

URGENT ACTION

FEARS DETAINEE HAS BEEN DISAPPEARED

Jethro Ramsés Sánchez Santana was detained on 1 May in Cuernavaca, Morelos state, Mexico, by Cuernavaca Municipal Police, then passed to members of the Mexican Army. He has not been seen since and the authorities have failed to provide information on his whereabouts. His family are concerned that he is a victim of enforced disappearance.

On 1 May student **Jethro Ramsés Sánchez Santana** and one other man were detained by Cuernavaca Municipal Police at a fair in Cuernavaca city, Morelos state. According to the man detained with Jethro Sánchez Santana who was later released, the Municipal Police put tape on their mouths and later handed them over to members of the military.

Jethro Sánchez Santana's wife and other relatives have sought information on his whereabouts but the authorities have denied knowledge of his detention or where he is being held. The family filed a complaint with the authorities and with the National Human Rights Commission soon after the detention. The case has now been passed to the organized crime unit (Subprocuraduría de Investigación Especializada en Delincuencia Organizada, SIEDO) of the Federal Attorney General's Office (Procuraduría General de la República, PGR) in Mexico City.

As part of the investigation, a member of the Municipal Police gave testimony saying that he had handed Jethro Sánchez Santana over to members of the Federal Police. Members of the Federal Police have also given testimony as part of the SIEDO investigation and said that they handed Jethro Sánchez Santana to members of the military. Despite this evidence, the Mexican military continues to deny having any information on Jethro Sánchez Santana's whereabouts and there is no indication that SIEDO is investigating military officials for their involvement in his enforced disappearance. The family were initially fearful of making public Jethro Sánchez Santana's enforced disappearance, but after 50 days without information and official lack of action the family are desperate for urgent action to establish Jethro Sanchez's whereabouts.

Please write immediately in Spanish or your own language:

- Express concern at the detention and apparent enforced disappearance of Jethro Ramsés Sánchez Santana and call on the authorities to ensure his safety and for him to be given access to family, legal advice and medical attention;
- Call for a full, prompt and impartial and exhaustive investigation by civilian authorities into his detention and possible enforced disappearance by members of the Cuernavaca Municipal Police, Federal Police and military on 1 May, for a report on the findings to be made public and for all those responsible to be held to account;
- Call for witnesses and relatives to receive protection in line with their wishes and ensure that all agencies fully cooperate with civilian investigations and measures to locate Jethro Ramsés Sánchez Santana.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 5 AUGUST 2011 TO:

Attorney General of the Republic

Marisela Morales Ibañez
Procuradora General de Justicia de la República, Av. Paseo de la reforma 211 – 213, Col. Cuauhtemoc, Del. Cuauhtémoc, Mexico D.F., Mexico
Fax: +52 555 346 0908 (keep trying)
Email: mmoralesi@pgr.gob.mx

Salutation: Dear Attorney General

Minister of the Interior

Lic. José Francisco Blake Mora
Secretario de Gobernación
Bucareli 99, 1er. Piso, Col. Juárez
Delegación Cuauhtemoc
México DF, CP 06600
Fax: +52 55 50933414 (a voice will ask for the extension: dial 32356)

Salutation: Dear Minister

Minister of Defence

Gral. Guillermo Galván Galván
Secretario de Defensa Nacional
Manuel Avila Camacho Esq con Av. Industria Molitar S/N, Col. Lomas de Sotelo,
Miguel Hidalgo, México DF
C.P. 11640,
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Email: ggalvang@mail.sedena.gob.mx

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Since 2007, violence linked to organized crime has spiralled in Mexico with more than 40,000 killings. In 2010 there were more than 3000 killings in Ciudad Juárez one of the worst affected cities. President Calderón's administration has attempted to combat the drug cartels by deploying thousands of federal police and over 50,000 army and navy personnel in the worst affected areas, particularly in many of the cities on Mexico's northern border such as Nuevo Laredo. Active or retired military officials hold key positions in civilian public security functions in many parts of the country. Despite repeated reports of serious human rights violations, such as unlawful killings, enforced disappearances, and torture, by different police and military forces, investigations are rare and perpetrators rarely held to account. Victims are routinely left without information or recourse to justice.

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