

Pipeline Legal Action Network's (PLAN) Attorney Coordination Process

Last updated 3/27/21



The efforts to support defendants in the fight against Line 3 is voluntarily done by defendants themselves, organizers, water protectors, clerks, lawyers, and many others. The process of attorney assignment begins with filling out [this outtake form](#) and [applying for a public defender](#) or other legal assistance, but if you do not qualify volunteers will work to match you with a lawyer, with priority going to those with Felony and Gross Misdemeanor charges. Please read below for more information on the process. Between the fight for our water and the Minneapolis Uprising, movement lawyers are spread thin. If you or another lawyer you know would like to defend or advise lawyers in defending water protectors, please contact [**L3attorneycoordination@gmail.com**](mailto:L3attorneycoordination@gmail.com).

For Indigenous arrestees

- charged in Fond du Lac area and Aitkin County, check out the [Indian Legal Assistance Program](#) for free representation
- in Hubbard, Cass, Beltrami, and Clearwater counties, see [Regional Native Public Defense Corporation](#) for free representation.

If you have questions about these resources, or don't qualify for their representation, send us an e-mail and we will prioritize assigning a no-cost attorney to your case.

For non-Native arrestees:

Currently we are prioritizing assigning attorneys for Felony and Gross Misdemeanor cases. We are encouraging all eligible arrestees to [apply for a Public Defender](#) - we will NOT be assigning attorneys for misdemeanor charges until you have been denied a PD. We will match you with an attorney within a month of your outtake form submission or once you let us know your application for a PD has been denied. Once we e-mail you your attorney information, it is up to you to connect with your attorney.

Our understanding is that all the attorneys we are connecting you with are **not** asking for fees at all, or asking for reduced rates. Ultimately though, the details of the legal fees agreement is between you and the attorney. If you have concerns or questions on legal fees, don't hesitate to reach out to us. If you have access to wealth, consider paying for an attorney yourself. We can also support you in going *pro se*, or representing yourself in the court process.

The **Legal Defense Fund** will help out with grants per case, but their funds are limited so we want to conserve those for defendants with financial need. Check out [these guidelines](#) for how much financial assistance they offer and get in touch at [**line3legaldefense@gmail.com**](mailto:line3legaldefense@gmail.com). More info on LDG [here](#).