

Oneida Nation

Post Office Box 365

Phone: (920)869-2214



Oneida, WI 54155

BC Resolution # 09-26-25-I

Recognizing Mark A. Powless Sr. for Lifetime Achievements and Contributions to the Oneida Nation

- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Nation is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** members of the Oneida Nation have given their time, hopes, and energies to the Nation and community; and
- WHEREAS,** those actions have provided guidance in developing the Nation to meet future goals, provide opportunities for members, and to create programs, services and benefits for members; and
- WHEREAS,** members have stepped forward to make these decisions on behalf of all of us embracing and demonstrating Tsiʔniyukwalihota; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has identified that recognizing these actions, such as has been in the past for Code Talkers Day, Recognition of Dr. Clifford Abbott, Proclamation of Appreciation Susan White, Proclamation of Appreciation Charles Frederick Whitney “Chaz” Wheelock, and recognition of members serving on the Oneida Business Committee, who, as part of an elected body, made decisions on the behalf of the Oneida Nation affecting the current and future direction of the Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** Mark A. Powless Sr. was elected to the Oneida Business Committee as Councilman for three (3) terms from 1978 through 1987; and
- WHEREAS,** Mr. Powless served as an honorably discharged United States Marine Vietnam Combat Veteran; and
- WHEREAS,** Mark A. Powless Sr. championed the development and execution of our tobacco business with Ernie Stevens Sr., along with his work on the development of a comprehensive economic development plan including the creation of Four Fires LCC and of Bay Bank; and
- WHEREAS,** in addition to his work with the Oneida Gaming Commission where currently serves as Chairman, Mr. Powless previously served as Executive Director of the Oneida Gaming Commission and as Chairman of the Oneida Nation School Board, the Oneida Land Commission, and the Tribal Cemetery Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Powless has shared his gifts across the Indian Country as Executive Director of Tule River Tribal Gaming Commission, as Chairman of the Big Sandy Rancheria Band of Mono Indians Gaming Commission, as presenter/trainer for the Indian Gaming Association as well as being instrumental in its creation, as Vice-Chairman of National Tribal Gaming Commissions/Regulators Association, and as Chairman of the National Task Force on Gaming on Indian Reservations; and

WHEREAS, at the federal level, Mark A. Powless Sr. has represented not only the Oneida Nation, but the interests of all tribal nations by testifying before the United States Congress and the United States Senate regarding the Ancient Indian Land Claims Bill, the Freedom of Religion Act, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, and the Indian Child Welfare Act; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Powless has played an integral part of building the foundation of the Oneida Nation, by being a proven visionary, warrior, and statesman for many generations; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Oneida Business Committee recognizes Mark A. Powless Sr. for his lifetime of giving this time and skills to the Oneida Nation and the community, raising us all in the process.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 7 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 26th day of September, 2025; that the forgoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 6 members for, 0 members against, and 0 members not voting*; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.



Lisa Liggins, Secretary
Oneida Business Committee

*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."