



Help Defend Environmental Defenders

ELAW partners stand up to powerful interests who seek to gain from polluting and destroying natural resources. As a result, many of our partners face political and personal harassment, threats, attacks on their credibility, and even physical violence. Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation or "SLAPP" suits are a well-documented strategy to exhaust the resources and energy of conservationists, their attorneys, and NGOs.

The ELAW network intervenes aggressively when one of our partners is in danger - and our interventions make a big difference. But we can do more. With the support of a long-time ELAW ally, we are launching a new initiative to expand our work to "Defend the Defenders."



We want to:

- ✓ Elevate our partners' profiles to provide insulation from attacks,
- ✓ Help our partners take proactive steps to protect themselves,
- ✓ Work with allies to aggregate resources and make sure our partners are aware of their options BEFORE emergencies occur, and
- ✓ Create an emergency evacuation fund to provide immediate assistance should partners need to move to a more secure location.

But we can't do it without you!

ELAW donor Marion Sweeney has generously pledged \$15,000 toward launching this initiative, if we can raise an additional \$15,000 from friends like you.

Will you help us meet Marion's challenge? If so, please return the enclosed envelope and indicate that your gift is for the Defending the Defenders initiative.

Please contact ELAW Donor Liaison, **Michele Kuhnle (Michele@elaw.org)**, for more details.