

via fax: 011 57 1 337 5890 Señor Presidente <b>Alvaro Uribe Velez</b> Presidente de la Republica	via fax: 011 57 1 565 7682 <b>Dr. Francisco Santos Calderon</b> Vicepresidente de la Republica de Colombia
via fax: 011 57 1 570 2000 <b>Dr. Mario German Iguaran</b> Fiscal General de la Nación	

December 14, 2005

Dear Sirs:

We are concerned for the safety of **Lilia Solano**, the director of the non-governmental human rights organization Justice and Life Project (Proyecto Justicia y Vida) and member of the National Movement of Victims of State Crimes. On December 4, armed intruders robbed her home in Bogotá and stole documents and a computer hard drive which contained information about human rights violations in Colombia and two mobile phones which contained all of Lilia's contacts.

They also threatened to kill Lilia's 18 year-old son, Esteban Gongora Solano. He was alone at home lying in his bed when a man who identified himself as a policeman pointed a gun at his head and told him not to move or he would be shot. Although he covered Esteban's head, Esteban was able to hear the voices of two men and one woman. There was no sign of forced entry.

A member of the Faculty of Law, Political and Social Sciences at the Colombian National University, Lilia Solano has helped organize conferences on the history of violence in Colombia and on the government's process of dialogue with army-backed paramilitaries. She is also a candidate for the opposition party Political and Social Front (Frente Social y Político) in next March's congressional elections.

We urge you to:

- offer Lilia Solano and her son effective protection, in line with her wishes, so that Lilia can carry on her legitimate and important work in defense of human rights;
- carry out a full, prompt and impartial investigation into the break-in, make the results public and bring those responsible to justice;
- fully implement the principles of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 9 December 1998.

Thank you for your prompt attention.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai, Coordinator

cc: Proyecto Justicia y Vida ~ US-mail  
 Ambassador Luis Alberto Moreno~ via fax: 1 202 232 8643  
 William B Wood, US Ambassador to Colombia ~ via fax: 011-571-315-2197  
 Heather Merritt, Desk Officer for Colombia, US State Dept ~ via fax: 202.647.2628  
 U.S. Senators DeWine and Voinovich ~ via email  
 U.S. Representatives Brown, Gillmor, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Regula, Ryan, Tubbs Jones ~ via email

UA 255/04 Colombia

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