

GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING BAR MEMBERSHIP

[Forms mentioned in this document are available on Court website: www.meskwakicourt.org. Click on “*Meskwaki Attorney List*” to access the forms]

Membership dues are \$100 per year, and to be considered for Bar membership an attorney must be licensed to practice and in good standing in an existing State or other Tribal Bar. If there is any change in this standing, the attorney is required to immediately notify our Office of Clerk of Court. **New attorneys** applying for Bar membership please complete a “*Motion for Admission to Bar*” form and an “*Oath*” form. The **Court’s Rules of Procedure** are located on the Court’s official website: www.meskwakicourt.org.

Attorneys who wish to represent clients but **who do not want to become permanent bar** members may file a one-time “***Motion For Temporary Admission And Affidavit For Admission Pro Hac Vice***” which will then be provided to a Tribal Court Judge for review.

Meskwaki Tribal Court Bar members who have lapsed in their annual renewal payments will be restored to active status and will once again appear in our Tribal Bar roster after the current year’s annual fee of \$100 has been received. Tribal Bar member numbers appear in the form of “SF-X-20XX-XXX” and are unique and not re-issued to a new bar member. **All Bar members are required to complete a “*Public Listing*” form annually.**

We ask all Bar members to consider accepting court appointments (child welfare cases and/or criminal cases – adult and juvenile) at a rate of \$60.00/hour, paralegal rate is \$25.00/hour, Copies and faxes at \$0.10, Postage: \$0.50 1st class mail, and the mileage rate is \$0.39/mile. If you’re willing to do so, we will add you to those lists. Bar Members are **REQUIRED** to submit a **W-9 form annually before any payment can be distributed.** The Court Administrator Dakota Crosswhite or the Clerk of Court Joy Mauskemo, can be contacted at 641-484-9300, or by email at ca.court@meskwakicourt.org or clerk.court@meskwakicourt.org.

The Tribe has a Public Defender, who can be reached directly at (641) 484-9241. If a conflict arises for the Public Defender, we rely on Bar members to accept court appointments for criminal proceedings. Keep in mind, for scheduling purposes, Tribal Court criminal cases generally occur Monday – Friday at 9:00 am. Please indicate to us on the “Public Listing” form if you are willing to accept criminal and/or civil court appointments.

We encourage Bar members to thoroughly read the **Tribe’s Code** and to compare the similarities and discover the differences that may exist between the different jurisdictions they practice in.

The Tribe’s laws can be found on the Tribal government’s official website www.meskwaki.org: From the Tribe’s homepage, scroll to the very bottom to the phrase “Constitution, Code and By Laws”; by clicking on that phrase you will go to the Title sections of the Code.