

Beginning the appeals process

The task of Chelsea's legal team lead by attorney Nancy Hollander is enormous. Before filing their brief and arguing the case, her team must finish reading the entire trial record, which is 139 volumes of over 300 pages each. It's the largest record of trial in the history of US military law.

Chelsea's appeal will first be heard by the US Army Court of Criminal Appeals (ACCA). That court can order a new trial or sentencing, reduce her sentence or reverse her convictions.

Statement lawyer Nancy Hollander:

Nearly two years ago today, Chelsea Manning was sentenced to 35 years behind bars for a heroic act of truth-telling to protect innocent civilians. We are proud and honored to represent Chelsea Manning in this historic appeal with the potential to order a new trial or sentencing, reduce her sentence or reverse her convictions.

If this case stands—along with other recent cases—anyone who ever leaks a single page of classified information runs the risk of prosecution under the Espionage Act. That Act was meant to punish spies and saboteurs, people who act against the United States. It was never meant to prosecute whistleblowers and this case presents a disastrous precedent that needs to be overturned. A healthy, free society needs brave individuals to hold the government accountable for its actions at home and abroad.

The issues on appeal include the horrific way that Chelsea was treated, subjected to months of solitary confinement and harsh restrictions that were outrageous, punitive and unnecessary. She was denied her constitutional right to a speedy trial and experienced a wholesale lack of due process.

We published a monthly Chelsea Manning Defense Fund fiscal report online since the fall of 2010. These reports detailed how much money we received, how much we spent (broken down by a dozen categories), how many people had donated that month, and a number of other things. Few organizations of any kind provide this much "real time" financial information for the world to peruse. We did so voluntarily to underscore our commitment to transparency. Publishing the data monthly provided an ongoing fiscal narrative of our challenges and successes.

While the Support Network spent the majority of total funds on legal fees (\$211,000) during this period, we still fell \$80,000 behind in legal invoices. Additionally, we are expecting another \$120,000 in legal expenses in order to complete the upcoming appeals hearing.

**Chelsea Manning Defense Fund
Total January 2014 - June 2015 (Appeals Phase)**

Donations

Total defense fund donations	\$356,663
Est. net after fiscal & CC fees (88.5% of gross)	\$315,647
IOLTA legal trust contributions	\$5,043
Carried forward from trial period	\$4,054

Expenses

Legal fees (Nancy Hollander)	\$211,077
Campaign-specific employees/contractors	\$41,307
Courage to Resist staff campaign reimbursement	\$47,347
Advertising	\$3,715
Communications	\$5,661
Conferences/Trainings	\$248
Office/Shipping Supplies	\$725
Postage	\$10,319
Printing	\$5,290
Promotional/Educational (merchandise)	\$9,210
Travel/Food	\$3,791
Public events	\$3,211
Resister direct support	\$3,610
Total	\$345,510

Defense Fund balance	-\$25,809
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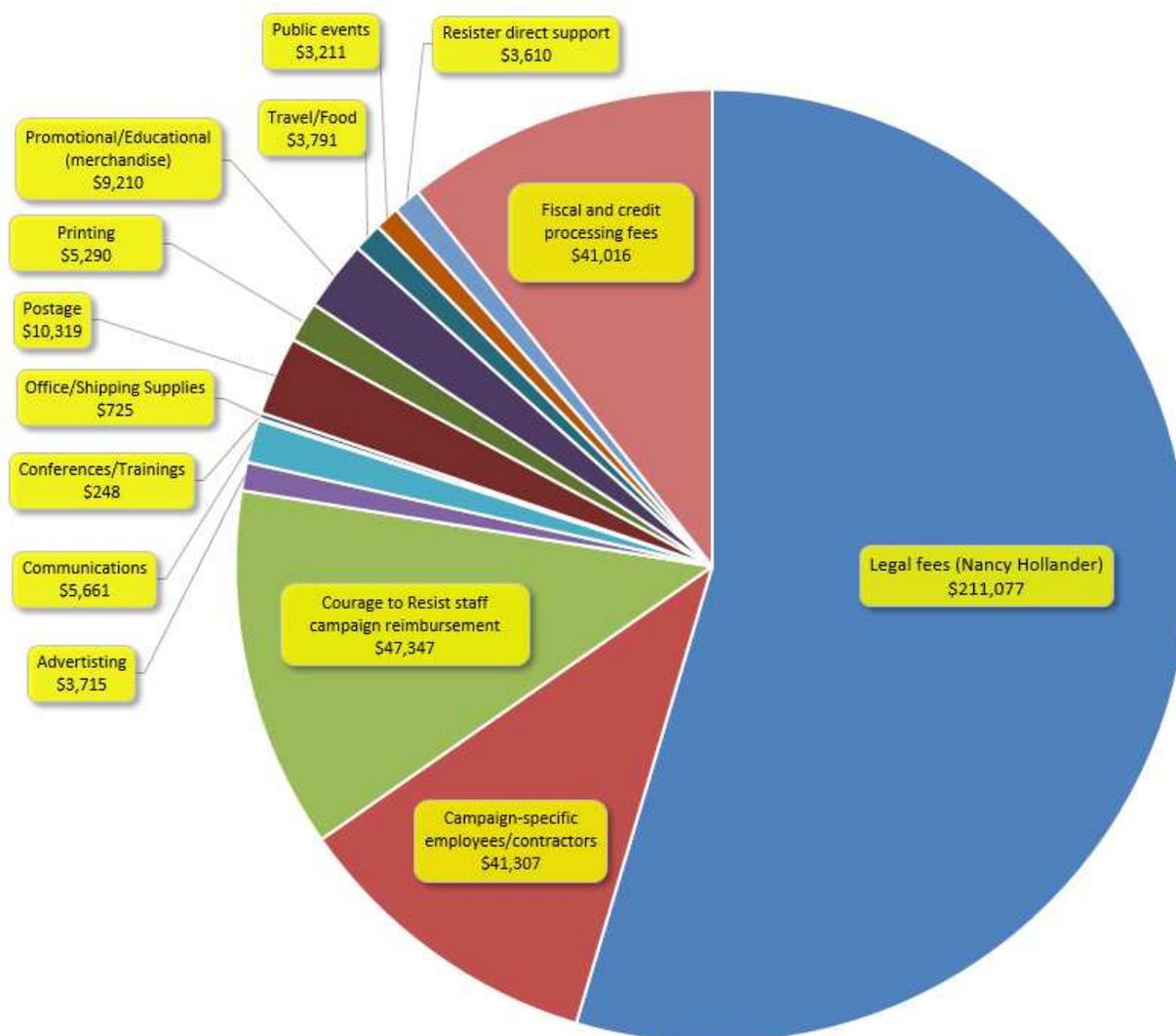
The Chelsea Manning Defense Fund is hosted by Courage to Resist, in collaboration with the Chelsea Manning Support Network. For information about the fund and how to donate, visit couragetoresist.org or chelseamanning.org

Courage to Resist is a fiscally sponsored project of the Alliance for Global Justice (AfGJ), a 501c3 non-profit organization per IRS tax code.

"IOLTA legal trust contributions" plus "Legal fees" represent total legal fees paid.

The -\$25,809 defense fund balance represents money advanced from Courage to Resist's organizational resources in order to pay Chelsea's legal fees.

Chelsea Manning Defense Fund Expenditures Jan 2014-Jun 2015



A guide to our January 2014-June 2015 fiscal report

It's important to note that this is not an annual report, but a fiscal accounting of one and half years of efforts.

Legal fees were paid to Chelsea Manning's chosen civilian appellate legal defense team led by Nancy Hollander. Note that approximately \$10,000 of these funds were paid to Chelsea's trial attorney David Coombs in 2014 to wrap up trial issues and file the Presidential Pardon request.

Campaign-specific employees and contractors were hired exclusively to carry out the work of the Chelsea Manning Support Network. These individuals were our dedicated organizers working to support unpaid grassroots activists worldwide, built and ran our website, managed social media, and worked tirelessly relating to media in order to offset the military's substantial public relations machine.

Courage to Resist staff campaign reimbursement covered the expense of dedicating existing staff positions to the Chelsea Manning campaign. Specifically, this helped pay for our Office Manager and Project Director positions. Courage to Resist required these funds to remain financially solvent and able to manage the overall campaign financials and staff in carrying out the decisions of the Chelsea Manning Support Network Steering Committee.

“Estimated net after fiscal & credit card fees” is an 11.5% line item that represents the estimated external fees that we incur on every dollar donated. It’s an average of credit card transaction fees (~3.5%) on online donations, and the processing fee charged by our non-profit sponsor, the Alliance for Global Justice (AfGJ).

Advertising consisted of small buys in progressive newspapers and conference pamphlets.

Communications were expenses primarily related to the website and bulk email distribution.

Conferences and training were expenses to better train staff members in their campaign roles.

Office and shipping supplies were used to print and mail individual letters to government officials in support of Chelsea which are generated primarily from our online petition. These expenses include: paper, toner, and envelopes, as well as supplies for shipping campaign materials.

Postage covers the cost of postage for: direct mail fundraising, thank you cards to donors, shipping campaign materials to activists and organizers.

Printing covers campaign materials that we distributed without charge, or expectation of donation, such as info cards, leaflets, and pamphlets.

Promotional materials were items that we generally asked a donation for, such as t-shirts, bumper stickers, and buttons. We used US-made products, under “sweatshop-free” conditions, by union labor whenever possible.

Travel covered the travel of campaign employees and contractors to and from Fort Leavenworth during this period, including a few modest food reimbursements.

The small amount spent on **events**, is a testament to the resourcefulness of our activists and organizers worldwide.