

URGENT ACTION

DEMAND PROTECTION FOR TWO TORTURED MEN

Two young men, 22-year-old Silverio Iván Jaimes Filio and 23-year-old Jorge Raúl Jaimes Jiménez were arbitrarily arrested in Morelos state, central Mexico, and tortured by soldiers. They were released a few hours later but were threatened that they would be in danger if they reported the incident. Their lives could be at risk.

At 10.30pm on 14 August, **Silverio Ivan Jaimes Filio** and **Jorge Raúl Jaimes Jiménez** were in a car in the city of Cuernavaca, near the capital, Mexico City, when an argument started with a group of men crossing at a traffic light. Almost immediately, uniformed soldiers and federal police officers appeared on the scene. The two men were forced into a military truck and taken to an unknown location, which they believe were military barracks.

According to the testimony of the two men, for the next few hours they were threatened with death, torture and rape by the soldiers. They were blindfolded and beaten all over their bodies, kicked in the head and ribs, and kned in the back while they were lying down. The soldiers repeatedly questioned them about any possible links they might have to drug dealers, which the men denied. The soldiers told them that they would give the men electric shocks, rape them, drown them and throw them down a ravine. According to the men's testimony, the soldiers told them: "if you report us, something worse will happen to you, and no one will do anything to us because we're soldiers" ("si nos denuncian les va ir peor y a nosotros no nos hacen nada porque somos militares").

Silverio Ivan Jaimes Filio and Jorge Raúl Jaimes Jiménez were released without charge a few hours later, and left by the side of a road outside Cuernavaca. They have reported the incident to the Morelos State Attorney General's office, but are not receiving any protection from the authorities.

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Spanish or your own language:

- urging the authorities to ensure that Silverio Ivan Jaimes Filio and Jorge Raúl Jaimes Jiménez are given appropriate protection, in accordance with their wishes, after they were detained, tortured and threatened on 14 August by soldiers in Cuernavaca, Morelos state;
- calling on the civilian authorities to conduct an independent and impartial investigation into this incident, and bring those responsible to justice;
- calling for effective measures to ensure military anti-crime operations are carried out in accordance with national and international human rights law, and that any alleged abuses are promptly and impartially investigated by the civilian authorities.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 01 OCTOBER 2009 TO:

Attorney General of Morelos state

Lic. Pedro Luís Benítez Vélez
Procurador del Estado de Morelos
Emiliano Zapata 803
Col. Buena Vista
Cuernavaca 62000
Morelos, MEXICO
Fax: +52 777 329-15-00 Ext. 1285 or
say "me da tono de fax, por favor"
E-mail: pedro.benitez@morelos.gob.mx
Salutation: Señor Procurador / Dear
Attorney General

Minister of Defence

Gral. Guillermo Galván Galván
Secretario de la Defensa Nacional
Secretaría de la Defensa Nacional
Blvd. Manuel Ávila Camacho s/n,
Col. Lomas de Sotelo, C.P. 11640
México D.F., MEXICO
Fax: +52 55 5395 2935
Salutation: Señor Secretario / Dear
Minister

Minister of Interior

Lic. Fernando F. Gómez-Mont Urueta
Secretario de Gobernación
Secretaría de Gobernación
Bucareli 99, 1er. piso,
Col. Juárez, Del. Cuauhtémoc,
México D.F., C.P.06600, MEXICO
Fax: +52 55 5093 3414
E-mail: secretario@segob.gob.mx
Salutation: Señor Secretario/Dear
Minister

COPIES TO: Human Rights Organization - Comisión Independiente de Derechos Humanos de Morelos, Email: cidhmorelos@gmail.com

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

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Since 2007, organized crime related violence has spiralled in Mexico. In 2008, media reported that more than 6,000 people were killed in violent incidents attributed to organized crime. President Calderón's administration has attempted to deal with the spiralling violent crime by deploying thousands of federal police and over 45,000 military personnel in the worst affected areas. However this has not resulted in a reduction in violence. According to the CNDH, reports of abuses by the military, including unlawful killings, torture, arbitrary detentions and illegal house searches have increased six-fold between 2006 and 2008. These cases are routinely investigated and tried by the military justice system, which does not guarantee an impartial and independent investigation resulting in impunity for the vast majority of perpetrators. As a result victims and their relatives are denied an effective recourse to justice, and military officials are aware that they are extremely unlikely to be held to account.

UA: 219/09 Index: AMR 41/043/2009 Issue Date: 20 August 2009

