

via fax: 011 52 55 5093 3414 <b>Lic. Fernando Francisco Gomez-Mont</b> Minister of the Interior of Mexico	via fax: 011 52 961 618 8050, ext.: 21122 <b>Lic. Juan Jose Sabines Guerrero</b> Governor of the State of Chiapas, Mexico
via fax: 011 52 961 6165724 <b>Mtro. Raciél Lopez Salazar</b> Attorney General of the State of Chiapas, Mexico	

February 11, 2010

Dear Sirs:

We, members of the InterReligious Task Force, are concerned about the safety of **Adolfo Guzman Ordaz** who works for Communication and Training Link, an organization providing human rights and sustainable economic development training for indigenous communities in Chiapas. He has received recent death threats after filing a complaint against state police about a search of his house, without a warrant, on November 8, 2009. About 20 state judicial police officers entered the home, intimidating him and his family. They said they were looking for "someone," without specifying who. The search was apparently ordered by state authorities, who were looking for the organizers of recent protests of local farmers and sellers demanding a space to sell their produce.

On December 14, two days before he was to attend a court hearing about the complaint, a note was pushed under his front door, saying "Stop it or you'll die." Fearing for his safety, Adolfo Guzman did not attend the hearing, but he did report all threats to the Chiapas State Public Prosecutor's Office. So far, the authorities have made inadequate efforts to protect him.

Early on December 25 he received an anonymous telephone call saying "Happy Christmas, as this is going to be your last Christmas."

On January 6, as Adolfo Guzman and his family returned home in the early evening, they found a note at the door, saying "muerte, muerte, muerte" (death, death death). Earlier that day, state police had been to the house; finding that he was not at home, they asked neighbors where he was.

In light of the above, we **strongly urge** you to

- provide immediate and effective protection for Adolfo Guzman and his family, in accordance with their wishes;
- conduct a prompt and impartial investigation into the threats received by Adolfo Guzman and his family, make the results public and bring those responsible to justice.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai  
Coordinator

cc: Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolome de las Casas, AC ~ via email  
Arturo Sarukhan Casamitjana, Mexican Ambassador to the US ~ via fax: 202-728-1698  
Ambassador Carlos Pascual ~ via fax: 011-52-55-5080-2834  
Mary Stickle, Mexico Desk, US State Dept ~ via fax: 202-647-5752  
Dinah Shelton, US member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax: 202-458-3650  
US Senators Brown & Voinovich ~ via email  
US Representatives Boccieri, Fudge, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Latta, Ryan, Space, Sutton, Wilson ~ via email

UA16/10/Mexico

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