

InterReligious Task Force on Central America

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via fax: 011 52 747 47 14788via fax: 011 52 747 47 22328Lic. Zeferino Torreblanca GalindoLic. Eduardo Murueta UrrutiaState Governor of Guerrero, MexicoAttorney General of Guerrero, Mexico

August 14, 2006

Dear Sirs:

We are <u>extremely</u> concerned for the safety of the mother and sister of Socrates Tolento González Genaro, who died in police custody in January 2004 in Zapotitlan Tablas, Guerrero State in January 2004. Genaro's mother, **Lucía Genaro**, and sister, **Erika González Genaro**, have been intimidated by unidentified men since the arrest of two former municipal police officers on July 14 in relation to Socrates Genaro's death. Lucía and her five daughters (all of them under age 18) live in an isolated area two hours from the municipality of Tlapa.

Although authorities tricked Lucía into signing a document stating that her son's death was a suicide, local human rights organizations were able to exhume his body. A forensic examination concluded on March 10, 2004 that he died as a result of severe beating.

On July 17 three unidentified men visited Lucía Genaro's house when she was not there. They left a message to inform Lucia Genaro about the July 14 arrests, instructing her to go to a specific location in Tlapa the following day or else something might happen to her.

On July 19 two men in a van stopped near the house of Lucía Genaro's nephew in Tlapa and asked him about a blonde girl who sometimes stays at his house. (The girl fits the description of Lucía's daughter Erika.) When he refused to answer, the men told him they would abduct the girl if her mother would not collaborate with them.

On July 23 three unidentified men went to Lucía's house asking for her but left when she was not there.

We first wrote to Guerrero officials on June 1, 2004 to urge protection for Lucía and her daughters when they received threats following complaints filed by Lucía with the Public Ministry in Tlapa. Thank you for securing the arrest of two officers in relation to the death of her son Socrates Tolento González Genaro. Please

- make sure that the investigation is complete, make the results public and bring all persons responsible to iustice:
- guarantee the safety of Lucía Genaro and her five daughters, especially Erika González Genaro;
- conduct an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation into the acts of intimidation, make the results public and bring those responsible to justice;

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai Coordinator

copies: Centro de Derechos Humanos de la Montaña "Tlachinollan" AC ~ via US-mail

Lic. Juan Alarcon Hernández, Comisión de Defensa de los Derechos Humanos del Estado de Guerrero ~ via fax

Carlos Alberto De Icaza Gonzalez, Mexico Ambassador to the US ~ via fax

Antonio O. Garza, Jr , US Ambassador to Mexico~ via fax William Duncan, Mexico Desk, US State Dept ~ via fax

Paolo Carozza, US member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights ~ via fax

US Senators DeWine & Voinovich ~ via email

US Reps Brown, Gillmor, Kaptur, Kucinich, LaTourette, Regula, Ryan, Tubbs Jones ~ via email

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