

**GUIDE TO REGISTERING AND ENFORCING A FOREIGN JUDGMENT  
IN THE MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT TRIBAL COURT**

**DISCLAIMER:** This guide is intended only to provide information on how to fill out the forms. It is not a substitute for legal advice. If you have legal questions pertaining to your claim, you must consult with an attorney. Tribal Court staff are not lawyers and may not provide legal advice.

**TITLE 23, FOREIGN JUDGMENTS LAW:**

<https://law.mptn-nsn.gov/globalassets/laws/title-23-foreign-judgments---wage-executions-and-subpoenas.pdf>

**DEFINITIONS:**

Applicant	Party who is bringing the claim.
Employer	The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, it's enterprises, governmental divisions or departments thereof, including the Mashantucket Pequot Gaming Enterprise and Pequot Pharmaceutical Network, but does not include any entity owned in whole or part by the Tribe and formed under the laws of any state.
Foreign Judgment	The judgment you seek to enforce in this court; the final judgment of a court or agency of competent jurisdiction in the United States, other than the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Court.
Foreign Jurisdiction	Court or agency where the original judgment was entered.
Installment Order	A court order setting forth a payment schedule.
Issuing Tribunal	Court or agency where the original judgment was entered.
Judgment Debtor	The party who owes a debt to the Applicant.
Summons	An official document notifying the Judgment Debtor of the Application for Registration and Enforcement of Foreign Judgment. The Summons must be processed by the Clerk of the Tribal Court and served upon the Judgment Debtor.
Wage Execution	A court order to garnish the Judgment Debtor's wages. Also commonly referred to as a wage garnishment.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Submit your forms only - do not file this instruction sheet with the Tribal Court.
2. Obtain a certified copy of your judgment from the Issuing Tribunal (foreign jurisdiction), sealed and stamped by the Clerk of that court.

3. Complete and sign the following forms:

- Form 1 - Foreign Judgment Summons
- Form 2 - Application for Registration and Enforcement of Foreign Judgment

**ONLY IF APPLICABLE:**

- Form 3 - Application for Installment Order

4. File the signed and completed forms, certified copy of the judgment, one copy of each form, and a check in the amount of \$50 made payable to the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Court.

5. Final Step: If the foreign judgment is accepted as a judgment of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Court, you must complete and file Form 4, Application for Wage Execution.

**HOW THE CASE PROCEEDS:**

**Filing:** The Clerk of Court will accept your filing if the papers are in order. Otherwise, the Clerk will send the application back to you. If accepted, the Clerk will process the Summons and open the case.

**Waiting Period:** There is a 20 day waiting period after proof of service upon the Judgment Debtor.

**Wage Execution:** When the Foreign Judgment has become a judgment of the Tribal Court, you must then file an Application for Wage Execution with the Clerk of the Tribal Court. If the Application for Wage Execution is granted, the Clerk will serve the Employer. If all is in order, after a 20 day waiting period, payments will be issued to the Applicant according to the terms of the orders.

**Modification of Wage Execution:** If either party desires a modification to the wage execution, it must be made to the Issuing Tribunal.

**Modification of Original Judgment:** If either party files an affidavit that the original judgment has been modified, the Tribal Court shall enforce the modified judgment of the foreign jurisdiction.

**Appeals:** If either party files an appeal in the foreign jurisdiction, the Tribal Court shall stay the Foreign Judgment until the appeal is resolved.