



**MORONGO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS
TRIBAL COURT**

IN RE:

**ORDINANCE 42, CONSERVATORS'
ATTORNEYS**

No. 2025-01

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER RE:
MORONGO TRIBAL COURT
PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL OF
CONSERVATORS' ATTORNEYS**

THIS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER is issued due to the lack of procedure for the Court's approval of conservators' attorneys in the Vulnerable Adult Protection Ordinance, Ordinance 42.

Ordinance 42 Section XIV(F) provides: "Any legal fees incurred by any person while a Proposed Conservator and prior to the appointment of a Conservator are not reimbursable from the estate of the Conservatee."

Ordinance 42 Section XIV(G) requires the following: "The future retention of an attorney by the Conservator for the benefit of the Conservatee or for the Estate of the Conservatee is subject to Tribal Court approval before a retention can be made by the Conservator. The expertise, hourly rates, and location of the attorney's office will be evaluated by the Tribal Court in considering the suitability of the attorney."

Ordinance 42 Section XIV(H) requires: "Any legal fees incurred or anticipated by the Conservator during the conservatorship must be for the benefit of the Conservatee and must have prior Court approval."

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby **ORDERED** that effective immediately, Conservators shall follow the procedure outlined below to obtain the Court's approval for representation to be paid from a Conservatee's estate.

1. A Conservator seeking the Court's approval for representation shall file a motion for the appointment of the attorney s/he has chosen to represent him/her.

a. An explanation of how the retention of the attorney will benefit the Conservatee shall be included in the motion, and a copy of the proposed attorney's CV/resume and retainer agreement shall be filed with the motion.

b. The Court will make a decision regarding the appointment at the next regularly scheduled hearing in the matter.

c. If the appointment is time sensitive, the Conservator shall include a request for an expedited hearing in his/her motion. The Court will schedule a hearing as soon as practicable based on the Court's schedule and the availability of the parties.

d. The approved attorney shall become a member of the Morongo Tribal Court Bar.

Any questions regarding this procedure should be directed to the Tribal Court Clerk at tribalcourt@morongo-nsn.gov or (951) 572-6068.

DATED OCTOBER 7, 2025

Karen J. Linn



Judge Karen J. Riess
Morongo Tribal Court