



Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians

Executive Branch of Tribal Government

Office of the Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2026-01

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER EXERCISING SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY REGARDING ACTIVITY BY FEDERAL IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT ON MILLE LACS BAND TRIBAL LANDS

Section 1. Purpose.

The purpose of this Executive Order is to exercise the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe's sovereign authority regarding activity by federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") on Mille Lacs Band tribal lands.

Section 2. Policy.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has deployed approximately 2,000 ICE agents to Minnesota—concentrated primarily in Minneapolis and St. Paul—and has indicated it may send more federal agents to assist. The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has hundreds of enrolled members living in the Twin Cities area, many of whom have expressed deep concern and fear regarding the activity of these ICE agents. Although lawful U.S. citizens, Band members are at high risk of being mistaken for undocumented persons. Furthermore, some Band members have family members carrying Spanish or other surnames that can be misunderstood to imply they may be recent immigrants to the United States. The result for all Band members is that ICE's activities have created an environment of fear not only within the Twin Cities area, but within all the Band's communities. In response, the Band has resolved to exercise the fullest extent of its sovereignty to protect both Band members and other people living on tribal lands.

Section 3. Sources of Authority.

Mille Lacs Band Statutes, Title 4, § 2 (Executive Political Authority), § 3(a) (Powers and Duties of the Executive Branch), § 6(a) (Faithfully and Impartially Execute Laws), § 6(c) (External Relations), § 6(e) (Executive Orders), and § 6(f) (Custodian of Band Property).

Section 4. Governmental Consultation Required.

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe hereby exercises the fullest extent of its sovereign authority to require that all ICE agents—or those acting under ICE supervision or direction—engage in meaningful consultation with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe tribal government *prior* to entering or taking any action on tribal lands.

Section 5. Communication.

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Chief Executive, Solicitor General, and Chief of Police are the Band’s only officials authorized to communicate with ICE on behalf of the Band’s tribal government. All such interactions with ICE shall be thoroughly documented.

Section 6. Civil Rights.

In the event that ICE enters Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe tribal lands, or in the event that any county peace officers enter such tribal lands to question or apprehend any person, no such federal agent or peace officer may enter any private property or workplace without a valid and signed judicial warrant. Under 1 MLBS § 2, all Band members and other members of federally recognized Indian tribes retain the right to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures.

Section 7. Band Member Hotline.

The Solicitor General and Chief of Police shall establish a hotline phone number for any Band member to call who has either been apprehended by ICE or is in imminent fear of apprehension by ICE. This hotline phone number shall be prominently published to all Band members.

Section 8. Expiration.

This Executive Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until superseded by statute or rescinded by a subsequent Executive Order.

Issued on January 14, 2026:



OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND

Virgil Wind
Chief Executive

As to form and numbering according to 25 MLBS § 4(f)

Reen Reinhardt
Revisor of Statutes