

via fax: 011 502 2239 0090 Licenciado Oscar Berger Perdomo President of the Republica of Guatemala	via fax: 011-502-23 62 0237 Carlos Vielman Minister of the Interior and Justice, Guatemala
Via fax: 011 502 22 51 2218 Juan Luis Florido Attorney General of Guatemala	

December 25, 2006

Dear Sirs:

We, members of the InterReligious Task Force, are extremely concerned for the security of members of the **Community Studies and Psychosocial Action Team (ECAP)** because of the number of recent acts of violence and aggression against them, including written threats, attempted kidnapping, following various team members and monitoring their actions.

On September 13, an ECAP employee who works with the Association for Justice and Reconciliation (AJR) members who are survivors of the Plan de Sánchez massacre was assaulted; all the documents related to ECAP's work in that community were stolen. On September 30, the same person was followed for several hours by an unmarked car. A few days later, at 3 am on October 2, a written threat was found at the ECAP office in Rabinal naming this ECAP individual and one other. At 9 am on November 21, on the road between Plan de Sánchez and the community of Concul, three men in military clothing with their faces covered attacked the same ECAP employee, attempting to knock him off the motorcycle he was riding. (In another incident on October 23, an ECAP psychologist who works in the Rabinal area was followed by an unmarked vehicle in the capital.)

ECAP provides psychosocial support to massacre survivors and witnesses involved in various legal cases before both Guatemalan courts and the Inter-American system. We believe they are being targeted because many of those they support belong to the AJR, the witness association that has filed charges before Guatemalan courts against Efraín Ríos Montt and Romeo Lucas García for genocide crimes against humanity and war crimes. ECAP and AJR have also supported the legal process initiated in Spain by the Rigoberta Menchú Tum Foundation against Ríos Montt, Oscar Humberto Mejía Victores, German Chupina, Angel Guevara, Pedro García Arredondo, Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz, Romeo Lucas García and Benedicto Lucas García for crimes against humanity and genocide.

The attacks on ECAP described above are directly linked to the struggle against impunity in Guatemala. All the incidents were denounced before the Attorney General's Office. On October 20, the President of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights ruled that the State of Guatemala must provide protection to those working with ECAP, investigate the denounced attacks, identify those responsible and prosecute them accordingly.

We therefore **urge that you as the President of Guatemala**

- offer protection to the workers of ECAP as stipulated by the Inter-American Human Rights Court on October 20;
- execute the arrest warrants ordered by the Spanish justice system and extradite those accused.

For Peace With Justice,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai
 Coordinator

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 US Senators DeWine & Voinovich and US Reps Brown, Gillmor, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Regula, Ryan, Tubbs Jones ~ via email

12_06 NISGUA, ECAP Guatemala

The following people hereby urge you to take action on this matter as indicated in this letter: