



InterReligious Task Force on Central America

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| via fax: 011 502 2362 0237; 011 502 2361 5657 Carlos Vielman Minister of the Interior and Justice, Guatemala | via fax: 011 502 2251 2218 Juan Luis Florido Solis Fiscal General/ Attorney General, Guatemala |
| via fax: 011 502 2334 1615 Frank La Rue Presidential Commission on Human Rights of Guatemala (COPREDEH) | |

November 13, 2005

Dear Sirs:

We are extremely concerned for the safety of the relatives of **HÉCTOR RAMÍREZ RUBIO**. Hector Ramírez is a co-plaintiff in a criminal trial against former President General Efraín Ríos Montt related to the violent demonstrations on July 24-25, 2003 in Guatemala City, in which his father, Héctor Ramirez died. On October 19, 2005, Hector Ramírez Rubio's two sisters-in-law, **CAROL STEPHANIE GUDIEL MORALES** and **BLANCA ESTELA GUDIEL MORALES**, as well as **CARMEN ROXANA MORALES DE GUDIEL** and two of his nephews, were riding in a car that was shot at near a shopping center in western Guatemala City. Fortunately, no one was harmed in the attack.

They were followed by a light blue sedan and a red pick-up truck, both with darkened windows. Ramirez's relatives were riding in the same car used by Ramirez Rubio for the past month. Fortunately, they were eventually able to lose the pursuers.

In addition to this incident, suspicious people have recently arrived in the middle of the night and tried to break into the house of Héctor Ramírez Rubio's brothers, **DAVID FERNANDO RAMÍREZ RUBIO**, **JORGE VINICIO RAMÍREZ RUBIO** and **BYRON VINICIO RAMÍREZ RUBIO**. This has occurred in spite of security measures previously agreed to with the Presidential Human Rights Commission (COPREDEH).

We believe these incidents are a continuation of numerous threats, aggression and intimidation of Héctor Ramirez Rubio's family that have been occurring since September 2003. Therefore, **we strongly urge that you**

- provide adequate security to the victims, according to the methods agreed upon with them;
- investigate the reported incidents and prosecute those responsible.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai
Coordinator

Copies: Ambassador José Guillermo Castillo ~ via fax: 1 202 745 1908
Ambassador James Derham ~ via fax: 011 502 2334 8477
Courtney Tumer, Guatemala Desk ~ via fax: 1 202 647 2597
Guatemala Human Rights Commission USA ~ via fax: 202.526.4611
U.S. Senators DeWine and Voinovich ~ via email
U.S. Representatives Brown, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Ryan, Tubbs Jones ~ via email

GHRC_10/24/05_ GUATEMALA

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