

SENECA - CAYUGA NATION

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Dear Tribal members:

Many of you are aware of the unconstitutional attempt to remove the elected Business Committee from the Tribal membership and from elected office that occurred after the adjournment of the Annual General Council meeting on June 4, 2016. Unfortunately, it was necessary to adjourn the meeting prior to presentation of the business reports to the General Counsel due to disruption of the meeting from the floor. This disruption was an effort to, (1) remove Chief Fisher as the legally designated chair of the meeting, (2) elect an acting chair other than the Second Chief (whom the By-laws, Article 1, Section 2 designates to preside if the Chief is unable to do so), (3) terminate the Tribal membership of all Business Committee members, and (4) remove all lawfully elected Constitutional officers of the Nation from office and immediately fill their positions without notice to the entire 3,950 members of the General Council. Such conduct is a clear violation of the Nation's Constitution and By-laws, including the adoption of the Indian Civil Rights Act and the U.S. Constitution, made applicable to the Nation by Article XII of the Nation's Constitution, as adopted by the tribal members and approved by the Department of Interior.

Chief Fisher was forced to adjourn the meeting when the disruptors refused to come to order as requested, thereby making business impossible to conduct. Also, the increasingly hostile environment made the members present, including the independent contractor, True Ballot, there to verify a quorum, feel threatened.

The disruptors' post-adjournment gathering failed to follow any Constitutional procedure. First, the gathering, by voice motion without notice, expelled all the lawfully elected, serving members of the Business Committee from their enrollment as members of the Nation. Then, after such expulsion, the gathering declared all offices vacant, and proceeded to hold "elections" to fill the offices. Immediately thereafter, those unlawfully "elected" were "sworn in." The Grievance Committee and the Election Committee were then removed from office by this lawless group, and those positions unlawfully filled, as well.

Since the June 4, 2016 Annual General Council meeting, the persons representing themselves as the newly elected Business Committee have attempted to take physical possession of the Nation's property. Threats of violence to the lawfully elected and/or appointed persons on all Committees continue. In addition, threats to remove other persons from tribal membership continue.

Despite the actions of the participants of this group, the lawfully elected Business Committee: Chief William Fisher, Second Chief Jerry Crow, Secretary-Treasurer Sarah S. Channing, and Councilmembers Sallie White, Lisa Spano, Calvin Cassady, and Geneva Fletcher, are committed to upholding the Nation's Constitution. The Business Committee further continues to work to preserve the Nation's property, honor governmental contracts, and provide our tribal members with access to programs and services. Tribal members may access

governmental services in the usual manner. The Seneca-Cayuga Nation remains fully functional and will not be disrupted by this small group intent on the overthrow of your elected government and the Nation's Constitution.

The Business Committee has sought legal determination of these matters in the Court of Indian Offenses and a hearing is scheduled on June 21, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Thank you,

William L. Fisher, Chief
Jerry Crow, Second Chief
Sarah S. Channing, Secretary-Treasurer
Sallie White, First Councilperson
Lisa Spano, Second Councilperson
Calvin Cassady, Third Councilperson
Geneva Fletcher, Fourth Councilperson