

TRIBAL COURT REPORT

The Ponca Tribal Court is experiencing a significant increase in caseload. As more people utilize the Tribal Court, the cost to operate Tribal Court has also increased. In order to reduce the budget shortfall, Tribal Council has recommended and the Court has implemented the following changes to take place immediately.

The Tribal Court filing fees will be increased. **To file for a divorce through the Tribal Court, the filing fee will be \$100.00. All other cases will cost \$60.00.** This filing fee is still less than the State Court and the Tribal Court retains its commitment of customer service.

Ponca members may still request a waiver of the filing fee by completing an Affidavit of Indigency. **However, all parties will be required to pay \$20.00 before any action may be taken. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTION TO THIS POLICY.** This policy is being implemented to reduce the time the Court spends on cases that are withdrawn days after being filed. Judge Maule will make the decision to waive the remainder of the filing fee (or at least a portion of it), based upon the Affidavit.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ruthanne Gallup, Tribal Court Administrator at the Norfolk Office, 402-371-8834.