

URGENT ACTION

FAMILY OF MURDERED ACTIVIST FOUND DEAD

The bodies of Malena Reyes, Elías Reyes and Luisa Ornelas have been found in Guadalupe Distrito Bravos, northern Mexico, close to where they were kidnapped on 7 February. Amnesty International is gravely concerned for the safety of their family.

On 25 February, the bodies of **Malena Reyes, Elías Reyes** and **Luisa Ornelas** were found at a petrol station in Guadalupe Distrito Bravos municipality in the Valle de Juárez, east of Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua state. Malena Reyes, Elías Reyes and his wife Luisa Ornelas were abducted on 7 February. The three were travelling in a truck together with Sara Salazar, the mother of Malena Reyes, Elías Reyes. Also travelling in the car was the daughter of murdered human rights defender Josefina Reyes. Armed men stopped the truck and forced Sara Salazar and the young child to get out of the vehicle. They then drove off with Malena Reyes, Elías Reyes and Luisa Ornelas, leaving Sara Salazar and the young child on the side of the road.

Elías Reyes and Malena Reyes are the brother and sister of Josefina Reyes who was shot and killed on 3 January 2010 by unidentified gunmen. Since 2008, Josefina Reyes had been active in protests against the violence in the area by organized crime, and human rights violations committed by the military. Rubén Reyes, another brother of Josefina Reyes, was shot dead on 18 August 2010 on his way to buy food by his home in Guadalupe Distrito Bravos municipality. The investigation into both killings has not progressed.

On 15 February, the family home in the town of Guadalupe, outside Ciudad Juárez in the Valle de Juárez, was burnt down by an armed gang using homemade petrol bombs.

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Spanish or your own language:

- Call for immediate measures to be taken to protect members of the Reyes family, to be implemented in accordance with the wishes of those at risk;
- Calling for a full, prompt and impartial investigation into the killing of Josefina Reyes, Rubén Reyes, Malena Reyes, Elías Reyes and Luisa Ornelas with the results made public and those responsible brought to justice.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 8 APRIL 2011 TO:

Minister of the Interior

Lic. José Francisco Blake Mora
Secretario, Sec. de Gobernación
Bucareli 99, 1er. piso, Col. Juárez,
Delegación Cuauhtémoc,
México D.F., C.P. 06600, MÉXICO
Fax: +52 55 30032900 ext. 32356
Email: secretario@segob.gob.mx

**Salutation: Dear Minister/Estimado
Señor Secretario**

Attorney General of the Republic

Arturo Chávez Chávez
Procurador General de la República
Procuraduría General de la República
Av. Paseo de la Reforma nº 211-213,
Col. Cuauhtémoc, Del. Cuauhtémoc
México D.F., C.P. 06500, MEXICO
Fax: +52 55 5346 0908
Email: ofproc@pgr.gob.mx

**Salutation: Dear Attorney
General/Señor Procurador General**

State Attorney General

Lic. César Duarte
Gobernador del Estado de Chihuahua,
Palacio de Gobierno, 1er piso, C.
Aldama #901, Col. Centro,
Chihuahua, Estado de Chihuahua,
C.P.31000, Mexico
Fax: +52 614 429 3300 (then dial
extension 11066 when prompted)

**Salutation: Señor Gobernador/
Dear Governor**

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the third update of UA 01/10. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR41/006/2011/en>

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INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Since 2007, violence linked to organized crime has spiralled in Mexico. The media has reported more than 30,000 drug cartel related killings. The majority of these murders have occurred in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua state. President Calderón's administration has attempted to combat the drug cartels by deploying thousands of federal police and over 50,000 military personnel in the worst affected areas, particularly Ciudad Juárez. However this has not resulted in a reduction in violence. According to the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), reports of abuses by the military, including unlawful killings, torture, arbitrary detentions and illegal house searches increased significantly since 2006. 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.

Further information on UA: 01/10 Index: AMR 41/008/2011 Issue Date: 25 February 2011

