



*Formalized December 15, 2015*

*Coventry, Rhode Island*

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
AMONSOQUOTH KISKIACK of  
The TSENACOMOCO NATION  
TURTLE ISLAND**

**Tsenacomoco (Know Known as the Commonwealth of Virginia)**

# Constitution of the **AMONSOQUOTH KISKIACK OF THE TSENACOMOCO NATION**

TURTLE ISLAND

Re-formalized December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Tsenacomoco (Now Known as the Commonwealth of Virginia)**

**Constitution (Updated 1/23/16)**

**ARTICLE I: NAME –**

*“AMONSOQUOTH KISKIACK TRIBE” hereafter referred to as “AK”*

**ARTICLE II: MISSION, VISION, MOTTO & FOUNDING –**

**Section I: Mission –**

*To provide and promote opportunities for community, economic and personal & professional development, educational attainment and social and civic activism for members of the Amonsoquath Kiskiack Tribe of the Tsenacomoco Nation*

**Section II: Vision –**

*To preserve, promote and cultivate Amonsoquath Kiskiack Tribe of the Tsenacomoco Nation and Aboriginal history, culture and tradition to and for the greater community.*

**Section III: Motto –**

*“Discovering the lands of our people”*

**Section III: Re-formalization Date –** December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Section IV: Founding Location –**

*Tsenacomoco (Now Known As the Commonwealth of Virginia)*

## **ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP –**

### **Section I: Qualifications –**

*Tribal Body Membership in the AK is open to any individual of Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Cherokee, or Kiskiack Indian Descent who can show Proof of Lineage to the Amonsoquath Kiskiack Tribe and/or the historic Tsenacomoco Tribal Nation by demonstrating a bloodline connection.*

*Tribal Body Membership is considered a **birthright** for individuals of Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Cherokee, Kiskiack Indian descent and/or the historic Tsenacomoco Tribal Nation. Once an individual of Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Cherokee, Kiskiack Indian descent and/or the historic Tsenacomoco Tribal Nation has been accepted and approved for Tribal Body Membership it is **illegal** to strip this individual of their Tribal Body Membership at any point, for any reason. Members may have certain **rights and privileges suspended** per decision of the Principal Chief and the Tribal Council as outlined in this Constitution. but **under no circumstances** are to be stripped of their Tribal Body Membership*

*All **children** born to any Tribal Body Member shall be considered Tribal Body Members themselves.*

### **Section II: Process –**

*Tribal Body Membership shall be open to any individual that has met the following criteria:*

1. Provided Proof of Lineage to the **AK** by demonstrating a **bloodline** connection to a) the *Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Cherokee, Kiskiack Indian descent.* **b) historic Tsenacomoco Tribal Nation Decent.** c) a recognized **Sâchem of the Kiskiack or Tsenacomoco Tribal Nation,** or **d) historical documents identifying a direct ancestor as a Member of the Kiskiack or Tsenacomoco Tribal Nation.**
2. Had their documentation approved by the Tribal Genealogist
3. Taken the AKC “Oath of Revocation” to renounce their membership in any other Tribe or Band of the Kiskiack Tribal Nation<sup>2 3</sup>
  - a. Tribal Body Members under sixteen (16) years of age shall be required to complete this step at the next available induction ceremony following their sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) birthday
  - b. Failure to comply will result in loss of Member in Good Standing (MGS) status
4. Taken the AKC “Oath of Allegiance”<sup>4</sup>
  - a. Tribal Body Members under eighteen (16) years of age shall be required to complete this step at the next available induction ceremony following their eighteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) birthday
  - b. Failure to comply will result in loss of AK status
5. Been approved by the 1<sup>st</sup> Council Member, Principal Chief and Tribal Secretary

### **Section III: Duties, Responsibilities & Privileges –**

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<sup>2</sup> Mandatory to safeguard against conflict of interests that may arise as a result of maintaining membership in more than one Narragansett Indian tribal nation

<sup>3</sup> Failure to comply with this requirement will result in revocation of Tribal Body Membership application

<sup>4</sup> Failure to comply with this requirement will result in revocation of Tribal Body Membership application

*All Tribal Body Members are subject to and shall abide by all rules and regulations of the MN as set forth in this Constitution, and as may be adopted by the Tribal Council with approval from the Tribal Body Membership. Associated duties, responsibilities and privileges are as follow:*

1. All Tribal Body Members who are AK shall be eligible to vote on all matters pertaining to the MN as set forth in this Constitution.
  - a. A MGS shall be defined as an individual:
    - i. Accepted and approved for Tribal Body Membership
    - ii. Eighteen (18) years of age or older
    - iii. Who has attended a minimum of three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of all Quarterly Tribal Body Meetings in the past calendar year
    - iv. In good financial standing with the
    - v. Eligible to vote as outlined in this Constitution
2. All Tribal Body Members who are in good standing, unless otherwise stipulated in this Constitution, shall be eligible to hold any Tribal Officer, Tribal Council or Principle Chief position
3. All Tribal Body Members shall be required to pay monthly dues to support the programs and initiatives that the AK may support and/or endorse in order to be considered in good standing.
  - a. Dues shall be twenty (25) dollars per Quarter for all Tribal Body Members eighteen (18) years of age or older totaling \$100.00 annually
  - b. Members in good standing will have the option to pay an annual fee of twenty-five (\$75.00) dollars to cover their individual annual dues
  - c. Tribal Body Members who are in arrears of their dues for a period of greater than two (2) quarters, or for two (2) or more consecutive quarters:
    - i. May have their voting privileges suspended
4. Will not be able to hold/pursue Tribal Officer, Tribal Council or Principle Chief position
5. All Tribal Body Members shall be required to have attended a minimum of three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of all Monthly Tribal Body Meetings within the past calendar year to be considered a MGS
  - a. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in suspension of voting privileges
  - b. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in suspension of ability to hold/pursue Tribal Officer, Tribal Council or Principle Chief positions
6. All Tribal Body Members shall be issued a Tribal Body Membership Roll Number (RN) to identify them as a member of the AK.
7. All Tribal Body Members thirteen (13) years of age or older shall be issued a "Tribal Card" (TC) to identify them as a member of the AK.
  - a. The following information shall be displayed on each individual's TC.
    - i. Name
    - ii. Symbol
    - iii. Native Given Name
    - iv. Government Issued Name
    - v. Clan Affiliation
    - vi. RN

- vii. Date of Birth
- viii. Individual Signature
- ix. Photo of Tribal Body Member
- b. Associated costs for issuing an initial TC shall be covered by the AK; Associated costs for issuing an additional or replacement TC shall be the responsibility of the individual Tribal Body Member, at a price to be determined by the Tribal Council

**Section IV: Classification –**

*There shall be four (4) officially recognized classifications of Tribal Body Membership status for the MN. They shall consist of:*

**1. Birthright Tribal Members:**

- a. Individuals of AK Indian Descent who have been accepted and approved for Tribal Body Membership
- b. Entitled to all associated “Tribal Body Privileges”.
  - i. Tribal Body Privileges include:
    - 1. Voting eligibility
      - a. Must be a MGS
      - b. Entitled to one vote per MGS on AK Matters
    - 2. Holding Tribal Officer, Tribal Council or Principle Chief positions
    - 3. Participation in Tribal Body discussions and functions during all meetings open to the Tribal Body Membership at large
    - 4. Recommending additions and/or amendments to this Constitution
    - 5. Attendance at and participation in AK associated activities and functions
    - 6. Receiving pertinent AK documentation and communications
    - 7. Receiving a AK RN
    - 8. Receiving a TC
      - a. Neechanog who are born to AK Tribal Body Members shall be considered Tribal Body Members themselves
      - i. Wutkasinneunk<sup>56</sup> shall complete the AK Tribal Body Membership application process on behalf of wunnechannooah<sup>7</sup>, as outlined in this Constitution

**2. Adopted Tribal Members:**

- a. Individuals who can not identify lineage to the AK, but have been accepted and approved for Tribal Body Membership
  - i. Must be nominated for adoption by an Ókasohneummoncheg<sup>89</sup>, Ahtuskou, Kehchis<sup>10</sup> or Sâchem
    - 1. Must be approved by a three-fourths (¾) majority of the Tribal Council
  - ii. Entitled to all associated “Tribal Body Privileges” excluding

<sup>5</sup> translation: Parents (mothers & fathers)

<sup>6</sup> combination of the words “okasinneunk” and “wutoshinneunk”; translated to mean “all mothers” and “all fathers”

<sup>7</sup> translation: Neechanog: Their Children

<sup>8</sup> translation: Clan Mother

<sup>9</sup> combination of the words “Ókasoh Weechinnineummoncheg”; translated to mean “Mother of Clan”

<sup>10</sup> translation: Elder

1. Voting Eligibility
  2. Holding an Ahtuskou or Active Sâchem position
3. **Honorary Tribal Members:**
- a. Individuals who can not identify lineage to the the Tsenacomoco Nation and are not members of the AKC, but are viewed as valuable to the continued positive development of the AKC
    - i. Must be nominated for Honorary Status by a Sâchem
    - ii. May hold membership in another Tribal Nation
    - iii. Must be approved by a three-fourths (¾) majority of the tribal Council
    - iv. May be present at and participate in Tribal Council meetings, but are not entitled to voting privileges
  - b. Entitled to all associated “Tribal Body Privileges” excluding:
    - i. Voting eligibility
    - ii. Holding a Tribal Officer, Tribal Council or Active Sâchem position
    - iii. Receiving a AK RN
4. **Associate Tribal Members:**
- a. Individuals who cannot identify lineage to the Tsenacomoco Nation, but have become associated with the AK through marriage to a Tribal Body Member who is a MGS
    - i. Limited to the immediate family members of the related Tribal Body Member
    - ii. Must be recommended for Associate Member status by the related Tribal Body Member
    - iii. Must provide proof of documentation for relationship
    - iv. Must be accepted and approved for Tribal Body Membership
    - v. May be removed from Tribal Body Membership if they become separated or divorced from the related Tribal Body Member
    - vi. May be granted Adopted Tribal Membership status in the case of death of their related Tribal Body Member
      1. Must follow procedure for becoming an Adopted Tribal Member, as outlined in this Constitution
  - b. Entitled to all associated “Tribal Body Privileges” excluding:
    - i. Voting eligibility
    - ii. Holding a Tribal Officer, Tribal Council or Active Sâchem position

## **ARTICLE IV: STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE**

### **Section I: Governing Bodies –**

*The AK shall be comprised of five (5) Governing Bodies. These Governing Bodies shall consist of the: 1) Tribal Council; 2) Chiefs Circle; 3) Warriors Circle, Waúchaûnat Ayeuteanüog<sup>11</sup> Circle; 4) Elders and Clan Mother Circle, Kehchisog Circle; 5) Clan and Clan Chiefs Council, Wutohtimion Weechinnineummonchegunk<sup>12</sup>. The structure, duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges associated with these Governing Bodies shall be as follows:*

<sup>11</sup> translation: Warriors

<sup>12</sup> translation: Clans

1. **Tribal Council –**

*Tribal Council shall be classified as one (1) of two (2) types: “Standing” or “Select”. A “Standing” shall be defined as any member appointed by an Ókasohneummoncheg to sit in the Tribal Council. A “Select” shall be defined as any member appointed by the PomhamSâchem to sit on the Tribal council.*

- a. Purpose:
  - i. To serve as the Oversight Board (Board of Directors) for the daily activities and operations of the AK
  - ii. To serve as a Conflict Resolution Board (Judgment Panel) for Matters pertaining to the AK
  - iii. To ensure that the interests of the Tribal Body Membership are pursued and implemented
  - iv. To serve as the Internal Affairs Committee of the AK
- b. Requirements:
  - i. Must be a MGS
  - ii. Must be twenty-one (21) years of age or older
  - iii. Must be eligible to hold an Tribal Council position, as outlined in this Constitution
  - iv. Must be appointed to sit on the Tribal Council (TC), as outlined in this Constitution
  - v. Is entitled to one (1) vote regarding each Matter
  - vi. Shall be referred to as an “Tribal Council Member (TCM)”
  - vii. Shall serve as the official representative of their Weechinnineummoncheg for all TC matters
    1. If unable to perform duties, the Ókasohneummoncheg may appoint a representative to serve in their stead
      - a. Must be a Wutuomp<sup>13</sup>
  - viii. Shall not be required to Hear all Matters that are brought to their attention
- c. The Ahtuskowag Circle shall meet at least one (1) time per calendar month on a day and time to be determined by the Ahtuskowag Circle
  - i. Meeting must occur a minimum of four (4) days before the next scheduled Monthly Tribal Body Meeting
  - ii. Notice must be given to all Tribal Body Members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting
- d. Responsibilities & Duties:

***Any Matter that is brought to the attention of the Ahtuskowag Circle that is not specifically listed below shall require a greater than fifty (50) percent vote of approval to be enacted***

  - i. Approval and Removal of Sachimaog
    1. Ceremonial approval of the PomhamSâchem
    2. Requires eighty-five (85) percent vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle to remove a Sâchem
  - ii. Approval and Removal of Ahtuskowag
    1. Ceremonial approval

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<sup>13</sup> translation: Companion of the Same Clan

2. Requires eighty-five (85) percent vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle to remove an Ahtuskou
  - iii. Approval of recommendations for the safety and protection of the AK
    1. Requires eighty-five (85) percent vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle
  - iv. Approval and Removal of Tribal Officers
    1. Requires two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle
  - v. Approval of Annual Budget
    1. Requires two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle
  - vi. Suspension of Tribal Body Membership privileges
    1. Require two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle
  - vii. Recommendation and approval of salaries and benefits for AK associated positions and titles
    1. Requires two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval
  - viii. Recommendation of additions and/or amendments to the AK Constitution
    1. Requires greater than fifty(50) percent vote of approval
  - ix. Authorization of financial exchanges equal to or in excess of one hundred (100) dollars
    1. Approval of Treasurer required
  - x. Presiding over Monthly Tribal Body Meetings and Annual Meeting
  - xi. Development and implementation of at least one (1) annual fundraiser to support the AK
- e. Rights/Privileges:
- i. Dancing second (2<sup>nd</sup>) in all AK Powwows
    1. Taupaw/Taupausq<sup>14</sup> shall have the honor of carrying the “Eagle Staff”
  - ii. May sit in the Honor Circle at all AK activities and functions
- f. Positions and Associated Duties/Responsibilities
- Officers of the TC shall comprise the Executive Committee of the TC. Executive Committee Members shall be elected for the TC by obtaining a greater than fifty (50) percent vote of approval from the TC. Officers of the TC shall consist of:*
- i. 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou (Chair)
    1. Oversee Monthly Tribal Body Meetings, TCe Meetings and Annual Meeting
    2. Approve Tribal Body Membership applications
    3. Is elected to post by majority vote of the TC
    4. Shall serve in the capacity of Nannawunuaen<sup>15</sup> Sachem of the WCN
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ahtuskou (Vice Chair)
    1. Appointed to position by 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou
  - iii. Treasurer
    1. Appointed to position by 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou
    2. Approve Financial Exchanges equal to or in excess of one hundred (100) dollars

<sup>14</sup> translation: Wiseman

<sup>15</sup> translation: Governor

- iv. Secretary
  - 1. Store and maintain all pertinent AK documentation
  - 2. Record, prepare and distribute minutes for TC Meetings, Monthly Tribal Body Meetings and the Annual Meeting
  - 3. Approve Tribal Body Membership applications
  - 4. Issue WC to Tribal Body Members
  - 5. Appointed to position by 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou
- v. Taupaw/Taupausq (Parliamentarian)
  - 1. Shall be male to compliment the Ókasohneummoncheg position
  - 2. Serves as the Spiritual, Moral and Ethical advisor of AK
  - 3. Open/Close all AK functions/ceremonies with a prayer
  - 4. Does not exercise voting privileges
  - 5. Responsible for overseeing collection and tallying of all votes regarding:
    - a. Matters addressed by the Ahutskowag Circle
    - b. PomhamSâchem elections
    - c. Additions and/or amendments to this Constitution
      - i. Unless there is a deadlock amongst Ahtuskowag Circle
      - ii. Unless there has twice been deadlock by Tribal Body Membership in voting for the position of PomhamSâchem
  - 6. Acts as intermediary between TC, Kehchisog Circle and Ókasohneummonchegunk
  - 7. Is the only member of the TC that can officially communicate with Kehchisog Circle regarding AK matters
  - 8. Carries the “Eagle Staff” at all AK Powwows
  - 9. If a vacancy occurs this position is to be appointed by the current Ketasoot
  - 10. Position is considered a lifelong appointment
- vi. Powwau<sup>16</sup>/Pauwau<sup>17</sup>
  - 1. Cultural/traditional guide of AK
  - 2. Ensure that AK functions/ceremonies are in accordance with traditional Native American cultural beliefs/traditions
  - 3. Responsible for “Smudging” at all appropriate AK activities and functions
  - 4. Presents the pipe at all appropriate ceremonies
  - 5. If a vacancy occurs this position is to be appointed by the current Ketasoot
  - 6. Position is considered a lifelong appointment
- vii. Select Ahtuskowag:
  - 1. Appointed by and serve at the discretion of the PomhamSâchem
  - 2. Serve for the tenure of the Pomham Sâchem

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<sup>16</sup> translation: Medicine Man

<sup>17</sup> translation: Medicine Woman

- a. Newly elected Pomham Sâchem have the option of appointing their own Select Members of the TC
- 3. There shall be a maximum of three (3) "Select Members" sitting in the Ahtuskowag Circle at any time
  - a. Minimum of four (4) Sitting TC Members must already be in the TC for a Select TC Member to be appointed
  - b. Appointed at a rate of one (1) Select TC members for every four (4) Standing TC member
  - c. Requires a minimum fifty (50) percent vote of approval by the Ahtuskowag Circle
- 4. Must meet all TC eligibility requirements, as outlined in this Constitution
- 5. Must abide by all governing rules of the TC, as outlined in this Constitution
- 6. Must be of Native American decent

## 2. Sachimaog (Chiefs) Circle –

*The distinction and privilege of being a Sâchem of the AK is considered a lifelong honor. Unless stripped of their title by the Kehchisog Circle for Misconduct, Sachimaog of the AK shall retain this distinction until they become a Chepasôtam<sup>18</sup>.*

*AK Sachimaog are viewed as the moral, ethical and righteous leaders of the AK. As such they are entitled to all responsibilities, rights and privileges associated with such a distinction and honor which include but are not limited to exacting judgments for Misconduct and bestowing Honor Feathers upon individuals deemed worthy of such an honor.*

*AK Sachimaog shall be classified as one (1) of two (2) types: "Active Sachimaog" (AS) and "Nuttahtoskauwomog"<sup>19</sup> Sachimaog" or "Honor Chiefs" (NS). AS oversee the daily functions of the AK. NS provide guidance and wisdom to the AS*

- a. Purpose:
  - i. To develop, implement and manage the daily activities and operations associated with the positive and sustained development of the MN
- b. Requirements
  - i. Must be a MGS
  - ii. Must be twenty-one (21) years of age or older
  - iii. Must be a Birthright Tribal Member, unless otherwise stated in this Constitution
- c. Rights/Privileges:
  - i. Dance first in AK Powwows\*
    - 1. Pomham Sâchem dances directly behind Taupaw/Taupausq
  - ii. May sit in the Honor Circle at all AK activities and functions\*
    - 1. Pomham Sâchem given High Honor Seat
  - iii. May invite others to sit in the Honor Circle at all AK activities and functions
  - iv. May communicate directly with the Kehchisog Circle\*

<sup>18</sup> translation: Deceased Sâchem

<sup>19</sup> translation: Great Man or Noble Man

\* Privilege bestowed upon Nuttahtoskauwomog Sachimaog as well

- v. May appoint “Select Ahtuskowag” to sit in the Ahtuskowag Circle
  - vi. May exact judgments upon Tribal Body Members for Misconduct
    - 1. Any and all judgments shall be eligible for appeal to the Ahtuskowag Circle for further review
  - vii. May bestow “Honor Feathers” upon an individual for outstanding service and/or dedication to the AK or the community at large
  - viii. Presides over all Powwows, Naming Ceremonies, Tribal Body Meetings, Membership Induction Ceremonies and Kehchisog Ceremonies
  - ix. May wear three (3) feathers on right side to show association with Waúchaúnat Ayeuteanūog Circle\*
    - 1. Colors of feather wrappings designate associated rank and status
  - x. May wear a Headdress to signify their Sâchem status
  - xi. Shall appoint individuals to the Taupaw/Taupausq and/or Powwau/Pauwausq positions in the event that the positions become vacant during their tenure in office
- d. Positions and Associated Duties/Responsibilities:
- i. **Pomham Sâchem** (Chief Executive Officer) (AS)
    - 1. Must be twenty-five (25) years of age or older
    - 2. Wear two (2) white and one (1) red side feathers
    - 3. Shall be elected by a popular vote of the Tribal Body Membership
      - a. Is elected once every four (4) years at the Annual Meeting
      - b. Requires greater than fifty (50) percent vote of approval by the Tribal Body Membership
        - i. if no candidate receives greater than fifty (50) percent vote of approval, there will be a run off of the two (2) leading candidates
      - c. Tenure of office begins on January 15<sup>th</sup> of the year following their election
    - 4. Upon election to office, shall appoint individuals to serve in the capacity of Socononoco Sâchem and Aguontis<sup>20</sup> Sâchem and if vacant, the Taupaw/Taupausq and/or Pauwwau/Pauwausq positions of the AK, as outlined in this Constitution
    - 5. Primarily responsible to carry out the strategic plans and policies of the AK as established by the Ahtuskowag Circle.
- Duties/Responsibilities shall consist of:
- a. Supporting the operations and administration of the Ahtuskowag Circle by advising and informing Ahtuskowag, interfacing between the Ahtuskowag Circle and Tribal Staff, and supporting Ahtuskowag Circle evaluations and recommendations
  - b. Overseeing design, marketing, promotion, delivery and quality of AK programs, products and services
  - c. Recommending Annual Budget for Ahtuskowag Circle approval and prudently managing organization's resources

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<sup>20</sup> translation: High War Captain

within those budget guidelines according to current laws and regulations

- d. Effectively managing the human resources of the organization according to authorized personnel policies and procedures that fully conform to current laws and regulations
- e. Assuring the organization and its mission, programs, products and services are consistently presented in strong, positive image to relevant stakeholders
- f. Overseeing fundraising planning and implementation including; identifying resource requirements, researching funding sources, establishing strategies to approach funders, submitting proposals and administrating fundraising records and documentation
- g. Overseeing all Committee Head positions
  - i. There shall be a minimum of three (3) standing committees for the MN that shall consist of:
    - 1. Internal Affairs
    - 2. External Affairs
    - 3. Ad Hoc
  - ii. Committee Heads shall be considered Staff
- h. Hiring and Termination of all Staff
- i. Recommendation of action pertaining to the safety and protection of the AK

**ii. Socononoco Sâchem (Chief Development Officer) (AS)**

- 1. 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou shall serve in this capacity
  - a. Requires minimum fifty (50) percent vote of approval by the Ahtuskowag Circle
- 2. Serves under the general direction of the Pomham Sâchem
- 3. Associated Duties/Responsibilities shall consist of:
  - a. Assisting in the coordination and management of daily activities and operations of the AK
  - b. Planning, coordinating and assuring implementation of strategies to market and lead the growth of the AK
  - c. Identifying and managing the continued development of diverse growth options that will lead to the overall stability and success of the AK
  - d. Overseeing Staff Positions:
    - i. Geneologist
    - ii. Historian
    - iii. Office Manager
  - e. Presents the Tribal Talking Stick at all appropriate ceremonies and functions

**iii. Aguontis Sâchem (Chief Operations Officer) (AS)**

- 1. Appointed by Pomham Sâchem, with approval from the Ahtuskowag Circle

- a. Requires minimum fifty (50) percent vote of approval by the Ahtuskowag Circle
- 2. Serves under the general direction of the PomhamSâchem
- 3. Associated Duties/Responsibilities shall consist of:
  - a. Assisting in the coordination and management of daily activities and operations of AK
  - b. Reviewing daily activities and operations to ensure efficiency, effectiveness and overall success of AK
  - c. Informing PomhamSâchem of all issues and/or accomplishments of daily activities and operations of AK
  - d. Overseeing daily activities and operations of Waûchaûnat Ayeuteanûog Circle
  - e. Is the protector/keeper of the Tribal Pipe and presents it to the Pauwwau/Pauwauq at all appropriate functions/ceremonies

iv. **Nuttahtoskauwom Sâchem** (Honor Chief) (NS)

- 1. Purpose:
  - a. To provide guidance and wisdom to AS
- 2. Requirements:
  - a. Must be former AK Sâchem who is not currently an AS  
**OR**
  - b. Must be a current or former Sâchem of another Tribal Nation who has become an Adopted Member of the AK
    - i. If former AS, wear one (1) white feather, one (1) yellow feather and one (1) feather with the color that corresponds with AS position held
- 3. Associated Duties/Responsibilities:
  - a. May call a meeting with the AS:
    - i. By obtaining a two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by all NS
    - ii. To address issues of misconduct and/or lack of leadership on the part of AS
    - iii. To be updated on the current state of affairs of the AK
    - iv. To make suggestions for the continued positive progress and development of the AK
    - v. All AS shall be mandated to attend
    - vi. NS may not call a meeting more than once per calendar month
  - b. May make recommendations to Kehchisog Circle for stripping of a Sâchem's title for Misconduct
    - i. Requires eighty-five (85) percent vote of approval by all NS

3. **Mashapaug Ayeuteanûog Circle** –

- a. Purpose:
  - i. To ensure the safety, order, protection and peaceful existence of the AK

- b. Requirements:
  - i. Must be a MGS
  - ii. Are selected for initiation by and serve at the discretion of the Aguontis Sâchem with approval from the PomhamSâchem and Ahtuskowag Circle
  - iii. Must undergo the Ayeuteanūog initiation process
    - 1. To be determined by the Aguontis Sâchem, with approval from the PomhamSâchem and Ahtuskowag Circle
    - 2. Individuals may be initiates as an Ayeuteanin at the age of 16, but will not be eligible for Wosketomp or Negonsha status until their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday
- c. Associated Duties/Responsibilities:
  - i. Serve primarily under the direct guidance and supervision of the Aguontis Sâchem but are also subject to all Sachimaog and Ahtuskowag
  - ii. Ensure the protection of all Ahtuskowag, Sachimaog, Kehchisog and Ōkasohneummonchegunk
  - iii. Serve as security at all AK activities and functions
  - iv. Provide assistance to any and all Tribal activities and operations as deemed appropriate by the Aguontis Sâchem
- d. Rights/Privileges:
  - i. Dance fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) in all MN Powwows
  - ii. May wear three (3) feathers on right side to show association with Waúchaûnat Ayeuteanūog Circle
    - 1. The Turkey Feather shall be designated as the Official Feather of the Waúchaûnat Ayeuteanūog Circle
- e. Command Structure: *All Waúchaûnat Ayeuteanūog Circle designations shall be determined by and at the discretion of the Aguontis Sâchem*
  - i. An Ayeuteanin<sup>21</sup> shall be subordinate to a Wosketomp<sup>22</sup>
    - 1. Wear three (3) orange side feathers
  - ii. A Wosketomp shall be subordinate to a Negonshâ<sup>23</sup>
    - 1. Wear two (2) orange and one (1) black side feathers
  - iii. A Negonshâ shall be subordinate to the Aguontis Sâchem
    - 1. Wear one (1) orange and two (2) black side feathers
  - iv. Veterans: *All Veterans who are members of the AK that have not been formally initiated into the Waúchaûnat Ayeuteanūog Circle shall be considered Associate Members of the Waúchaûnat Ayeuteanūog Circle. Veterans shall be allowed to wear one (1) orange and two (2) yellow side feathers to demonstrate their affiliation with the Waúchaûnat Ayeuteanūog Circle.*

#### 4. **Kehchisog Circle –**

##### a. Purpose:

- i. To serve as a Conflict Resolution and Appeals Board for AK Matters that cannot be resolved through the policies and procedures outlined in this Constitution

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<sup>21</sup> translation: Warrior

<sup>22</sup> translation: Brave or Scout

<sup>23</sup> translation: Brave or Scout Leader

- i. To determine Proof of Lineage to the AK for individuals who may become newly accepted and approved Tribal Body Members
  - ii. To determine Proof of Lineage to the AK for Tribal Body Members born with surnames different than that of their particular Weechinnineummoncheg
- b. Requirements:
- i. Minimum of four (4) applying Chasiyeūnk<sup>24</sup> members who have been MGS for at least one (1) calendar year prior to date of application
  - ii. Must have identified an Ókasohneummoncheg
    - 1. Must be a MGS
  - iii. Must inform both the PomhamSâchem and 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou of their plan to apply for Weechinnineummoncheg status
    - 1. The Ókasohneummoncheg should set individual meetings with both positions
  - iv. Must put their application for Weechinnineummoncheg status in writing and submit it to the Taupaw/Taupausq
    - 1. The Ókasohneummoncheg should set meeting with Taupaw/Taupausq to submit application
  - v. Must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Ahtuskowag Circle
    - 1. If denied, Ókasohneummonchegunk may appeal the decision to the Kehchisog Circle for further review
- c. Associated Duties/Responsibilities:
- i. Identifying an Ókasohneummoncheg to serve as liaison for the Weechinnineummoncheg regarding Tribal Matters
  - ii. Designating a surname for the Weechinnineummoncheg to be identified by
  - iii. Choosing a symbol to represent the Weechinnineummoncheg
  - iv. Selecting a representative to serve as Ahtuskou for the Weechinnineummoncheg
    - 1. Ahtuskou must be nominated by the Ókasohneummoncheg
  - v. Ensuring participation in and support of AK activities and functions by Weechinnineummoncheg members
- d. Rights/Privileges:
- i. Ókasohneummonchegunk may sit in the Honor Circle at all AC activities and functions
  - ii. Ókasohneummonchegunk may dance third (3<sup>rd</sup>) with the Kehchisog at MN Powwows
  - iii. Ókasohneummonchegunk may communicate directly with the Kehchisog Circle
  - iv. Any Clan that has a Clan Member serving in an AS position shall not appoint an Ahtuskou to serve on the Ahtuskowag C

## **Section II: Staff**

*Staff shall be defined as any position or title that is tasked with implementing and managing the daily activities and operations of the MN.*

- 1. Staff shall be subordinate to all AS and Ahtuskowag

<sup>24</sup> translation: Family

2. Staff shall at minimum consist of the following positions:
  - a. **PomhamSâchem** (Chief Executive Officer)
    - i. Associated duties and responsibilities outlined in ARTICLE IV, Section I, Part 2-d-i of this Constitution
  - b. **Socononoco Sâchem** (Chief Development Officer)
    - i. Associated duties and responsibilities outlined in ARTICLE IV, Section I, Part 2-d-ii of this Constitution
  - c. **Aguontis Sâchem** (Chief Operations Officer)
    - i. Associated duties and responsibilities outlined in ARTICLE IV, Section I, Part 2-d-iii of this Constitution
  - d. **Tribal Genealogist**
    - i. Appointed by Socononoco Sâchem with approval from PomhamSâchem, as outlined in this Constitution
    - ii. Under the direct Supervision of the Socononoco Sâchem
    - iii. Approve Proof of Lineage documentation
    - iv. Issue AK RN
  - e. **Tribal Body Historian**
    - i. Appointed by Socononoco Sâchem with approval from PomhamSâchem, as outlined in this Constitution
    - ii. Under the direct Supervision of the Socononoco Sâchem
    - iii. Document, maintain and narrate history, lineage and traditions of AK
  - f. **Office Manager**
    - i. Appointed by Socononoco Sâchem with approval from PomhamSâchem, as outlined in this Constitution
    - ii. Under the direct Supervision of the Socononoco Sâchem
    - iii. Oversee daily functions and Staff of the Tribal Body Office

**Section III: Chain of Command -**

*The Chain of Command for the AK shall be as follows:*

1. Tribal Body Members shall be subordinate to the Sachimaog, Ahtuskowag, Ókasohneummonchegunk, Kehchisog and Ayeuteanūog, as outlined in this Constitution
2. Ayeuteanūog shall be subordinate to all Sachimaog and Ahtuskowag, as outlined in this Constitution
3. Staff shall be subordinate to all Sachimaog and Ahtuskowag, as outlined in this Constitution
4. The Socononoco Sâchem and Aguontis Sâchem shall be subordinate to the PomhamSâchem, as outlined in this Constitution
5. The PomhamSâchem shall seek the approval of the Ahtuskowag Circle for the following matters:
  - a. Purchases equal to or in excess of one hundred (100) dollars
    - i. Requires approval of Treasurer
  - b. Matters pertaining to the protection of the AK
  - c. Approval and Removal of subordinate Sachimaog
  - d. Approval and Removal of Select Ahtuskowag
  - e. Approval and Removal of Honorary Tribal Member
  - f. Approval and Removal of Adopted Tribal Members

- g. Removal of Membership Privileges
  - h. Recommendations for additions and/or amendments to this Constitution
  - i. Implementation of the Annual Budget
6. Active Sachimaog shall be subordinate to Nuttahtoskauwomog Sachimaog, as outlined in this Constitution
  7. Sachimaog, Ahtuskowag, Ókasohneummonchegunk and Ayeuteanūog shall be subordinate to the Kehchisog Circle, as outlined in this Constitution

**Section IV: Voting -**

1. All MGS shall be eligible to vote on all relevant AK matters, as outlined in this Constitution
2. The Taupaw/Taupausq shall oversee all voting procedures of the Tribal Body Membership, as outlined in this Constitution
3. The following Matters shall require a vote of approval from the Tribal Body Membership, as outlined in this Constitution
  - a. The position of PomhamSâchem
    - i. Elections shall be held once every two (2) years at the Annual Meeting
  - b. Additions and/or amendments to this Constitution
    - i. Must be presented to the Tribal Body Membership at the November Monthly Tribal Body Meeting<sup>25</sup>
4. All Tribal Body Membership voting Matters shall require a greater than fifty (50) percent vote of approval to be considered approved and accepted, as outlined in this Constitution
5. Voting Privileges may suspended for any Tribal Body Member, as outlined in this Constitution:
  - a. Who is not a MGS
  - b. Judged guilty of Misconduct
6. Voting for Ahtuskowag Circle positions shall take place at the Council Meeting immediately preceding the Annual Meeting

**Section V: Additions & Amendments to the Constitution -**

*Additions and/or amendments to this Constitution:*

1. Shall be presented to the Tribal Body Membership for review and approval at the Annual Meeting
2. May be made in whole or in part by a vote of approval by all MGS who are present at the time of voting
3. Must be submitted in writing to the Internal Affairs Committee of the AK to be considered valid for review and approval by the Tribal Body Membership
4. May not be presented to the Tribal Body without prior review and approval of the Internal Affairs Committee, as outlined in this Constitution

**Section VI: Meetings -**

1. Tribal Body Members are to be notified of any and all meetings a minimum of seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.
2. Proper means of communication may include but are not limited to phone calls, Emails and mailings

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<sup>25</sup> To ensure ample time for review and evaluation by the Tribal Body Membership before the Annual Meeting

- a. The most expedient and reliable means of communication should be utilized to ensure proper notification
3. Unless otherwise instructed by the PomhamSâchem or otherwise noted in this Constitution, all AK meetings and functions are to be opened and closed with a prayer by the Taupaw/Taupausq
4. Minutes from all official AK meetings shall be recorded and must be available for review by the Tribal Body Membership no later than one (1) calendar month from the date of the original meeting
5. There shall be one (1) **Monthly Tribal Body Meeting** held per calendar month<sup>26</sup>:
  - a. Held on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Saturday of every calendar month
  - b. Location and time to be determined by the Ahtuskowag Circle
  - c. Unless instructed otherwise by the Ketasoot, the order of business for all Monthly Tribal Body Meetings shall be as follows:
    - i. Opening Prayer
    - ii. Presentations
      1. Maximum of ten (10) minutes per presentation
    - iii. Previous Minutes
    - iv. Old Business
    - v. Staff Reports
    - vi. New Business
    - vii. Announcements
    - viii. Words from the Sachimaog
      1. PomhamSâchem speaks last
    - ix. Closing Prayer
    - x. Adjournment
    - xi. Tribal Body Membership Matters
      1. Collection of Monthly Dues
      2. Processing of forms & documentation
      3. Processing of WC
      4. Induction Ceremonies
6. There shall be one (1) **Ahtuskowag Circle Meeting** held per calendar month
  - a. Location, date and time to be determined by the Ahtuskowag Circle
  - b. Must be held at least four (4) days prior to the next Monthly Tribal Body meeting
7. There shall be one (1) **Annual Meeting** held per calendar year
  - a. Date, location and time to be determined by the Ahtuskowag Circle
    - i. Must take place during the Month of November, no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of December
    - ii. Will be the venue for election of the PomhamSâchem, as outlined in this Constitution
    - iii. Will be the venue for appointment of Ahtuskowag, as outlined in this Constitution
    - iv. Will be the venue for induction of new Wutohtimion Wechinnineummonchegunk, as outlined in this Constitution
    - v. Shall serve as the November Monthly Tribal Body Meeting

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<sup>26</sup> The Annual Meeting shall serve as the Monthly Tribal Body Meeting for the month of December

- b. There shall be one (1) **Powwow** held per calendar year
      - i. Held on a date and at a location to be determined by the PomhamSâchem
- 8. There shall be two (2) **Tribal Gatherings** held per calendar year
  - a. **Harvest Gathering**
    - i. Fall
    - ii. Date, time and location to be determined by the Ad Hoc Committee with approval from the PomhamSâchem
  - b. **Planting Gathering**
    - i. Spring
    - ii. Date, time and location to be determined by the Ad Hoc Committee with approval from the PomhamSâchem.
- 9. There shall be one (1) **Naming Ceremony** held per calendar year
  - a. Date, location and time to be determined by the Ad Hoc Committee, with approval from the PomhamSâchem
- 10. There shall be one (1) **Kehchisog Ceremony** held per calendar year
  - a. Date, location and time to be determined by the Ad hoc Committee, with approval from the PomhamSâchem and with input from the Kehchisog Circle
  - b. Will be venue for honoring of current Kehchisog Circle members and induction of new Kehchisog Circle members
- 11. **Special Meetings**
  - a. Defined as any meeting not previously listed under ARTICLE IV, Section VI of this Constitution.
  - b. May only address issues that are lawful and proper for the Tribal Body Membership to consider
  - c. May be called to address issues of importance, benefit or detriment to the general well-being of the AK
  - d. May be called by AS, the Ahtuskowag Circle or the Ókasohneummonchegunk, as outlined in this Constitution
  - e. Requirements:
    - i. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval
    - ii. Notification in writing must be presented to the Taupaw/Taupausq
    - iii. Notification must be presented to the Tribal Body Membership
    - iv. Notification must follow all rules and regulations as stipulated in this Constitution and must include:
      - 1. The purpose of the meeting
      - 2. The business to be transacted
      - 3. Whom the meeting was called by

**Section VII: Procedures –**

*Official procedures of the AK are as follows:*

- 1. **Membership Application Procedure**
  - a. Applications for Tribal Body Membership shall be submitted to the Tribal Genealogist
    - i. Must include Proof of Lineage to the Narragansett Indian Tribe by demonstrating a **bloodline** connection to the *Mattaponi, Chickahominy, Cherokee, or Kiskiack Indian Descent* who can show

***Proof of Lineage to the Amonsoquath Kiskiack Tribe and/or the historic Tsenacomoco Tribal Nation.***

- ii. Must include valid forms of identification
    1. To be determined by the Tribal Genealogist, with approval from the Ahtuskowag Circle
  - b. Tribal Genealogist approves application/documentation and submits to Ahtuskowag Circle for approval by 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou
  - c. 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou approves application and submits to PomhamSâchem
  - d. PomhamSâchem schedules Membership Induction Ceremony
    - i. Applicant takes the AK “Oath of Revocation”
    - ii. Applicant takes the AK “Oath of Allegiance”
    - iii. Application is notarized by Notary Public
      1. Service provided by AK
  - e. Applicant takes steps to secure WC
  - f. PomhamSâchem approves application and submits to Tribal Genealogist
  - g. Tribal Genealogist issues Applicant a AK RN and submits application to Tribal Secretary for storage
  - h. Tribal Secretary notifies applicant that they have been accepted and approved for Tribal Body Membership
    - i. Notified in writing
    - ii. Receive AK RN
    - iii. Receive copy of approved application
  - i. Tribal Secretary issues Tribal Body Member a WC
2. **Weechinnineummoncheg Status Application Procedure**
- a. Chasiyeūnk identifies a minimum of four (4) members who have been MGS for a minimum of one (1) calendar year prior to date of application
  - b. Chasiyeūnk identifies an Ókasohneummoncheg
    - i. Must be MGS
    - ii. Ókasohneummoncheg informs both the PomhamSâchem and 1<sup>st</sup> Ahtuskou of their plan to apply for Weechinnineummoncheg status
    - iii. Sets individual meetings with both positions
  - c. Ókasohneummoncheg submits application for Weechinnineummoncheg status to the Taupaw/Taupausq
    - i. Sets meeting with Taupaw/Taupausq to submit application
  - d. Taupaw/Taupausq submits application to Ahtuskowag Circle for vote of approval
  - e. Application is approved
    - i. Requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by the Ahtuskowag Circle
    - ii. If denied, Ókasohneummonchegunk may appeal the decision to the Kehchisog Circle for further review
  - f. Pomham Sâchem informs Ókasohneummoncheg of approval
    - i. Must be notified in writing
  - g. Weechinnineummoncheg selects surname and symbol
  - h. Weechinnineummoncheg appoints Ahtuskou
    - i. As outlined in ARTICLE IV, Section VII, Part 5 of this Constitution
  - i. Ókasohneummoncheg and Ahtuskou invited to next Ahtuskowag Circle Meeting to undergo Hand Placing Ceremony

- i. Signifies acceptance and approval of Ahtuskowag Circle
  - j. Weechinnineummoncheg begins service to the MN
- 3. **Pomham Sâchem Appointment Procedure**
  - a. Pomham Sâchem identifies Candidate to fill vacant position
    - i. Application
    - ii. Resume
    - iii. Letter of Interest
  - b. PomhamSâchem notifies Taupaw/Taupausq of intent to fill vacant position, and submit Candidate's information to Tribal Secretary
  - c. Tribal Secretary documents Candidate's application materials and submits copies to Ahtuskowag Circle for review
  - d. Ahtuskowag Circle sets time to interview Candidate
    - i. No later than the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) scheduled Ahtuskowag Circle meeting following notification
  - e. Ahtuskowag Circle votes on appointment, as outlined in this Constitution
    - i. If denied, PomhamSâchem may appeal decision to Kehchisog Circle for further review
  - f. Candidate notified in writing of acceptance
  - g. Candidate invited to next Ahtuskowag Circle Meeting to undergo a Hand Placing Ceremony
    - i. Signifies acceptance and approval of Ahtuskowag Circle
  - h. Appointee begins service to the AK
- 4. **Pomham Sâchem Election Procedure<sup>27</sup>**
  - a. Interested Candidates shall notify the Taupaw/Taupausq of their intent to campaign for the Pomham Sâchem position
    - i. Any Ahtuskou running for the Pomham Sâchem position shall be required to relinquish their seat in the Ahtuskowag Circle for the duration of their campaign
      - 1. Okasohneummoncheg shall appoint replacement
    - ii. Must be eligible to campaign as it pertains to the requirements outlined in this Constitution
    - iii. Intent to campaign must be submitted in writing
  - b. Taupaw/Taupausq submits information to Ahtuskowag Circle
  - c. Ahtuskowag Circle schedules interview with Candidate
    - i. No later than the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) scheduled Ahtuskowag Circle meeting following notification
  - d. Candidate begins to campaign
    - i. Candidate may not begin to campaign until interviewed by Ahtuskowag Circle
  - e. Candidate gives election speech at Annual Meeting
  - f. Tribal Body Membership votes
    - i. Adhere to guidelines stipulated in ARTICLE IV, Section 4 of this Constitution
  - g. Taupaw/Taupausq collects and tallies Tribal Body Membership votes
  - h. Election Winner announced by Taupaw/Taupausq

<sup>27</sup> a to c not required for current Ketasot Sâchem

- i. Ahtuskowag Circle gives ceremonial Vote of Approval
- j. Hand Placing Ceremony held for newly elected PomhamSâchem
  - i. Open to all Tribal Body Members
- k. Pomham Sâchem sets meeting with Ahtuskowag Circle to discuss goals/plans for term of service
  - i. Must occur before January 8<sup>th</sup> of the year following their election to office
- l. Pomham Sâchem begins service to the AK on January 15<sup>th</sup> of the year following their election to office

**5. Ahtuskowag Circle Appointment Procedure**

- a. Ókasohneummoncheg identifies Candidate to fill vacant position
  - i. Application
  - ii. Resume
  - iii. Letter of Interest
- b. Ókasohneummoncheg notifies Taupaw/Taupausq of intent to fill vacant position, and submit individual's information to Tribal Secretary
- c. Tribal Secretary documents Candidate's application materials and submits copies to Ahtuskowag Circle for review
- d. Ahtuskowag Circle sets time to interview Candidate
  - i. No later than the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) scheduled Ahtuskowag Circle meeting following notification
- e. Ahtuskowag Circle votes on appointment, as outlined in this Constitution
  - i. If denied, Ókasohneummoncheg may appeal decision to Kehchisog Circle for further review
- f. Candidate notified in writing of acceptance
- g. Candidate and Ókasohneummoncheg invited to next Ahtuskowag Circle Meeting to undergo a Hand Placing Ceremony
  - i. Signifies acceptance and approval of Ahtuskowag Circle
- h. Ahutskou begins service to the AK

**6. Constitution Additions and Amendments Procedure**

- a. All proposed additions and/or amendments to this Constitution are to be submitted in writing to the Policy & Procedure Committee of the Ahtuskowag Circle **NO LATER THAN the October Monthly Tribal Body Meeting**
- b. Proposed additions and/or amendments will be reviewed by the Policy and Procedure Committee
  - i. To address any issues of language discrepancy
  - ii. To incorporate all proposed additions and/or amendments into one document for Tribal Body Membership review
  - iii. To ensure the proper distribution of this document to the Tribal Body Membership at the **November Tribal Body Meeting**
- c. Tribal Body Members shall vote on the proposed additions and/or amendments at the Annual Meeting, as outlined in this Constitution
- d. Accepted and approved additions and/or amendments to this Constitution shall go into effect on January 15<sup>th</sup> of the year following their approval

**7. Ahtuskowag Circle Judgment Procedure**

*Ahtuskowag Circle Judgment Hearings are considered "General Tribal Body Membership Information" and are open to attendance by any MGS. All Defendants shall be considered Innocent until Judged Guilty by the Ahtuskowag Circle*

- a. "Matter of Complaint" shall be brought to the attention of the Defendant by a Tribal Body Member
  - i. If Misconduct stops, Matter is laid to rest
  - ii. If Misconduct continues, move to next step
- b. Tribal Body Member shall present Matter to Taupaw/Taupausq
- c. Taupaw/Taupausq decides if Matter is worth pursuing
  - i. If not worth pursuing, Matter is laid to rest
  - ii. If worth pursuing, move to next step
- d. Taupaw/Taupausq shall bring Matter to the attention of the Defendant
  - i. If Misconduct stops, Matter is laid to rest
  - ii. If Misconduct continues, move to next step
    1. **If Defendant is an Ahtuskou, Matter shall be brought to the attention of the Ókasohneummoncheg before moving to next step**
      - a. If Misconduct stops, Matter is laid to rest
      - b. If Misconduct continues, move to next step
- e. Taupaw/Taupausq shall present Matter in writing to the Ahutskowag Circle
- f. Ahutskowag Circle shall consider Matter and then vote to hold Hearing on matter
  - i. Set date/time/location for proceedings
  - ii. Must adhere to rules and regulations as set forth in ARTICLE IV, Section I, Part 1-d of this Constitution
  - iii. If denied, Matter is laid to rest
  - iv. If approved, move to next step
- g. Written notification of Hearing is presented to the Defendant and Complainant and made available to the Tribal Body Membership
  - i. Requires minimum of two (2) weeks advanced notice
  - ii. Notification shall include the following information
    1. Name of Defendant
    2. Name of Complainant
    3. Matter being heard
    4. Date, time, location of Hearing
    5. Names of Ahtuskowag who will be Hearing the Matter
- h. Defendant and Complainant appear before Ahtuskowag Circle
  - i. **If Defendant or Complainant refuse to or do not show for Hearing, by default they agree to abide by the judgment of the Ahutskowag Circle and wave their right to appeal to the Kehchisog Circle**
  - ii. Procedure
    1. Complainant presents argument to Ahtuskowag Circle
      - a. Presents facts regarding complaint
        - i. May call witnesses to stand
    2. Defendant presents defense to Ahtuskowag
      - a. Presents facts regarding defense
        - i. May call witnesses to stand

3. Defendant and Complainant dismissed from Ahtuskowag Circle
  4. Ahtuskowag Circle judges Matter
    - a. Must pass Judgment no later than two (2) scheduled Ahtuskowag Circle Meetings from date of original Hearing
      - i. Requires greater than fifty (50) percent vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle
  - i. Judgments:
    - i. Original Judgment Stands
      1. Original Judgment deemed “excessive” and/or “inappropriate” and/or “unlawful”; new Judgment exacted
        - a. **Warning or Revocation of Warning against Misconduct** and/or
        - b. **Fine or Reimbursement of Fine for damages rendered** and/or
          - i. In the case of property or physical damage
        - c. **Suspension or Reinstatement of Membership Privileges** and/or
          - i. Specific privileges determined by Ahtuskowag Circle
        - d. **Removal or Reinstatement of Position**
          - i. Requires two-third (2/3) vote of approval by Ahtuskowag Circle
        - e. Written notification of judgment is presented to the Complainant, Defendant and made available to the Tribal Body Membership
    - j. Judgment goes into effect immediately
8. **Stripping of Sachiamog Title Procedure**
- a. Accusation of Misconduct shall be brought to the attention of a Nuttahtoskauwom Sâchem,
  - b. Nuttahtoskauwom Sâchem shall bring Matter to the attention of Defendant Sâchem
    - i. Nuttahtoskauwom Sâchem makes Defendant Sâchem aware of allegation
      1. Gathers details about situation from Defendant Sâchem
      - ii. Sâchem chooses to not recommend Hearing, Matter is laid to rest
      - iii. Nuttahtoskauwom Sâchem chooses to recommend Hearing, move to next step
  - c. Nuttahtoskauwom Sâchem shall present Matter in writing to all NS
  - d. NS shall consider Matter and then vote to hold Hearing on Matter
    - i. Requires two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by all NS
    - ii. Set date/time/location for proceedings
    - iii. If denied, Matter is laid to rest
    - iv. If approved, move to next step
  - e. Written notification of Hearing is presented to the Defendant Sâchem and Complainant
    - i. Requires minimum of two (2) weeks advanced notice
    - ii. Notification shall include the following information

1. Name of Defendant Sâchem
  2. Name of Complainant
  3. Matter being heard
  4. Date, time, location of Hearing
  5. Names of NS who will be hearing the Matter
- f. Defendant Sâchem and Complainant appear before NS
- i. **If Defendant Sâchem and/or Complainant refuse to or do not show for Hearing, by default they agree to abide by the judgment of the NS**
  - ii. All AS shall be mandated to attend
  - iii. Procedure
    1. Complainant presents argument to NS
      - a. May present facts and call witnesses to stand
    2. Defendant Sâchem presents defense to NS
      - a. present facts and call witnesses to stand
    3. Defendant Sâchem and Complainant dismissed from NS
    4. NS discusses Matter
- g. NS judge Matter
- i. Must pass Judgment no later than one (1) calendar month from date of original Hearing
  - ii. Must adhere to rules and regulations as set forth in ARTCILE IV, Section I, Part 2-d-iv of this Constitution
  - iii. Judgments:
    1. **Recommendation to drop the Matter**
    2. **Recommendation to refer Matter to Ahtuskowag Circle**
      - a. Follow procedures as outlined in this Constitution
    3. **Recommendation for Stripping of Title**
      - a. Matter referred to Kehchisog Circle
- h. Written notification of Judgment is presented to the Complainant, Defendant Sâchem and made available to the Tribal Body Membership
- i. Judgment goes into effect immediately
9. **Kehchisog Circle Appeals Procedure**
- Kehchisog Circle Appeals Hearings are considered "General Tribal Body Membership Information" and are open to attendance by any MGS. All Defendants shall be considered Innocent until Judged Guilty by the Kehchisog Circle*
- Complainants may seek an appeal to the Kehchisog Circle only after having the matter addressed by the Ahtuskowag Circle.*
- a. The Kehchisog Circle shall hear Appeals regarding the following Matters of Complaint:
    - i. **Decisions to suspend Tribal Body Membership privileges**
    - ii. **Denial of Weechinnineummoncheg status**
    - iii. **Conflicts/grievances between Sachimaog, Ahtuskowag, and Ókasohneummonchegunk**
    - iv. **Denial of Sachimaog appointments**
    - v. **Decisions to remove individuals from their position**
      1. Active Sâchem
      2. Ahtuskou

3. Officer
- vi. **Decisions to strip Sachimaog of their Titles**
- b. Procedure:
  - i. Appeals application form is completed by and/or submitted to the Taupaw/Taupausq, a Sâchem or an Ókasohneummoncheg
  - ii. Form is submitted to the Kehchisog Circle for review
  - iii. Kehchisog Circle shall consider the Matter and then vote to hold Hearing
    1. Must adhere to the rules and regulations as set forth in ARTICLE IV, Section I, Part 4-c- iv, v of this Constitution<sup>28</sup>
    2. Set date/time/location for proceedings
    3. If denied, Matter is laid to rest
    4. If approved, move to next step
  - iv. Written notification of Hearing is presented to the Complainant and Defendant and made available to the Tribal Body Membership
    1. Requires minimum of two (2) weeks advanced notice
    2. Notification shall include the following information
      - a. Name of Defendant
      - b. Name of Complainant
      - c. Matter being heard
      - d. Date, time, location of Hearing
      - e. Names of Kehchisog who will be Hearing the Matter
  - v. Kehchisog Circle Hears Matter
    1. **If Defendant or Complainant refuse to or do not show for Hearing, by default they agree to abide by the Judgment of the Kehchisog Circle**
    2. Complainant presents argument to Kehchisog Circle
      - a. Presents facts regarding complaint
        - i. May call witnesses to stand
    3. Defendant presents defense to Kehchisog Circle
      - a. Presents facts regarding defense
        - i. May call witnesses to stand
    4. Complainant and Defendant dismissed from Kehchisog Circle
    5. Circle discusses Matter
  - vi. Kehchisog Circle judges Matter
    1. Judgment must be rendered no later than one (1) calendar month after date of Hearing
    2. Requires greater than fifty (50) percent vote of approval by Kehchisog Circle
    3. Judgments:
      - a. Original Judgment stands
      - b. Original Judgment deemed “excessive” and/or “inappropriate and/or “unlawful”; new Judgment exacted
        - i. **Warning or Revocation of Warning against Misconduct** and/or

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<sup>28</sup> If Ahtuskou is Accused, they shall not be eligible to vote on matter of complaint

- ii. **Fine or Reimbursement of Fine for Damages Rendered** and/or
  - 1. In the case of property or physical damage
- iii. **Suspension or Reinstatement of Membership Privileges** and/or
  - 1. Specific privileges determined by Kehchisog Circle
- iv. **Removal or Reinstatement of Position/Status**
  - 1. Requires two-third (2/3) vote of approval by Kehchisog Circle
- v. **Stripping of Sachiamog Titles**
  - 1. Requires eighty-five (85) percent vote of approval by Kehchisog Circle
- vii. Written notification of Judgment is presented to the Complainant, Defendant and made available to the Tribal Body Membership
- viii. Decisions of the Kehchisog Circle are considered final and binding to the MN and go into effect immediately

**Section VIII: Other Matters –**

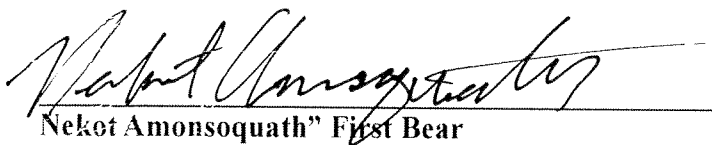
*Any Matter in question that is not clearly defined and/or outlined in this Constitution shall be resolved in the most morally, ethically and righteously appropriate manner possible, utilizing the policies and procedures set forth in this Constitution.*

**ARTICLE V: STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATION**

*I, Holder of the title of Chief of the Amonsoquath Kiskiack Tribe of the Tsenacomoco Nation, with all of the rights and privileges associated with it, do formally accept and approve this Constitution to serve as the official structure and standard of conduct for any and all members, activities and operations associated with the Amonsoquath Kiskiack of the Tsenacomoco Nation.*

*I pledge to always put first our God and Creator, and our Tribe/ Nation before any acts of individual and/or selfish gain, and to acknowledge and understand that the opportunity to be a member of and in service to the Amonsoquath Kiskiack of the Tsenacomoco Nation, is a blessing bestowed upon us by the one and only Great Creator.*

Signed,



Neket Amonsoquath" First Bear  
Chief, Amonsoquath Kiskiack of the Tsenacomoco Nation

1/23/2016  
Date