

MEXICO

Priest released after false murder charge, detention

A Mexican priest and human rights defender was put in pre-charge detention on June 19, 2010. He and nine other men were accused of killing two local officials in the municipality of San José del Progreso, Oaxaca State.

RRN sent letters to officials June 26. Father Martín Octavio García Ortiz was released on bail four days later. However, the State Attorney General's Office is continuing to treat him as a suspect in the two killings, despite clear evidence that he was not involved. Of the nine other men, one has been charged with the murder. None of them reported any ill-treatment while in pre-charge detention.