

Miller, Penny

FILED

From:	Roger Minch <rminch@serklandlaw.com>	IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
Sent:	Thursday, December 15, 2016 5:19 PM	DECEMBER 15, 2016
To:	(SUP) Clerk of Court Office	STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
Subject:	comments on proposed Petition to Permit Temproary Provision of Legal Services by Qualified Attorneys from Outside ND	

The so-called crisis facing those charged for their conduct at the DAPL protest site is completely of their own making. This was never about water or "sacred sites". I was in Los Angeles from 11/29 through 12/4 and saw the local news coverage of protests at the LA headquarters of the Corps of Engineers and saw almost front page news coverage of veterans' groups from LA loading busses in shirtsleeves to come to ND to be a human shield. They were giddy. They looked as if they were headed to a tail gating party and had had nothing to do for a very long time. I hope they stopped at several second hand stores on the way to buy winter clothing.

As tax payers we just spent \$30,000,000 for a new water treatment plant at Mobridge to supply water for Standing Rock and other tribes. There is a rail road bridge just 1 ½ miles upstream from the new intake. As for "sacred sites" the DAPL easement follows another long- existing pipeline. The outside defendants took advantage of local tribal members for THEIR own green and leave it in the ground agenda. Three Affiliated Tribes has had no problem with the 4,000 miles of oil pipelines it has ON ITS OWN RESERVATION according to its "chief environmental officer". And who pays the state of ND for the \$17,000,000 in law enforcement costs to date?

Well, yes, everyone deserves an attorney and a fair trial, no matter the reason. At the same time, everyone has the right to do good AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE. We have no reason to believe that any DAPL defendant will be able to or would pay any sanctions, fines or criminal penalties assessed against them. So in addition to the proposed order, I would recommend the following: Any out of state attorney representing a DAPL related criminal defendant under this Order shall post a bond in the amount of \$_____ to be available to pay in full any and all monetary sanctions assessed in any court proceeding against any such criminal defendant or out of state attorney representing any such criminal defendant, and any sanction imposed on any such criminal defendant shall be deemed to be the monetary obligation of any such criminal defendant's attorney to be paid from the bond.

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