



In reference to reports that the Department of Special Investigation (DSI) filed a lawsuit against me, Mr. Ong-art Thamnita, Spokesman for Devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya, for inciting the public unrest in violation of the Criminal Code Section 116 (2) at the Technology Crime Suppression Division, I would like to make the following statements:

1. I respectfully and fully deny all allegations that while spokesperson for Wat Phra Dhammakaya I ever had the intention to incite or instigate the public to engage in social unrest or rebellion.
2. In all of the previous press briefings I led I was merely attempting to present facts and truth to the press. All my statements are backed by evidence and are stated with intentions of helping DSI and Wat Phra Dhammakaya achieve a peaceful resolution.
3. The Department of Special Investigation (DSI) is part of the Thai government and has access to thousands of armed law enforcement officers, vast resources, and an annual budget in the billions of Thai Baht. If such a potent force were to file a lawsuit against anyone, it is only natural for the defendant to feel intimidation. I am merely a young man devoid of any influence or official title. Although I am confident in my innocence and I am prepared to present my case in a court of law if I must, I pray that it will not come to pass.
4. DSI was founded to serve the public good and neither to align itself instead against the public nor to instill fear of expressing honest criticisms against them. I don't believe the DSI are bad people. I only humbly wish they would take this opportunity to thoroughly and effectively carry out its duties. And in doing so, the DSI will automatically earn the public's full trust and acceptance. Such an approach will surely speak volumes for them as a branch of government that successfully serves its loyal citizens.

I sincerely hope DSI demonstrates its greatness in servitude to public good through the small act of withdrawing its lawsuit against me.”

Mr. Ong-art Thamnita  
Spokesman, Devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya  
13 December 2016