



For Immediate Release

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CCGAA Joins Activists Nationwide to Urge Squire Patton Boggs to Stop Lobbying Washington for the Sudan Regime

DENVER, CO – July 14, 2017 - We all know there's a difference between the letter and the spirit of the law. We at CCGAA know that there are times when that difference matters. We also know that American companies who have done business with genocidal regimes in the past have suffered more than they gained financially.

The international law firm, Squire Patton Boggs has agreed to represent the regime in Sudan for the amount of \$40,000 a month. The regime hoped to avoid a "snap back" of sanctions that was due to expire July 12, 2017, and to attract investors scared off by the regime's conduct of Genocide for more than a decade.

As John Pendergast of the Enough Project notes, "It's legally possible for [them] to do this, but the question is, is there a line somewhere...you just shouldn't cross?"

We think there is! For more than a decade, the regime in Sudan has and continues to:

- engage in what the international community has condemned as "Genocide" by name
- funds and sponsors terrorism
- uses rape as a weapon of war
- uses chemical weapons against its own citizens
- arrests and tortures human rights defenders
- blocks humanitarian aid relief efforts

While we believe everyone deserves the right to representation in the court of law, not everyone deserves a lobbyist. The best thing the regime in Sudan could do is turn over accused leaders to the International Criminal Court for their day in court. No one should agree to represent the regime in Sudan until its leaders first come forward to face the charges against them. Only then, should the international community engage with the Sudan government and only then can the country begin to reclaim its good name and international standing.

CCGAA asked its supporters to send emails and call the Denver office of Squire Patton Boggs to let them know that we are totally against its decision to lobby for the Sudan regime. One response to our action plan was a letter written by Tamara Pester. Ms. Pester states:

"From one lawyer to another.... I totally understand wanting to represent profitable clients. But, when clients try to use lawyers to shield shady actions from scrutiny, it is our obligation to decline representation. Depending on our personal circumstances, sometimes we engage in complex rationale for representing clients when we find them shady or even despicable. I have been fortunate to be able to turn away clients when I do not feel they are acting in a moral manner, and I encourage you to do the same."

President Trump issued an Executive Order on July 11th, postponing the decision about Sudan sanctions until October 12, 2017, giving the Administration additional time for "fact finding and more comprehensive analysis." Let us hope that Squire Patton Boggs will also use this time to reconsider and change its course.

The mission of CCGAA is to challenge our society to end complacency toward and raise awareness of genocides past and present and take action to stop genocides present and future.