



Wat Phra Dhammakaya's stance on the Department of Special Investigation's issuance of the arrest warrant

Wat Phra Dhammakaya would like to make a public statement in respect to the arrest warrant from the Department of Special Investigations (DSI):

1. Phrathepyanmahamuni (Luang Por Dhammajayo) truly respects the judicial process and will completely adhere to all legal procedures.
2. At this time, Phrathepyanmahamuni is ill and is recuperating at Wat Phra Dhammakaya. He has not fled anywhere. His age and poor health prevents him from travelling long distances. He has not left the temple's premises for the past eight years, which demonstrates that Phrathepyanmahamuni is not feigning illness. It is extremely unlikely that anyone would stay within temple grounds without traveling outside for eight years, unless he or she were extremely ill. Certain individuals have misled the public with false rumors that he plans to flee to another country. This is completely false, as travelling may jeopardize his health and worsen his frail condition.
3. Phrathepyanmahamuni has a deep vein thrombosis (DVT) in the left common femoral vein and a chronic deep vein thrombosis at the proximal left superficial femoral vein. When he sits up for only three to four minutes, his leg becomes very swollen and painful due to increased pressure in the inner groin area, making it difficult for blood to return to the heart. Currently, Phrathepyanmahamuni must lie flat with his lower extremities elevated above the heart level to reduce swelling and pain. The circumference of his left upper thigh is about 86 cm, while his right thigh is only 46 cm. His left leg is almost twice the size of his right leg.
4. Wat Phra Dhammakaya does not have a policy of using the power of the masses for resistance. During the period when the arrest warrant was issued, 50,000 Crystal Upasikas came to Wat Phra Dhammakaya and participated peacefully in chanting and meditation. When the Visakha Puja event ended, all participants returned to their previous routines.
5. In order for the judicial process to proceed smoothly, Phrathepyanmahamuni will submit a letter to the governmental body to acknowledge that the arrest warrant has been issued. Since he is currently recovering at Wat Phra Dhammakaya, the letter will inform DSI that they are welcome to conduct the hearing of charges on the 25th May 2016 without having to wait for the deadline of 26th May 2016 as previously stated to the media by DSI. The temple will provide every convenience to the DSI officials, consulting prosecutor, and press who will be here to provide news coverage. There will be no obstruction in any way.

6. Once DSI officials conduct a hearing of the charges as required by legal procedure, the judicial process can move forward according to the protocol of DSI, the prosecutor, and the court. Phrathepyanmahamuni believes he is innocent and that he will receive true justice from the judicial system.
7. This cooperation to help the judicial process move forward smoothly follows the nation's Rule of Law. It is also in accordance with the goals of the government, which is to maintain peace and order.

Blessings. This was presented to clarify Phrathepyanmahamuni's and Wat Phra Dhammakaya's position on this matter,

Blessings,

Phra Sanitwong Wuttiwangso
Director of Communications, Wat Phra Dhammakaya
17th May 2016

For more information please contact:
Ven. Pasura Dantamano
Chief of International Relations Division
pasura@dhammakaya.net