

HONDURAS

New attacks against Association for More Just Society (ASJ)

RRN letters: Dec 23 2006, June 13 2007
UA 329/06

The ASJ, established in 1998, receives funding from several international Christian organizations for its social justice work. It began investigating violations of labor rights by private security firms in 2004.



Here are some of the threats ASJ has received over the past year:

August 25, 2006: threatening calls made to the ASJ office

August 29, 2006: ASJ lawyer Dionisio Díaz García and ASJ project director Dina Meza were followed by or watched from various cars without number plates close to the ASJ office.

September 27-28, 2006: The ASJ and other Honduran NGOs reported the threats and harassment of ASJ members to President Zelaya and to the attorney general

October-November 2006: ASJ and other NGOs reported the threats to the Attorney General's Special Human Rights Office and the National Human Rights Commission.

December 4, 2006: **Dionisio Díaz García was shot dead** by a male passenger on a motorbike as he drove to the Supreme Court in Tegucigalpa

December 7, 2006: a man on a motorbike followed Carlos Hernández until he escaped pursuit after two hours

December 13, 2006: two men on a motorbike rode through Carlos Hernández's neighborhood, asking for his address

December 18, 2006: a man on a motorbike parked behind Carlos Hernández's house and remained until neighbors became suspicious.

Protective Order requested by the Organization of American States:

On December 22, 2006, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, part of the OAS, requested that the Honduran government implement precautionary (protective) measures to guarantee the safety of ASJ members. To date, IRTF is concerned that these measures have not been fully implemented, leaving ASJ members potentially vulnerable to attack. Those responsible for the killing of Dionisio Díaz García have still not been brought to justice.

May 17, 2007: lawyer **Felix Antonio Caceres Alvarenga** received a death threat in a text message sent to his mobile phone.