or for vacating, modifying or otherwise disturbing a judgment or order, unless refusal to take such action appears to the Court inconsistent with substantial justice. The Court at every stage of the proceeding must disregard any error or defect in the proceeding which does not affect the substantial rights of the parties.

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### Section 911. Stay of Proceedings to Enforce a Judgment

(a) **Automatic Stay; Exceptions—Injunctions, Receiverships, and Patent Accountings.** Except as stated in this Title, no execution shall issue upon a judgment nor shall proceedings be taken for its enforcement until the expiration of ten (10) days after its entry. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, an interlocutory or final judgment in an action for an injunction or in a receivership action, or a judgment or order directing an accounting, shall not be stayed during the period after its entry and until an appeal is taken or during the pendency of an appeal. The provisions of subsection (c) of this Section govern the suspending, modifying, restoring, or granting of an injunction during the pendency of an appeal.

(b) **Stay on Motion for New Trial or for Judgment.** In its discretion and on such conditions for the security of the adverse party as are proper, the Court may stay the execution of or any proceedings to enforce a judgment pending the deposition of a motion for a new trial or to alter or amend a judgment made pursuant to Section 908, or of a motion or relief from a judgment or order made pursuant to Section 909, or of a motion for judgment in accordance with a motion for a directed verdict made pursuant to Section 757, or of a motion for amendment to the findings or for additional findings made pursuant to Section 751(b).

(c) **Injunction Pending Appeal.** When an appeal is taken from an interlocutory or final judgment granting, dissolving, or denying an injunction, the Court in its discretion may suspend, modify, restore, or grant an injunction during the pendency of the appeal upon such terms as to bond or otherwise as it considers proper for the security of the rights of the adverse party.

(d) **Stay Upon Appeal.** When an appeal is taken the appellant by giving a supersedeas bond may obtain a stay subject to the exceptions contained in subsection (a) of this Section. The bond may be given at or after the time of filing the notice of appeal or of procuring the order allowing the appeal, as the case may be. The stay is effective when the supersedeas bond is approved by the Court.

(e) **Stay in Favor of the Tribe or Agency Thereof.** When an appeal is taken by the Tribe or an officer or agency thereof or by direction of any department of the Government of the Tribe, the operation or enforcement of the judgment is stayed, no bond, obligation, or other security shall be required from the appellant.

(f) **Power of the Supreme Court Not Limited.** The provisions in this Section do not limit any power of the Supreme Court or of a judge or justice thereof to stay proceedings during the pendency of an appeal or to suspend, modify, restore, or grant an injunction during the pendency of an appeal or to make any order appropriate to preserve the status quo or the effectiveness of the judgment subsequently to be entered.

(g) **Stay of Judgment as to Multiple Claims or Multiple Parties.** When the Court has ordered a final judgment under the conditions stated in Section 901(b), the Court may stay enforcement of that judgment until the entering of a subsequent judgment or judgments and may prescribe such conditions as are

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necessary to secure the benefit thereof to the party in whose favor the judgment is entered.

### **Section 912. Disability of a Judge**

If by reason of death, sickness, or other disability, a judge before whom an action has been tried is unable to perform the duties to be performed by the Court under this Title after a verdict is returned or findings of fact and conclusions of law are filed, then any other judge regularly sitting in or assigned to the Court in which the action was tried may perform those duties; but if such other judge is satisfied that he cannot perform those duties because he did not preside at the trial or for any other reason, he may in his discretion grant a new trial.

### **Section 913. Reserved**

### **Section 914. Judgment Against Infant**

It shall not be necessary to reserve in a judgment or order the right of a minor to show cause against it after his attaining full age; but in any case in which such reservation would be proper, the minor, within two (2) years after arriving at the age of eighteen (18) years, may show cause against such order or judgment.

### **Section 915. Judgments as Liens**

Judgments of the Tribal Court and the Courts of the United States shall be liens on real estate of the judgment debtor within the tribal jurisdiction from and after the time a certified copy of such judgment has been filed in the Court Clerk's land tract records book. A five dollar (\$5.00) fee shall be collected for each requested filing in the land tract records book. No judgment whether rendered by the Tribal Court or a Court of the United States shall be a lien on the real estate of a judgment debtor until it has been filed in this manner. Execution shall be issued only by the Tribal Court.

### **Section 916. Discharge of Money Judgment Liens**

In the event of an appeal to the Tribal Supreme Court from a money judgment, the lien of such judgment, and any lien by virtue of an attachment

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issued and levied in the action in which such judgment was rendered, shall cease upon the judgment debtor or debtor's depositing, with the Court Clerk of the Tribal District Court, cash sufficient to cover the whole amount of the judgment, including interest, costs and any attorney fees, together with costs and interest on the appeal, accompanied by a written statement, executed by the judgment debtor or debtors, that such deposit is made to discharge the lien of such judgment and any lien by virtue of an attachment issued and levied in the action, as provided for herein. It shall be the duty of the Court Clerk, upon receipt of such a cash deposit and written statement, immediately to enter the same and the amount of case received upon the civil appearance docket in the action, upon the judgment docket opposite the entry of such judgment, and upon the land tract records book if the judgment has been filed therein. It shall further be the duty of the Court Clerk to deposit the case so received in any action in a separate interest bearing official depository account and to hold the same pending final determination of the action, and, upon final determination of the action, to pay, or apply the same upon any judgment that might be rendered against the depositor or depositors, and to refund any balance in excess of any such judgment to the depositor or depositors, or, in the event the action be finally determined in favor of the depositor or depositors, to refund the whole amount thereof to the depositor or depositors.

### **Section 917. Additional Case Deposits**

A judgment creditor may, at any time, upon reasonable notice to the judgment debtor or debtors, move the Court for the deposit of additional cash; and if it appears that the case which has been deposited is insufficient to cover the whole amount of the judgment, including interest, costs and any attorney fees, together with costs and interest on the appeal, the Court shall order the deposit of additional cash. If the additional cash is not deposited within a reasonable time, which time shall be set by the Court, the judgment shall be revived and attachment may be issued thereon.

### **Section 918. Reversal By Supreme Court**

In the event of a reversal of the judgment by the Supreme Court, no money deposited to discharge the lien of such judgment shall be refunded by the Court Clerk until final disposition of the action.

### **Section 919. Interest on Money Judgments**

All money judgments of the Tribal District Court shall bear interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) simple interest per annum, except authorized judgments against the Tribe, their political subdivisions, and agents in their official capacity which judgments shall not bear interest unless such is specifically provided for, provided that when a rate of interest is specified in

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a contract, the rate therein shall apply to the judgment debt and be specified in the judgment if the rate does not exceed the lesser of any limitation imposed by Tribal law, or the law of the jurisdiction in which the contract was made, upon the amount of interest which may be charged.

### Section 920. Exempt Property

The following property shall be exempt, except as to enforcement of contractual liens or mortgages, from garnishment, attachment, execution and sale; and other process for the payment of principal and interest, costs, and attorney fees upon any judgment of the Tribal District Court:

(a) Three-fourths (3/4) of the net wages earned per week by the person or an amount equivalent to forty (40) times the federal minimum hourly wages per week, whichever is greater, except as may be specifically provided by law for child support payments.

(b) One automobile of fair market value not exceeding One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00).

(c) Tools, equipment, utensils, or books necessary to the conduct of the persons business but not including stock or inventory.

(d) Actual trust or restricted title to any lands held in trust by the United States, or subject to restrictions against alienation imposed by the United States but not including leasehold and other possessory interests in such property.

(e) Any dwelling used as the actual residence of the judgment debtor, including up to five acres of land upon which such dwelling is located whether such dwelling is owned or leased by the judgment debtor.

(f) Household goods, furniture, wearing apparel, personal effects, but not including televisions, radios, phonographs, tape recorders, home computers, (not otherwise exempt) more than two (2) firearms, works of art, and other recreational or luxury items.

(g) One horse, one bridle, and one saddle.

(h) All implements of husbandry used upon the homestead, not more than four cows with their immature offspring, two hogs with their immature offspring, ten chickens, and feed suitable and sufficient to maintain said livestock and fowls for a period of one year.

(i) All ceremonial or religious items.

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### **Section 920.1. Payment of Judgments From Individual Indian Moneys**

Whenever the Tribal District court shall have ordered payment of money damages to an injured party and the debtor refuses or neglects to make such payment within the time set for payment by the Court, or when an execution is returned showing no property found, and when the debtor has sufficient funds to his credit at any Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency Office to pay all or part of such judgment, the Clerk of the Tribal District Court, upon request of the judgment creditor, shall certify the record to the superintendent of the agency, who shall certify to the Secretary of the Interior the record of the case and the amount of the available funds. If the Secretary shall so direct, the disbursing agent shall pay over to the judgment creditor the amount of the judgment, or such lessor amount as may be specified by the Secretary from the account of the judgment debtor.

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### SUBCHAPTER A

### FOREIGN JUDGMENTS

#### **Section 921. Definition**

In this Title "foreign judgment" means any judgment, decree, or order of a Court of the United States, any Indian Tribe, or of any other Court which is entitled to comity or full faith and credit in the Tribal Court.

#### **Section 922. Filing and Status of Foreign Judgments**

A copy of any foreign judgment authenticated in accordance with the applicable act of Congress or of the statutes of the Tribe may be filed in the office of the Court Clerk. The clerk shall treat the foreign judgment in the same manner as a judgment of the Tribal District Court. A judgment so filed has the same effect and is subject to the same procedures, defenses, and proceedings for reopening, vacating, or staying as a judgment of the Tribal District Court and may be enforced or satisfied in like manner. Provided, however, that no such filed foreign judgment shall be a lien on real estate of the judgment debtor until a certified copy of the judgment so filed is also filed in the office of the Court Clerk as provided by law in the land track record book.

#### **Section 923. Grounds for Non-Recognition**

(a) A foreign judgment is not conclusive if

(1) The judgment was rendered under a system which does not provide impartial tribunals or procedures compatible with the requirements of due process of law;

(2) The foreign court did not have personal jurisdiction over the defendant; or

(3) The foreign court did not have jurisdiction over the subject matter.

(b) A foreign judgment need not be recognized if

(1) The defendant in the proceedings in the foreign court did not receive notice of the proceedings in sufficient time to enable him to defend;

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- (2) The judgment was obtained by fraud;
- (3) The cause of action on which the judgment is based is repugnant to the public policy of the Tribe;
- (4) The judgment conflicts with another final and conclusive judgment;
- (5) The proceeding in the foreign court was contrary to an agreement between the parties under which the dispute in question was to be settled otherwise than by proceedings in that court; or
- (6) In the case of jurisdiction based only on personal service, the foreign court was seriously inconvenient forum for the trial of action.

### **Section 924. Notice of Filing**

(a) At the time of the filing of the foreign judgment, the judgment creditor or his lawyer shall make and file with the clerk of the Court an affidavit setting forth the name and last known post office address of the judgment debtor, and of the judgment creditor.

(b) Promptly upon the filing of the foreign judgment and the affidavit, the clerk shall mail notice of the filing of the foreign judgment to the judgment debtor at the address given and shall make a note of the mailing in the docket. The notice shall include the name and post office address of the judgment creditor and the judgment creditor's lawyer, if any. In addition, the judgment creditor may mail a notice of the filing of the judgment to the judgment debtor and may file proof of mailing with the clerk. Lack of notice of filing by the clerk shall not affect the enforcement proceedings if proof of mailing by the judgment creditor has been filed.

(c) No execution or other process for enforcement of a foreign judgment filed hereunder shall issue until twenty (20) days after the date the judgment is filed.

### **Section 925. Stay of Execution of Foreign Judgment**

(a) If the judgment debtor shows the Tribal District Court that an appeal from the foreign judgment is pending or will be taken, or that a stay of execution has been granted, the Court shall stay enforcement of the foreign judgment until the appeal is concluded, or until the time for appeal expires, or until the stay of execution expires or is vacated, upon proof that the judgment debtor has furnished the security for the satisfaction of the judgment required by the law of the jurisdiction in which it was rendered.

(b) If the judgment debtor shows the Tribal District Court any ground upon which enforcement of a judgment of the Tribal Court would be stayed,

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the Court shall stay enforcement of the foreign judgment for an appropriate period, upon requiring the same security for satisfaction of the judgment which is required in the Tribal jurisdiction.

### **Section 926. Fees**

Any person filing a foreign judgment shall pay to the Court Clerk those fees now and hereafter prescribed by the statute or by authorized Court rule for the filing of an action in the Court. Fees for docketing, transcription, or other enforcement proceedings shall be the same as provided for judgments of the Tribal District Court.

### **Section 927. Optional Procedure**

The right of a judgment creditor to bring an action to enforce his judgment instead of proceedings under this subchapter remains unimpaired.

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## SUBCHAPTER B

### EXECUTION

#### **Section 931. Executions - Defined**

Executions shall be deemed process of the Court, and shall be issued by the clerk, and directed to the Chief of the Tribal Police.

#### **Section 932. Kinds of Executions**

Executions are of three kinds:

- (a) Against the property of the judgment debtor.
- (b) For the delivery of possession of real or personal property, with damages for withholding the same, and costs.
- (c) Executions in special cases.

#### **Section 933. Property Subject to Levy**

Lands, tenements, goods and chattels, not exempt by law shall be subject to the payment of debts, and shall be liable to be taken on execution and sold, as hereinafter provided.

#### **Section 934. Property Bound After Seizure**

All real estate not bound by the lien of the judgment, as well as goods and chattels of the debtor, shall be bound from the time they shall be seized in execution.

#### **Section 935. Execution Must Be Issued Within Five Years**

If execution is not issued and filed as provided by this subchapter within five (5) years after the date of any judgment that now is or may hereafter be rendered, in the Tribal Court or if five (5) years have intervened between

## CIVIL PROCEDURE

the date that the last execution on such judgment was filed and the date that writ of execution was filed such judgment shall become unenforceable and of no effect, and shall cease to operate as a lien on the real estate of the judgment debtor. Provided, that this section shall not apply to judgments in favor of the Tribe its subdivisions or agents.

### **Section 936. Priority Among Property**

The writ of execution against the property of the judgment debtor, issuing from the Tribal Court shall command the officer to whom it is directed, that of the goods and chattels of the debtor he cause to be made the money specified in the writ; and for want of goods and chattels, he cause the same non-trust interest in lands and tenements of the debtor; and the amount of the debt, damages and costs, for which the judgment is entered, shall be endorsed on the execution.

### **Section 937. Priority Among Executions**

When two or more writs of execution against the same debtor shall be sued out and when two or more writs of execution against the same debtor shall be delivered to the officer prior to the date of sale of this property, no preference shall be given to either of such writs; but if a sufficient sum of money be not made to satisfy all such executions, the amount made shall be distributed to the several creditors in proportion to the amount of their respective demands, provided that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to affect any preferable lien which one or more of the judgments, on which execution issued, may have on the property of the judgment debtor.

### **Section 938. Levy By Priority**

The officer to whom a writ of execution is delivered, shall proceed immediately to levy the same upon the goods and chattels of the debtor; but if no goods and chattels can be found, the officer shall endorse on the writ of execution, "no goods," and forthwith levy the writ of execution upon any interests in the lands and tenements of the debtor, which may be liable to satisfy the judgment; and if any of the interests in such lands and tenements of the debtor which may be liable shall be encumbered by mortgage or any other lien or liens, such lands and tenements may be levied upon and appraised and sold, subject to such lien or liens, which shall be stated in the appraisalment.

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### **Section 939. Who Makes Levy**

It shall be unlawful for anyone to levy an attachment or execution within the Tribal jurisdiction who is not a bonded Tribal or Federal Police officer.

### **Section 940. When Levy Void**

Any attachment or execution issued to, or levied by anyone other than a bonded Tribal or Federal Police officer shall be void and of no effect and the Court Clerk or other person issuing same, or officer or other person levying same, as the case may be, together with their bondsmen shall be liable for any damage caused thereby.

### **Section 941. Penalty for Unlawful Levy**

Anyone violating the provisions of Section 939 of this Title shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or confinement in the Tribal jail not to exceed thirty (30) days or both.

### **Section 942. Levy on Property Claimed By Third Person**

If the officer, by virtue of an execution issued from the Tribal Court, shall levy the same on any goods and chattels claimed by any person other than the defendant, or be requested by the plaintiff to levy on any such goods and chattels, the officer may require the plaintiff to give him an undertaking, with good and sufficient securities to pay all costs and damages that he may sustain by reason of the detention or sale of such property; and until such undertaking shall be given, the officer may refuse to proceed as against such property.

### **Section 943. Re-Delivery to Defendant**

In all cases where the Tribal Police Chief or other officer shall, by virtue of an execution, levy upon any goods and chattels which shall remain upon his hands unsold, for want of bidders, for the want of time to advertise and sell, or any other reasonable cause, the officer may, for his own security, take of the defendant an undertaking, with security, in such sum as he may deem sufficient, to the effect that the said property shall be delivered to the officer holding an execution for the sale of the same, at the time and place appointed by said officer, either by notice, given in writing, to said defendant in execution, or by advertisement published in a legal newspaper, naming therein the day and place of sale. If the defendant shall fail to deliver the goods and chattels

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that one or more of said persons so bound, signed the same as surety or bail, for his or their co-defendant, it shall be the duty of the clerk of said Court, in recording the judgment thereon to certify which of the defendants is principal debtor, and which are sureties or bail. And the clerk of the Court aforesaid shall issue execution on such judgment, commanding the Chief of the Tribal Police or other officer to cause the money to be made of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements, of the principal debtor; but for want of sufficient property of the principal or debtor to make the same that he cause the same to be made of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements, of the surety or bail. In all cases, the property, both personal and real, of the principal debtor, within the jurisdiction of the court, shall be exhausted before any of the property of the surety or bail shall be taken in execution.

### **Section 965. Hearing on Assets**

In addition to other discovery procedures, the Court, at any time after judgment upon motion of the judgment creditor, may order the judgment debtor to appear and answer concerning his property subject to execution to satisfy the judgment. The order to appear shall be served on the judgment debtor as a summons is served and may contain an order prohibiting the conveyance of any non-exempt property, and may order the production of any books, records, documents, or papers relating to the judgment creditors property. Such order may be enforced by contempt proceedings.

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### SUBCHAPTER C

### CONTRIBUTION

#### **Section 971. Joint Debtors or Sureties**

When property, liable to an execution against several persons, is sold thereon, and more than a due proportion of the judgment is laid upon the property of one of them, or one of them pays, without a sale, more than his proportion, he may regardless of the nature of the demand upon which the judgment was rendered, compel contribution from the others; and when a judgment is against several, and is upon an obligation of one of them, as security for another, and the surety pays the amount, or any part thereof, either by sale of his property or before sale, he may compel repayment from the principal; in such case, the person so paying or contributing, is entitled to the benefit of the judgment, to enforce contribution or repayment, if within ten days after his payment he file with the Clerk of Court notice of his payment and claim to contribution or repayment. Upon a filing of such notice, the clerk shall make an entry thereof in the margin of the docket.

#### **Section 972. Joint Tortfeasors — Contribution — Indemnity — Exemptions — Release, Covenant Not to Sue, Etc.**

(a) When two or more persons become jointly or severally liable in tort for the same injury to person or property for for the same wrongful death, there is a right of contribution among them even though judgment has not been recovered against all or any of them except as provided in this section.

(b) The right of contribution exists only in favor of a tortfeasor who has paid more than his pro rata share of the common liability, and his total recovery is limited to the amount paid by him in excess of his pro rata share. No tortfeasor is compelled to make contribution beyond his own pro rata share of the entire liability.

(c) There is no right of contribution<sup>!</sup> in favor of any tortfeasor who has intentionally caused or contributed to the injury or wrongful death.

(d) A tortfeasor who enters into a settlement with a claimant is not entitled to recover contribution from another tortfeasor whose liability for the injury or wrongful death is not extinguished by the settlement nor in respect to any amount paid in a settlement which is in excess of what was reasonable.

(e) A liability insurer which by payment has discharged, in full or in part, the liability of a tortfeasor and has thereby discharged in full its obligation as insurer, is subrogated to the tortfeasor's right of contribution to the extent of the amount it has paid in excess of the tortfeasor's pro rata share of the

common liability. This provision does not limit or impair any right of subrogation arising from any other relationship.

(f) This Title does not impair any right of indemnity under existing law. When one tortfeasor is entitled to indemnity from another, the right of the indemnity obligee is for indemnity and not contribution, and the indemnity obligor is not entitled to contribution from the obligee for any portion of his indemnity obligation.

(g) This subchapter shall not apply to breaches of trust or of other fiduciary obligation.

(h) When a release, covenant not to sue or a similar agreement is given in good faith to one of two or more persons liable in tort for the same injury or the same wrongful death:

(1) It does not discharge any of the other tortfeasors from liability for the injury or wrongful death unless its terms so provide; but it reduces the claim against others to the extent of any amount stipulated by the release or the covenant, or in the amount of the consideration paid for it, whichever is the greater; and

(2) It discharges the tortfeasor to whom it is given from all liability for contribution to any other tortfeasor.

## SUBCHAPTER D

## COSTS

**Section 981. Affidavit in Forma Pauperis**

Any person who cannot afford to pay costs of an action in order to vindicate his rights may be allowed by the Court to proceed without paying costs upon the filing of an affidavit in forma pauperis. The affidavit in forma pauperis shall be in the form following, and attached to the petition, viz.:

[Name of Tribe, Name of Reservation] in the District Court of [Name of Tribe]: I do solemnly swear that the cause of action set forth in the petition hereto prefixed is just, and I (or we) do further swear that by reason of my (or our) poverty, I (or we) am (are) unable to give security for costs.

**Section 982. False Swearing in Such Case**

Any person wilfully swearing falsely in making the affidavit aforesaid, shall, on conviction, be adjudged guilty of perjury, and punished as the law prescribes.

**Section 983. Costs Where Defendant Disclaims**

Where defendants disclaim having any title or interest in land or other property, the subject matter of action, they shall recover their costs, unless for special reasons the Court decide otherwise.

**Section 984. Certain Costs Taxes at Discretion of Court**

Unless otherwise provided by statute, the costs of motions, continuances, amendments and the like, shall be taxed and paid as the Court, in its discretion, may direct.

**Section 985. Costs to Successful Party as Matter of Course**

Where it is not otherwise provided by this and other statutes, costs shall be allowed of course to the party, upon a judgment in his favor, in actions for

the recovery of money only, or for the recovery of specific, real or personal property.

**Section 986. Costs in Other Cases**

In other actions, the Court may award and tax costs, and apportion the same between the parties on the same or adverse sides, as in its discretion it may think right and equitable.

**Section 987. Several Actions on Joint Instrument**

Where several actions are brought on one bill of exchange, promissory note or other obligation, or instrument in writing, against several parties who might have been joined as defendants in the same action, no costs shall be recovered by the plaintiff in more than one of such actions, if the parties proceeded against in the other actions were, at the commencement of the previous action, openly within the Tribal jurisdiction or otherwise subject to suit and service of process in the Tribal District Court and the whereabouts of such persons were known or could have been ascertained with reasonable diligence.

**Section 988. Clerk to Tax Costs**

The Clerks of the District Court shall tax the costs in each case, and insert the same in their respective judgments, subject to retaxation by the Court, on motion of any person interested.

**Section 989. Cost of Notice or Other Legal Publication**

Whenever any notice, or other legal publication is required by law to be made in any action or proceeding pending in the Court, the cost of such publication shall be taxes as other costs in said action or proceeding.

**Section 990. Attorney Fees Taxable as Costs**

(a) In any civil action to recover on an open account, a statement of account, account stated, note, bill, negotiable instrument, or contract relating to the purchase or sale of goods, wares, or merchandise, or for labor or services, unless otherwise provided by law or the contract which is the subject

of the action, the prevailing party shall be allowed a reasonable attorney fee to be set by the Court, to be taxes and collected as costs.

(b) In any civil action to enforce payment of or to collect upon a check, draft or similar bill of exchange drawn on a bank or otherwise, payment upon which said instrument has been refused because of insufficient funds or no account, the party prevailing on such cause of action shall be awarded a reasonable attorney's fee, such fee to be assessed by the Court as costs against the losing party; provided, that said fee shall not be allowed unless the plaintiff offers proof during the trial of said action that prior to the filing of the petition in the action demand for payment of the check, draft or similar bill of exchange had been made upon the defendant by registered or certified mail not less than ten (10) days prior to the filing of such suit.

(c) In any civil action or proceeding to recover for the overpayment of any charge for water, sanitary sewer, garbage, electric or natural gas service from any person, firm or corporation, or to determine the right of any person, firm or corporation to receive any such service, the prevailing party shall be allowed a reasonable attorney fee to be set by the Court, to be taxes and collected as costs.

(d) In any civil action brought to recover damages for breach of an express warranty or to enforce the terms of an express warranty against the seller, retailer, manufacturer, manufacturer's representative or distributor, the prevailing party shall be allowed a reasonable attorney fee to be set by the Court, which shall be taxes and collected as costs.

(e) In any civil action to recover damages for the negligent or willful injury to property and any other incidental costs related to such action, the prevailing party shall be allowed reasonable attorney's fees, Court costs and interest to be set by the Court and to be taxes and collected as other costs of the action, except that a plaintiff who is required to pay costs pursuant to Section 903 of this Title may not recover his attorney's fees as provided by this subsection.

#### **Section 991. Costs Defined**

Costs include, in addition to items of expense specifically recoverable as costs pursuant to any statute of the Tribe, fees required to be paid by law for the filing of any paper in an action expense for service of process as provided by law, costs of transcripts, Tribal Police Fees for service of papers and mileage, costs of publication of any notice required to be published, printing of briefs or other documents required by the Court to be printed, and any other items made recoverable as costs by Court rule.