



The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians

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ADVISORY TO GRAND TRAVERSE BAND (GTB) TRIBAL MEMBERS ON THE ENCOUNTERS WITH IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) A DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ENFORCING IMMIGRATION LAW

Subject: Protecting Your Rights During "Kavanaugh Stops" and ICE Encounters
Recent legal developments and Supreme Court rulings (e.g., *Noem v. Vasquez Perdomo*) have authorized federal agents, including ICE, to conduct brief investigative detentions—commonly referred to as "Kavanaugh stops"—based on perceived ethnicity, language, or occupation. Considering these racial profiling practices that have the consequent of including Native Americans as a class subject to “Kavanaugh stops,” all GTB Tribal Members are advised to understand their rights and the legal weight of their Tribal Identification in protecting you from ICE enforcement practices.

1. Identify Your Status Calmly

If stopped by ICE, (typically a person heavily armed with guns, in camo military fatigues and a baklava face mask obscuring the offices’ facial identity) remain calm and do not physically resist. State clearly: **"I am a citizen of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, a federally recognized sovereign nation, and I am a United States citizen."**

2. Present Your GTB Tribal ID

Your GTB Tribal ID is a valid federal identity document. When presenting, you may use the following points to establish its legal recognition:

- **TSA Recognition:** Your Tribal ID is officially recognized by the TSA for boarding domestic flights and is exempt from the \$45 "ConfirmID" verification fee effective February 2026.
- **Border Crossing Rights:** Under the **Jay Treaty (1794)** and federal statute (8 U.S.C. § 1359), Tribal Members have a recognized right to pass the U.S.-Canada border.
- **Proof of Citizenship:** Per the Indian Citizenship Act, all Tribal Members are U.S. citizens.

3. Key Legal Protections

- **Right to Remain Silent:** If agents continue questioning beyond your identity, you have the right to remain silent and request an attorney.
- **Request a Supervisor:** If an ICE agent refuses to recognize your Tribal ID as valid identification, immediately request to speak with a **Supervisory Officer**. Many agents may not be fully trained on the legal status of tribal documents.
- **Warrants for Private Spaces:** ICE cannot enter your home or private workplace areas without a judicial warrant signed by a judge.

4. Practical Preparation

- **Carry Your ID:** Always carry your current, unexpired GTB Tribal ID card.
- **Record the Interaction:** You have the right to record encounters in public spaces as long as you do not interfere with the agents' duties.
- **Contact the Tribe:** If you are detained, attempt to notify GTB Tribal Council members, GTB Membership office, GTB Tribal Police or the GTB Legal Department immediately.

For further guidance and to renew your tribal member identification, please contact the **GTB Tribal Membership Office** to renew and update your tribal id if necessary.

TELEPHONE CONTACT NUMBERS:

- GTB Legal Department General Counsel John F. Petoskey
 - Cell phone 231-631-8624
 - Desk phone 231-534-7279
- GTB Police Captain Dave Crocket
 - Cell phone 231-866-1264
 - Desk phone 231-534-7182
- GTB Membership Office
 - Desk phone 231-534-7670