



Wat Phra Dhammakaya
Khlong Sam Sub-District
Khlong Luang District
Pathum Thani Province 12120

9 December 2016

With the utmost devotion and respect with our heads bowed in deepest humility for your revered consideration of this request regarding the potential situation of conflict involving the Government and the institution of Buddhism.

With the greatest veneration for His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun, esteemed monarch and sovereign of the Thai people.

We, the signatories of this humble request to His Majesty, would be honored by His Majesty's eminent consideration of the highly challenging circumstances we are currently facing.

1. Wat Phra Dhammakaya started with The Master Nun Chandra ("Khun Yai" Chandra Khonnokyoong), the superb disciple of The Great Master Monk Phramongkolthepmuni (Sodh Candasaro), former Abbot of the Pak Nam Pasicharoen Temple. She taught Dhamma and meditation to devoted disciples, one of whom was Phrathepyanmahamuni, the Venerable Dhammajayo Bhikkhu (formerly named Chaiyaboon Suddhipol). Phrathepyanmahamuni came to meditate and learn Dhamma from Master Nun Chandra with profound devotion, studying with her daily starting in 1963. After graduating from Kasetsart University's Faculty of Economics, he made the great commitment to ordain as a Buddhist monk on 27 August 1969, determined to remain in the Buddhist Order for the rest of his life. Later, with a donation of 196 rai (31 hectares) of land from Lady Prayad Pattayapongsavisuttatibodi, Wat Phra Dhammakaya was established. Wat Phra Dhammakaya gradually attracted more devotees and the number of resident monks grew.

When the facilities and structures at Wat Phra Dhammakaya reached an appropriate level, it submitted the official request to the Government of Thailand to establish Wat Phra Dhammakaya, a request that was granted on 29 July 1977. Phrathepyanmahamuni was appointed as the Abbot. The first boundary stones for

the Temple's main chapel were laid on 24 December 1977. His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej sent Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn to represent His Majesty at the ceremony to lay the boundary stones (Attachment 1). Moreover, on 18 March 1979 (Attachment 2), His Majesty's revered mother, Somdej Phra Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani, bestowed the honor of presiding over the ceremony to cast the principal image of the Lord Buddha at Wat Phra Dhammakaya. This image graces the main chapel up to this day. Somdej Phra Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani graciously invited Phrathepyanmahamuni and the Temple's Vice Abbot Phrarajbhavanajahn (Venerable Dattajeevo Bhikkhu) to Sra Pathum Palace where she made a generous offering to them on 6 January 1982 (Attachment 3). Somdej Phra Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani expressed her wish that they would help to train Thai youth in moral principles nationwide. Phrathepyanmahamuni and Phrarajbhavanajahn accepted her guidance and have applied themselves with fullest determination and dedication to this effort throughout.

In addition, Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana, Princess of Naradhiwas, honored the Temple with a visit on 14 July 1984 during which she made a generous offering to the Temple (Attachment 4). His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn honored the Temple by benevolently presiding over the Kathina Day Ceremony 24 November 1985 (Attachment 5). His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn also presided over the ceremony to cast the golden image of The Great Master Monk Phramongkolthepmuni (Sodh Candasaro) on Magha Puja Day at Wat Phra Dhammakaya in 1996.

2. Under the august presence of the Chakri Dynasty, Wat Phra Dhammakaya's work has made excellent progress. Phrathepyanmahamuni has been leading the monks, laymen and laywomen, and devotees of the Temple in a diligent effort to spread Buddhist principles. They work tirelessly to instill morality and ethical behavior among Thai citizens and Thai youth in full deference to the venerated members of the Royal Family. This work has resulted in a large number of activities for the dissemination of Buddhism; for example:
 - The coordination of the Buddhist monastic order nationwide for the mass ordination of 100,000 monks in every Thai village across the country, twice per year

- The coordination of the Buddhist monastic order nationwide for the mass ordination of 1,000,000 novice monks
 - The training of 1,000,000 Upasika Kaew Buddhist laywomen
 - Supports the V-Star Project to help instill good behavior, a sense of gratitude, and responsibility in 1,000,000 youth annually
 - Organized the ceremony to honor the memory of the victims of the devastating 2004 tsunami in Phuket and Pang Nga Provinces
 - Organizes and supports the annual Kathina (offering of monastic robes to Buddhist monks) ceremonies and offerings at more than 1,000 temples in need across Thailand
 - Organizes the ceremony to provide offerings and support to 323 temples in the four southern-most provinces of Thailand, an activity conducted monthly for more than 10 years which will continue until the violence in those provinces ends
 - Established and contributes to a fund to assist Thai teachers in the four southern-most provinces of Thailand
 - Organizes Buddhist alms donation ceremonies nationwide to provide food and household products to monks, soldiers, police, teachers, and residents in the four southern-most provinces of Thailand
 - Established 95 international branch centers in 32 countries
 - Invites members of the public to chant, listen to sermons, and meditate at the Temple every Sunday. On major Buddhist holy days, the Temple hosts hundreds of thousands of people
3. Wat Phra Dhammakaya is a legally registered Buddhist temple with Phrathepyanmahamuni, the Venerable Dhammajayo Bhikkhu, as the Abbot. The Abbot is responsible for conducting Buddhist activities in accordance with The Sangha Act of 1962, as amended in 1992. Wat Phra Dhammakaya has projects to expand the construction of a variety of Buddhist buildings and structures, including monastic residential quarters and venues for meditation and Buddhist ceremonies. The Temple also has projects to disseminate Buddhism both within Thailand and internationally. The Temple's entire budget comes from donations made by its followers purely as a demonstration of their faith. For more than the past 40 years, Wat Phra Dhammakaya has received donations from one million people. The entire amount of these donations, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars, has been and continues to be used for public benefit. The Temple uses these monies to build the facilities that will enable one million people to participate in these activities. These facilities and structures are part of Thailand's national assets

and are national Buddhist resources. In addition, the Temple has conducted activities to spread the Buddhist Dhamma which have benefitted 10 million people. These have had concrete impacts which are clear to the public everywhere.

4. Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni received donations in the form of checks from the Klongchan Credit Union Ltd. (KCUC) given by Mr. Supachai Srisupa-akson in the amount of 1,055,560,000 Thai baht (approximately US\$30 million). This is a small proportion of the donations received by the Temple from followers all over the world. Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni have absolutely no need to engage in any illegal acts with Mr. Supachai to launder money or accept illicit funds.
5. If Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni had engaged in illegal acts with Mr. Supachai to launder money or accept illicit funds per the accusations against them, there are certain facts that would be apparent. If funds had been taken illicitly from KCUC in such a large amount, the cooperative would not have been able to continue its operations or would surely have resulted in a judicial case. In such a situation, the perpetrators of the illegal acts would have attempted to hide their transactions and cover their tracks so they would not be associated with the acts. If this had put the cooperative in a difficult financial position, the perpetrators would have given some of the funds back as a way to stave off a judicial case.

However, Phrathepyanmahamuni openly accepted the donation in front of tens of thousands of people, in the form of checks which KCUC would have been able to trace easily. If he had truly been part of the supposed illegal acts, he would definitely not have accepted the funds in such a foolish and transparent manner.

The Lord Buddha taught, “Actions demonstrate a person’s intentions”. In legal terms, this is same as saying, “An action is an indicator of intent”. In this case, Phrathepyanmahamuni’s actions illustrate clearly that he openly accepted the donation and did so for a public purpose. This is no different from how other Buddhist temples and monks everywhere conduct their affairs.

6. Phrathepyanmahamuni did not use even one baht of the donations for personal benefit, or return or share any of the funds with Mr. Supachai. Thus, this is not a case of money laundering. It is possible to trace these funds entirely, due to

the fact that the funds were never distributed to others or converted into cash at any time. The funds were transferred into the bank accounts for the Temple and the Dhammakaya Foundation to support the construction of Buddhist facilities for public benefit, in accordance with the wishes of those who provided the donation. The Anti-Money Laundering Office has examined the disposition of these funds. All of this demonstrates the completely legal and moral intentions of Phrathepyanmahamuni.

In addition, donating money in this way creates a legal relationship between the donor and recipient in which the recipient is indebted to the donor. As a result, both Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni must use the donated funds in accordance with donors' wishes, including Mr. Supachai. A recipient who fails to act according to the donors' wishes risks being taken to court.

7. Phrathepyanmahamuni has been a monk for 48 years. He is now 73 years old and has been very ill for some time. He has reached the last stages of his existence. He has meditated and conducted good deeds for his entire life. He has organized the ordination of monks and novices, built temples, guided large numbers of people to be morally upright, and supported the coordinated efforts of the monastic order in Thailand. His work to disseminate Buddhism has had numerous beneficial impacts which are clear to members of the public everywhere. He has a large number of disciples with deep faith in him who have made personal and voluntary donations to him amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars. He has been able to use these donations for their intended purpose without taking even a single baht for personal expenses of any kind. All donations are transferred into the bank accounts of the Wat Phra Dhammakaya and the Dhammakaya Foundation for the benefit of the public and Buddhism. The evidence for the disposition of these funds can be examined.

Therefore, there is no basis for the accusation that Phrathepyanmahamuni laundered money or received illicit funds in the amount of more than 300 million baht (approximately US\$8.5 million). He has received hundreds of millions of dollars in donations made personally by his followers and though he has the ability to use these funds as he sees fit, he has not used even the smallest amount for any personal purpose. He has devoted every single dollar to making Buddhist merit, building temples, and disseminating Buddhism.

8. Throughout his monastic life, Phrathepyanmahamuni has constructed buildings and facilities with a value of more than one billion dollars as Buddhist resources and Thai national assets. He has supported the lifetime ordination of 4,000 monks and the development of millions of Buddhist laymen, Buddhist laywomen, and faithful devotees of Buddhism.

Those with impure hearts ordain as monks for personal gain, with corrupt intentions. They do not act with the purity of intention demonstrated by Phrathepyanmahamuni and cannot do so because such actions require the utmost devotion for a lifetime.

The Lord Buddha taught, “Those who reside together will come to know one another’s habits and temperaments, it is not possible to hide these traits from others.” All the monks, novices, and Buddhist laymen and laywomen who have been together at the Temple for decades must know Phrathepyanmahamuni since his true nature could not be concealed from them. These monks, novices, and Buddhist laypeople are experienced and have earned bachelor’s degrees up to doctorates. If he was actually a bad monk, how could all of them continue to display such faith and devote their lives to Buddhism as he has done? If a person loves his own life, he would continue dedicating himself to something only if that thing was truly worthy.

9. The Government’s Department of Special Investigation (DSI) pursued criminal lawsuits against Mr. Supachai Srisupa-akson and his associates for the embezzlement of 11.347 billion Thai baht (approximately US\$320 million) from the Klong Chan Credit Union Ltd. (KCUC). They were accused of issuing 878 checks from KCUC to a large number of individuals and juristic persons. Phrathepyanmahamuni and the Wat Phra Dhammakaya received a total of 21 of these checks for a total of 1,055,560,000 Thai baht (approximately US\$30 million) as a public offering for the construction of Buddhist facilities and for materials used for the Temple’s religious purposes. Of these 21 checks, 11 were issued to Wat Phra Dhammakaya for a total amount of 668,400,000 Thai baht (approximately US\$19 million). The remaining 10 checks were issued to Phrathepyanmahamuni for a total amount of 387,160,000 Thai baht (approximately US\$11 million).

When the criminal lawsuits were filed and the situation aggressively escalated, Wat Phra Dhammakaya sought out Mr. Supachai and asked him what was the source of the funds he donated to the Temple and Phrathepyanmahamuni. Mr.

Supachai responded that the funds had been borrowed legally from KCUC in accordance with KCUC's procedures. He also stated that the entire amount of borrowed funds had been repaid to KCUC. His claims are confirmed by the annual audit of KCUC's financial accounts and the approval for the loan granted during a major meeting KCUC's shareholders. Mr. Supachai has made statements to the media to inform the public about the truth of this matter (Attachment 6).

Later, KCUC initiated legal cases against Mr. Supachai and another 32 individuals who had received checks from him. KCUC pursued multiple civil suits, including civil suits against Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni in the Thanyaburi Provincial Court and Civil Court.

The senior leadership of Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni have pointed out that the Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni received the donated funds in a transparent and legal manner. They note that the funds were used for the construction of Buddhist structures and facilities in accordance with the desires of the donors. Since it is against Thai law to take such donations and use them for a purpose other than the one intended by the donors, the donated funds could not be returned to KCUC. Thus, it is inappropriate for Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni to be accused of wrongdoing. A court battle over this issue would have wasted a great deal of time, causing harm to Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni, as well as KCUC and the members of KCUC who supported the loan.

As a result, the senior leadership of Wat Phra Dhammakaya established a special fund for the Temple's followers to make donations specifically and only for the purpose of providing funds to KCUC in the amount that Mr. Supachai donated to Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni. With these funds, Wat Phra Dhammakaya initially paid 684.78 million Thai baht (approximately US\$19.5 million) as agreed and KCUC acknowledged receiving this entire amount. Per a second agreement, a payment method for an additional 370.78 million Thai baht (US\$10.5 million) was arranged in which there would be one payment per month of 20 million Thai baht over the course of 18 months with the exception of a payment of 30.78 million Thai baht for the final month. This second set of payments started in May 2016. As of today, KCUC has received seven payments for a total of 140 million Thai baht. The total amount designated for payment to KCUC is 1,055,560,000

Thai baht (approximately US\$30 million). The agreement with KCUC has the condition that when the legal case against Mr. Supachai concludes and if he is found to have already repaid the loan from KCUC, KCUC is obligated to return the monies paid to it by Wat Phra Dhammakaya.

KCUC entered into an agreement with regards to the special fund, and submitted a request to the court to withdraw the lawsuit against Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni. The court issued an order for withdrawal of the suit. KCUC has submitted documents to the Department of Special Investigation (DSI) and the Anti-Money Laundering Office, as well as informing media outlets that it is not pursuing civil or criminal legal action against Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni. KCUC also sent a letter of appreciation to thank the senior leadership of Wat Phra Dhammakaya. The facts that KCUC has been receiving payments from the special fund and is no longer taking legal action are clear from many sources: the agreements for payment to KCUC from the special fund, the request to withdraw the lawsuit, the court decision to approve withdrawal of the lawsuit, the letter of thanks, the documents sent by KCUC to inform DSI and the Anti-Money Laundering Office, the information sent to media outlets, and the KCUC documents sent to inform the cooperative's members and the managers of the special fund (Attachment 7).

The loss experienced by the victim started with the offence of embezzling funds. When the victim received full compensation for the offence, the damage to KCUC completely ended. The only probable remaining victim was the Government. Yet the truth is that the lawsuit was solely a matter between two private parties which they successfully resolved, such that the victim received full monetary compensation. The Government did not suffer any direct impact from this. Thailand's legal framework stipulates that in cases involving money laundering and the illicit use of funds, the Government is considered a victim. However, when the victim is a private entity that has been compensated for its loss, and agrees not to pursue further litigation, the legal case comes to a close.

10. KCUC pursued a lawsuit against Mr. Supachai Srisupa-akson and associates (which DSI took on as an official case, assigned as Case no. 146/2556), in both criminal and civil courts. The case accused them of embezzlement and legal violations, and demanded the return of the relevant funds. Later, KCUC submitted a request to the court to withdraw the lawsuit and the court granted

this request. Thus, in a situation like this where the wrongdoing is by a private entity and the victim withdraws the lawsuit, it must be admitted that the legal case Mr. Supachai and associates has reached closure. The right to pursue a criminal case is no longer a legal option. However, some members of KCUC then decided to revive the original accusations and presented their case to Investigators at DSI to open a new legal case. The Investigators at DSI re-opened a completely closed case and initiated new litigation based on the same charges of embezzlement as before. This displayed some incongruities with Thai law, such that the Government's attorneys were unable to consider the case (Attachment 8 contains copies of the original lawsuit and the court order granting the withdrawal of this lawsuit).

11. The legal case involving KCUC pursued by the DSI's Investigators creates potential incompatibilities with Thai law for the following reasons.

11.1 The DSI's Special Investigators launched the case against Mr. Supachai and associates in Case no. 27/2559, accusing them of money laundering based on public fraud as stated in Special Case no. 63/2557. This was the primary charge. If Mr. Supachai had committed public fraud, the monies which he received would not be considered as belonging to KCUC. Those monies would be regarded as funds that he acquired illegally. In this case, those funds would be treated as common property in a criminal case. That would require KCUC to return the money to those members of the public that were victims of fraud.

11.2 In Special Case no. 146/2556, the DSI's Special Investigators Mr. Supachai stole from his employer. Since the money that was stolen belonged to KCUC, meaning that KCUC was his employer.

It is clear that the owner of the assets in Special Case no. 146/2556 is KCUC. However, Case no. 43/2557 states that the public was the victim of Mr. Supachai's fraud. These are opposites, even though both these cases refer to the same amounts of money. These two cases are in contradiction to one another, duplicate one another, and are in conflict with each other. This is an improper legal method.

11.3 The circumstances described in both 11.1 and 11.2 remain unresolved and the charges against Mr. Supachai remain unclear. The Investigators also rushed to establish the charges against Phrathepyanmahamuni for conspiring to

launder money, joining with Mr. Supachai to launder money, and colluding to receive stolen goods. These actions are not in accordance with the law.

11.4 Given the circumstances described above, if an attorney was ordered to bring a lawsuit based on the cases established by the Investigators, these legal actions would contain duplicate accusations. Per legal tenets, “A person cannot be tried or punished again for an offence for which he has already been finally convicted or acquitted”. This is the principle Non Bis In Idem (“Not twice in the same [thing]”), or Double Jeopardy. This is a principle of the law and the Supreme Court has considered and accepted it in a written decision (Attachment 9).

12. The process followed by the Investigators for the case involving KCUC and related litigation are unjust for numerous reasons.

The police were informed of the details to pursue litigation. The police investigators launched a lawsuit against the devotees who had come together to collect donations for the payments to KCUC. The lawsuit accuses them of illegally soliciting funds, even though the money came directly from the devotees themselves, people who had made this personal sacrifice to support KCUC per the agreement made in court. The court issued an order to withdraw the legal cases against Wat Phra Dhammakaya and Phrathepyanmahamuni. Moreover, KCUC presented a letter of thanks to these devotees. Instead of commending and rewarding the sacrifice of these devotees, the police investigators initiated a lawsuit labeling them suspects. This demonstrates their intention to libel them unjustly.

13. In addition, this pursuit of libel against Phrathepyanmahamuni continues. Police General Srivara Ransibrahmanakul, Deputy Commissioner-General of the Royal Thai Police, led police officials from the National Resource and Environmental Crime Suppression Division to initiate another lawsuit against Phrathepyanmahamuni. Phrathepyanmahamuni is accused of forest encroachment at Suan Pa Himawan, Phu Rua District, Loei Province. The police cited Mr. Witoon Chalayonnawin, who claims to be the court expert on aerial imagery analysis. The case is based on Mr. Witoon’s testimony. Mr. Witoon was a former Deputy Director of the Forestry Department who was fired for misrepresenting aerial image analysis and has brought about losses for the Government on many occasions. The Court of Justice refused to extend his license as a court expert. As a result, he is no longer a court expert. Wat Phra Dhammakaya requested an actual court expert, Mr. Vinai Saipreecha, to

analyze the aerial images from The Royal Thai Survey Department. According to his opinion, the land in question is not in the forest area. The National Resource and Environmental Crime Suppression Division still chose to prioritize Mr. Witoon's analysis, despite his corrupt actions practice that led to his being fired from his government position. They disregarded the analysis of an official court expert, Mr. Vinai, and proceeded to file a request for issuance of an arrest warrant for Phrathepyanmahamuni.

14. Moreover, Police General Srivara Ransibrahmanakul led officers from the National Resource and Environmental Crime Suppression Division to introduce another case against Phrathepyanmahamuni for illegal construction activities over public waters at the World Peace Valley Meditation Centre in Nakhon Ratchasima Province. They have cited analysis from Mr. Witoon Chalayonnawin, the same individual cited in the case involving forest encroachment. The Upasika Chan Khonnokyung Foundation requested that Squadron Leader Weerachai Wangkadilok, an expert in the analysis of aerial imagery, analyze aerial images from The Royal Thai Survey Department. Per his analysis, the land in question does not contain any public waters whatsoever. Police officials still chose to rely on Mr. Witoon's analysis, despite the fact that he is not an official court expert. These officials did not believe Squadron Leader Weerachai Wangkadilok's analysis, even though he is an approved court expert. The police proceeded to file a request for issuance of an additional arrest warrant for Phrathepyanmahamuni.
15. The above-mentioned actions by these Police Special Investigators from DSI and the police officials from the National Resource and Environmental Crime Suppression Division, led by Police General Srivara Ransibrahmanakul, lead the devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya to believe that Phrathepyanmahamuni and Wat Phra Dhammakaya are the victims of discrimination and injustice. It is most disheartening to all of us.
16. Police General Srivara Ransibrahmanakul gave a press conference, stating that he has readied officers from Sixth and Seventh Police Companies to raid and search the Wat Phra Dhammakaya to arrest Phrathepyanmahamuni. The forces he has prepared include K9 dogs, helicopters, and an Explosive Ordnance Disposal squad. They are coordinating with Thammasat University Hospital and nearby hospitals to have medical personnel ready. This presupposes the intent to use violence to arrest the tens of thousands of devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya who are there to chant and meditate out of concern for

Phrathepyanmahamuni's welfare. This could result in a large number of casualties that will shame the nation in front of the whole world. It would inflict a wound in the relationship between the nation and Buddhism like never before in the history of Thailand.

17. This is a special time during which the Thai people nationwide and the devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya have organized daily ceremonies in remembrance of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej. Moreover, it is the auspicious time for His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun who just assumed the throne deeply cherished by the Thai people. It should be a time of harmony, peace, and goodness in Thailand to show the world the glory of the monarchy. It is not a time for violence. The devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya have come together to organize the chanting of the Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta 10,101,010 times for the first time in the world to celebrate the reign of Rama X of the Chakri dynasty of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun.

18. At this time, the one remaining and highest institution on which we can depend is the monarchy. Thus, we must humbly submit our Supreme Request for His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun, the father of Thai people nationwide, to halt the unjust actions stated above, and for government officials to not take any violent action against these people who are loyal subjects of His Majesty, the majority of whom are women and the elderly.

We offer ourselves as loyal subjects of His Majesty, the absolute center and heart of the Thai people across the nation.

We respectfully proffer this letter for your compassionate consideration.

With our utmost devotion and fidelity.

Devotees of Wat Phra Dhammakaya
9 December 2016