

via fax: 011 502 2251 2218 Oscar Berger Perdomo President of the Republic, GUATEMALA	via fax: 011 502 251 2218 Juan Luis Florido Attorney General, GUATEMALA
via fax: 011 502 2362 0237 Carlos Vielman Minister of the Interior, GUATEMALA	via fax: 011 502 2362 0237 Julio Godoy Vice Minister of the Interior, GUATEMALA

September 21, 2005

Dear Sirs,

The disclosures of mass graves of indigenous people by Guatemala Forensic Anthropology Foundation (FAFG) is apparently viewed as threatening to the impunity of those who created the graves.

Fredy Peccerelli, the executive director of FAFG and his family have received death threats.

Jeannette Peccerelli, his wife, had a gun put to her head and was told that her husband was being watched.

Omar Giron Bertoni, worker at FAFG and brother-in-law of Fredy Peccerelli, his wife and other FAFG workers have been told that they will be punished for the work they are doing. Since the first forensic team was formed in 1992, death threats have been constant.

On September 8, 2005, **Mario René Pacheco**, representative on the Civil Society Assembly in Escuintla, was murdered near Nueva Concepción. He had fought for justice and the development of dignity and cultural revitalization of his community. On the same day campesino leader **Paulino López** was murdered in El Paraíso in Jalapa.

There must be an end to the impunity with which powerful sectors continue to act in Guatemala. To that end, it is imperative that the authorities

- ▶ investigate the murders of **Paulino Lopez** and **Mario René Pacheco**, make the results public, and bring those responsible to justice;
- ▶ ensure the safety of **Fredy Peccerelli**, his family and all other members of FAFG;
- ▶ investigate the threats received by **Jeannette Peccerelli** and **Oman Giron Bertonio**, make the results public, and bring those responsible to justice.

Be reminded that failing to protect human rights workers and investigate attacks or threats against them is violation of the Peace Accords, under which the government agreed to "investigate, in a timely and exhaustive manner any complaint it may receive relating to acts or threats that may be directed at them".

For Peace with Justice,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai
 Coordinator

cc: Guatemala Human Rights Comisión-USA ~ fax: 1 202 526 4611
 Ambassador José Guillermo Castillo ~ fax: 1 202 745 1908
 Ambassador James Derham ~ fax: 011 502 334 8477
 Courtney Turner, Guatemala Desk Officer, US State Dept. ~ fax: 202 647 2597
 U.S. Senators DeWine and Voinovich ~ via email
 U.S. Representatives Brown, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Ryan, Tubbs Jones ~ via email

Rights Action GUATEMALA

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