

PAT FINUCANE CENTRE

Barack Obama

President of the United States of America

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama,

November 9 2016

We are writing to urge you to grant the 2016 Clemency Petition of Leonard Peltier.

Mr Peltier was convicted of murdering 2 FBI agents in on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, in the post-Wounded Knee era. He was one of many people involved in a shootout that left 2 FBI agents and one Native American dead, and the only person charged and convicted of the deaths of the FBI agents. He was the oldest member of the AIM present that day and FBI records indicate that he was targeted immediately in order to gain a tactical advantage in the press -- even though the FBI thought he had died in the shooting.

Mr Peltier has been in federal custody for over 40 years, a staggering 6 years of which were spent in solitary confinement primarily due to safety and health concerns. Amnesty International has maintained Mr Peltier's trial on its list of unfair and probable political trials for four decades. The 2016 Clemency petition is supported by Nobel Peace Laureates, humanitarians and legal scholars as well as tribal nations and the NCAI – itself a indicator that the US Government has a problem that must be addressed.



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádáil
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



PFC Derry, Unit B8, Ráth Mór Centre, Bligh's Lane, Derry, BT48 0LZ
Armagh: 028-37515191 armagh@patfinucanecentre.org
Derry: 028-71268846 info@patfinucanecentre.org
Dublin: +35318554300 info@dublinmonaghanbombings.org

Mr Peltier's case is emblematic of the historical injustices suffered by Native Americans and is followed by human rights activists around the world. It is the byproduct of a different era, when systematic discrimination against Native Americans in South Dakota (and many other states) was well documented by the US Civil Rights Commission and others. Likewise, the FBI misconduct in the investigation of Mr Peltier was recorded by a Civil Rights observer, whose calls for oversight of FBI action at the time were ignored.

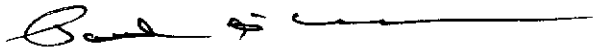
The misconduct that led to Mr Peltier's conviction is part of history: federal agents created false affidavits to extradite him from Canada, coerced witness testimony and withheld critical documents from his attorneys at trial, among many other things.

Mr Peltier's Clemency Petition is not about his guilt or innocence; it asks for Mr Peltier's release in the interest of justice and reconciliation.

Left unaddressed, his case will represent one of the greatest injustices in American history.

Accordingly, we urge you to take swift action to terminate Mr Peltier's sentence, and to permit him to live his final years at home.

Yours,



Paul O'Connor

Director

VS VICTIMS &
SURVIVORS
SERVICE



An Roinn Gnóthai Fachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

THE
JOSEPH
ROMNIRE
CHARITABLE
TRUST

PFC Derry, Unit B8, Ráth Mór Centre, Bligh's Lane, Derry, BT48 0LZ
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Dublin: +35318554300 info@dublinmonaghanbombings.org