

William Lawrence Was Arrested And Pleaded Guilty To A Felony After He Chained Himself To Private Property And Was Charged With Resisting Arrest And Obstruction Of Justice. He Later Went Through A Legal Process To Suppress His Record So That The Public Could Not Access Information On His Crime.

In 2013, Lawrence And Three Others Were Arrested Protesting A Pipeline In Michigan And Charged With Resisting Or Obstructing Police, A Felony, And Trespassing, A Misdemeanor

In 2013, Lawrence And Three Others Were Arrested Protesting A Pipeline In Michigan And Charged With A Felony. "Four people arrested Monday at the site of a pipeline protest northwest of Stockbridge have been charged with a felony. Vickie Rose Hamlin, 59, of Michigan City; Lisa Michelle Leggio, 35, of Holland; Barbara Ellen Carter, 22, of Detroit; and William Michael Lawrence, 22, of East Lansing are charged with resisting or obstructing police, a felony, and trespassing, a misdemeanor, according to a statement from the Ingham County Sheriff's Office." (Danielle Salisbury, "Four protesters arrested at Enbridge pipeline construction site charged with felony," [MLive](#), 7/24/13)

Lawrence And The Other Protestors Used Lockboxes To Lock Themselves To Large Pieces Of Machinery And Refused To Comply With Law Enforcement's Orders To Release Themselves. "Leggio and Carter and Hamlin and William Lawrence of East Lansing, who waived his right to the preliminary hearing, used "lockboxes" to affix themselves to two large pieces of machinery. Sheriff's Sgt. Melissa Brown testified she told the four they were under arrest for trespassing, a misdemeanor. They were then told if they did not release themselves, they would be charged with a felony. They did not comply with the orders, she said." (Danielle Salisbury, "Enbridge oil pipeline protestors gather at Mason courthouse to support four charged with felony," [MLive](#), 8/29/13)

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Lawrence Was Given A \$2500 Bond. "Carter, Lawrence and Hamlin were given \$2,500 bonds. Leggio, who has a felony history, has a \$5,000 bond, according to the sheriff's office statement." (Danielle Salisbury, "Four protesters arrested at Enbridge pipeline construction site charged with felony," [MLive](#), 7/24/13)

Demonstrators Were Part Of The Michigan Coalition Against Tar Sands Which Was Working To Stop Enbridge From Replacing And Increasing The Capacity Of A Crude Oil And Petroleum Pipeline. "The individuals are part of the Michigan Coalition Against Tar Sands and were working to halt the efforts of Enbridge, which is replacing and increasing the capacity of its crude oil and petroleum pipeline through 10 Michigan counties." (Danielle Salisbury, "Four protesters arrested at Enbridge pipeline construction site charged with felony," [MLive](#), 7/24/13)

Lawrence Pleaded Guilty To The Felony Charge And The Prosecutor's Office Dismissed The Trespassing Charge

Lawrence Pleaded Guilty To The Felony Charge And The Prosecutor's Office Dismissed The Trespassing Charge. "A fourth co-defendant, William Lawrence of East Lansing, pleaded guilty to the felony and the county prosecutor's office dismissed the misdemeanor." (Danielle Salisbury, "Three oil pipeline protesters convicted of trespassing, obstructing police," [MLive](#), 1/31/14)

Lawrence Later Petitioned The Court To Suppress The Records Related To His Conviction. AUDIENCE MEMBER: "You petitioned to have your felony suppressed and you've called to defund the police have you not?" LAWRENCE: "Excuse me we're talking here about the issue

that's at hand with these protests.” AUDIENCE MEMBER: “You've resisted arrest from the police you've resisted arrest from the police and you wanna defund them as well” LAWRENCE: “Hear what happened? Are you interested in hearing what happened?” AUDIENCE MEMBER: “You should just release the files” LAWRENCE: “They were expunged to the criminal justice proceeding along with hundreds of thousands of other Michiganders through the opportunity to get a second chance at a clean slate ... hold on will you let me speak?” AUDIENCE MEMBER: “This is my question: did you personally petition to have those records suppressed or were they automatic?” LAWRENCE: “I petitioned for expungement of my records along with hundreds of thousands of other Michiganders.”

(William Lawrence Ask Me Anything, Lansing, MI, 8/24/26)