



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM**  
**FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**  
ONONDAGA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
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**A. GAIL PRUDENTI**  
Chief Administrative Judge

**MICHAEL V. COCCOMA**  
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge  
Courts Outside New York City

**JAMES C. TORMEY**  
Justice of Supreme Court  
District Administrative Judge  
Fifth Judicial District

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**KATHERINE M. VAETH**  
Confidential Secretary

September 25, 2014

John W. McConnell, Esq.  
Office of Court Administration  
25 Beaver Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10004

**RE: Proposed adoption of new 22 NYCRR § 202.71 relating to establishment of a procedure for recognition of judgments by tribunals of tribes recognized by the State of New York of the United States**

Dear Mr. McConnell,

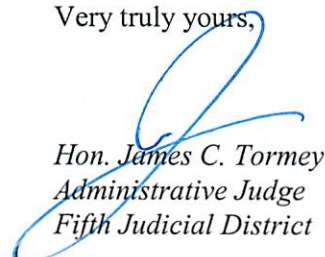
As Administrative Judge of the Fifth Judicial District, I have had an opportunity to review rule 22 NYCRR 202.71, Uniform Civil Rules for Supreme Court and County Court, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Civil Practice. The proposed rule provides needed clarity for tribal and state court litigants that judgments and orders obtained in courts established by federally and state recognized nations may be enforced, and identifies the uniform and predictable process for the enforcement of such judgments and orders in state and county courts.

I believe this new rule will clarify the concept that Supreme Courts may recognize tribal judgments under both Article 53 of the CPLR and Principals of the Common Law of Comity. It will clearly set out a uniform and predictable approach that litigants and practitioner can utilize and the New York Courts can apply.

Our experience in this District is that tribal courts have been performing their duties at a high level of professionalism, and it is appropriate that we embrace this new rule to afford them the recognition they deserve.

I am fully supportive of this proposed rule change.

Very truly yours,

  
*Hon. James C. Tormey*  
*Administrative Judge*  
*Fifth Judicial District*