



MORTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Kyle L. Kirchmeier, Sheriff



News Release

For Immediate Release

September 14, 2016

Contact: Morton County PIO (701) 426-1587

Felony Charges Pursued in DAPL Protest Activities

Mandan, ND – Morton County authorities are investigating multiple protest activities in an area north of Almont that occurred Wednesday morning, September 14th. Officers were first dispatched around 8:00 a.m. to a Dakota Access Pipeline construction site for a report of protestors in the worksite. Law enforcement arrested three individuals (one female and two males) for felony reckless endangerment for being attached to DAPL construction equipment. Officers also arrested two other men for conspiracy to commit reckless endangerment (C Felony) and other misdemeanor charges for their involvement in assisting unlawful protestors in attaching to equipment. Reckless Endangerment (NDCC 12.1-17-03) carries the maximum punishment of 5 years in prison and/or up to a \$10,000 fine.

In addition, officers made a traffic stop on County Road 86 near the construction area. The driver was arrested for conspiracy to commit obstruction of a government function. Officers say they witnessed the driver transporting protestors. During an inventory search of the vehicle, officers found paint and mechanisms protestors are using to attach themselves to construction equipment. Authorities have impounded the van.

Law enforcement also arrested two men after they were connected to trespassing on another construction site. They were found walking in the area. They were both arrested for conspiracy to commit reckless endangerment, conspiracy to commit obstruction of a government function, disorderly conduct and criminal trespass. One was arrested for criminal facilitation. The other person was arrested for conspiracy to commit criminal facilitation and both were arrested for criminal trespass.

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In total, 8 people were arrested on charges related to illegal protest activities Wednesday.

Carlo Voli and Corey Maxa were arrested Tuesday, September 13th and will face an additional charge of reckless endangerment for attaching themselves to equipment. They are also charged with numerous misdemeanor charges as listed below.

“The Morton County States Attorney’s office will pursue felony charges against the protesters who attached themselves to equipment due to the seriousness of the crime. Law enforcement officers are put in a dangerous situation when freeing these individuals, there is also a danger posed to DAPL, their workers and equipment along with the protester putting themselves also in a dangerous circumstance. We continue to encourage people to protest in peaceful and lawful manners,” said Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier.

Below is a list of the individuals arrested and charged for 9-13 unlawful protest activities.

Olowan Martinez	42	SD	Criminal Trespass + wanted in NE for Terroristic threats, theft, criminal mischief x2
Nicholas Georgiades	34	MN	Criminal Trespass
Charlie Thayer	31	MN	Criminal Trespass
Kristina Golden	31	MN	Criminal Trespass
Dale Americanhorse, Jr.	26	SD	Criminal Trespass 2nd off.
Kathryn Thunderhawk	44	SD	Criminal Trespass
Robert Swimmer	25	SD	Criminal Trespass
Philip Strickland	28	VT	Criminal Trespass
Christopher Schiano	26	CO	Criminal Trespass
Carlo Voli	50	WA	Reckless Endangerment, Disorderly Conduct, Criminal Trespass, Obstruction of a

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Kimberly Smith	32	AZ	Government Function
Lauren Roellig	28	CA	Criminal Trespass
Juaquin Moreno	27	NM	Criminal Trespass
Emily Weisbery	26	WA	Criminal Trespass
Brittany Johnson	28	OR	Criminal Trespass
			Reckless Endangerment, Criminal Trespass, Obstruction of a Government Function,
Corey Maxa	23	VA	Disorderly conduct
Orion Yazzie-nightwalker	29	NM	Criminal Trespass
Eli Damm	33	WA	Criminal Trespass
Eric Lewis	25	NM	Criminal Trespass
Karla Lorenzanaayala	26	CA	Criminal Trespass
Eric Moll	27	TX	Criminal Trespass
Anthony Fernandes	37	WA	Criminal Trespass
Arnold Schorder	37	OR	Criminal Trespass

As of 9/14 a total of 69 individuals have been arrested for illegal protest activities.

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