

# Tribal Court

## Mission Statement

To implement the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians judicial system by building on the community values of respect, culture and spirituality, that allows for unity, fairness and due process in resolving issues, conflicts and disputes within the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians jurisdiction.

## Vision Statement

Secure the full enjoyment of community and personal rights guaranteed by Tribal Law, Federal Law and the Tribal Constitution through a fair and just judiciary system.

## Program Summary

The judicial power is established by the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians' Tribal Constitution and is vested in the tribal court system including Tribal Court, the Court of General Jurisdiction, and the Appellate Court. The Tribal Court consists of a Chief Judge and Associate Judge and the Appellate Court has three Appellate Justices. The Tribal Court is located in the Tribal Government center on Odawa Circle. The Appellate Court uses the same facilities as the Tribal Court. The Chief Judge is in charge of the judiciary which consists of the Tribal and Appellate Court judges. The Tribal Constitution gives authority for the Tribal Court to be a court of general jurisdiction.

The cases that the Tribal Court hears involve the criminal, natural resources, civil and children divisions. The Criminal Division hears criminal and traffic cases and issues personal protection orders, search warrants, and subpoenas. The Natural Resources Division hears conservation, commercial subsistence fishing-CORA and criminal CORA cases. The Children Division hears adoptions, per capita, child protection, guardianship, juvenile and Odawa Youth Healing to Wellness cases. The Civil Division hears cases regarding child support, civil traffic, conservatorship, election disputes, employment, enrollment, the estates/judgment fund, foreign judgments, garnishments, general civil, landlord/tenant, personal representative and small claims. Other services the Court is involved with are marriages and oath of offices.

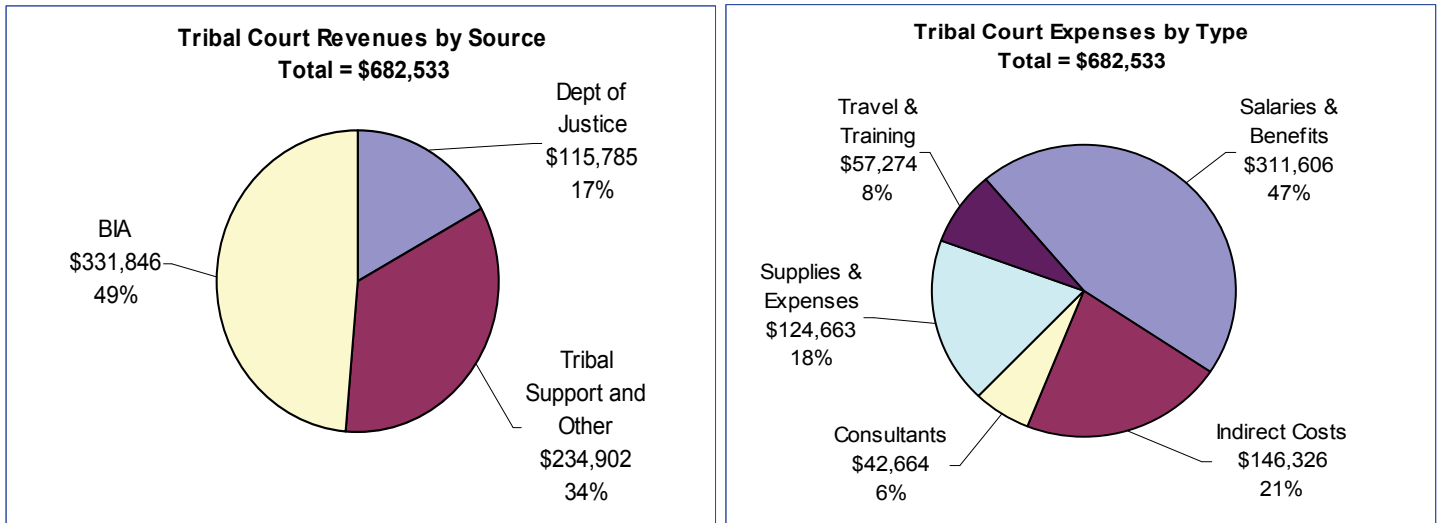
The Probation Office consists of one Probation Officer. Probation is ordered by the tribal court judges allowing the offender to live in the community under the supervision of a probation officer while completing the terms of probation. The position involves supervision, case management, screening, assessment and collection for adult and youth offenders.

## Contact Information:

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**Desired Outcome:  
A fair and just judiciary system.**



## Tactical Goals:

- 1.) Timely hearing and appeals process for criminal justice.
- 2.) A judicial system that respects and incorporates spirituality, culture and traditions.
- 3.) Maintain community justice (probation) program.

