

**SUPREME COURT REJECTS SENECA COUNTY
PETITION AGAINST CAYUGA NATION
ENDS COUNTY'S DECADE-LONG EFFORT
TO FORECLOSE ON RESERVATION PROPERTY**

The U.S. Supreme Court today put a stop to Seneca County's unlawful effort to foreclose on the Cayuga Nation's historic, 64,015-acre reservation, in violation of the 1794 Treaty of Canandaigua. Today's decision not only ends Seneca County's doomed attempt to collect taxes from the Cayuga Nation, it serves as more evidence of the growing recognition that treaties with Indian nations must be respected.

After a decade of losses in federal court, Seneca County used taxpayer dollars to hire one of the most prominent Supreme Court litigators as a final attempt to resurrect its failed strategy. Rather than revive the County's foreclosure suit, the Supreme Court refused even to consider it, which means that prior decisions rejecting the County's foreclosure remedy for nonpayment of taxes will stand. Although Seneca County spent ten years and hundreds of thousands of dollars to achieve this latest in a string of losses, the principle has always been clear and simple: the Cayuga Nation is a sovereign nation and its treaty must be honored.

With this matter now settled, the Cayuga Nation calls upon Seneca County to reconsider its adversarial and antagonistic stance toward the Nation and its citizens. The Cayuga Nation is focused on preserving its culture and providing economic and educational opportunities for its citizens. These goals are consistent with normalized government-to-government relationships, which the Cayuga Nation hopes Seneca County can begin to realize.