## 20160436 FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPREME COURT

## Hulm, Petra

Sent:

**DECEMBER 20, 2016** 

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

From: Steven Bergdall <steven.bergdall@gmail.com>

Tuesday, December 20, 2016 9:40 AM

**To:** (SUP) Clerk of Court Office

**Subject:** Permit Temporary Provision of Legal Services by Qualified Attorneys from Outside

North Dakota

Dear Ms. Miller,

I am writing to voice my support for Water Protectors at Standing Rock, and to urge the North Dakota Supreme Court to allow out-of-state attorneys to represent those facing charges.

One need only look at the route of the Missouri River to see that the pollution threat posed by DAPL reaches far beyond the state of North Dakota, and this is one reason why people from outside North Dakota have been flocking to Standing Rock--to stand up for our right to clean water. Considering the number who now face charges, it seems unlikely that they will all receive adequate legal representation if they are required to use only in-state attorneys.

Water Protectors have been putting themselves at risk on behalf of all Americans and for the continued habitability of our planet, and I commend them for this. Please allow out-of-state attorneys to represent them as they face trial in North Dakota. Thank you.

Sincerely, Steven Bergdall