



## **Official Statement from the Devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya February 22, 2017**

The rationale given by DSI to search the temple to arrest Ven. Dhammajayo is not 100% accurate. The main reason is to destroy Wat Phra Dhammakaya, as investigations by DSI into crimes Ven. Dhammajayo has been accused of were concluded by the courts in 2016. DSI does not have the authority to gather further evidence. DSI's claim that Ven. Dhammajayo must be present is merely an excuse. If DSI cannot locate him, the case would proceed anyways. If in the future, the judge found the case against Mr. Supachai to be without merit, then Ven. Dhammajayo would be innocent. If Mr. Supachai is found guilty, then we have to determine if and how his case is related to Ven. Dhammajayo. For these reasons, the search for Ven. Dhammajayo is not related to the case. DSI's real intention is to dismantle the temple.

Article 44 is being invoked in lieu of the rule of law because no legal rationale exists in the constitution. The order to arrest is unlawful. The actions [of DSI] are unlawful. They've executed a search warrant to locate Ven. Dhammajayo. When he could not be found, they prohibited entry to buildings, and ordered monks and devotees to vacate the temple premise. This is unjust and unlawful.