

# URGENT ACTION

## VENEZUELAN WOMAN AND DAUGHTERS THREATENED

**The ex-wife and young daughters of a police officer who has been speaking out about corruption received death threats on 3 February.**

**Saraí Pérez** is the ex-wife of police officer Superintendent Jonny Montoya, who has filed complaints about corruption against the Chief Superintendent of the Municipal Police of Caracas, Venezuela's capital.

On 3 February, Saraí Pérez was in the street in Caracas, with her younger daughter in her arms, after having taken her elder daughter to school. A man driving a motorbike with no number plates stopped next to her and, pointing at her, said: "watch out for Montoya's daughters" ("cuida de las hijas de Montoya"). The man was wearing civilian clothes and a motorbike helmet. Later the same morning, whilst on the way to drop her younger daughter at nursery, the same man approached her again and pointing at her with a gun said: "pum, pum".

The threats against Saraí Pérez and her daughters took place the day after police officers, including Jonny Montoya, held a protest outside Caracas Municipal police station. The protesting officers claimed that there has been increase in the number of complaints of corruption since the commander in chief took office two years ago, none of which have been investigated by the authorities.

In November 2009, Saraí Pérez also received threatening phone calls. On several occasions, unknown men called her and said: " your daughters are going to lose their dad", "Superintendent Montoya has a death sentence", "we know where your daughters go to school" " we are going to rape you and your daughters", "(("tus hijas se van a quedar sin papá", "el Comisario Montoya tiene sentencia", "sabemos donde estudian tus hijas", "te vamos a violar a ti y a tu hijas").

Saraí Pérez has reported the threats to the public prosecutors' office.

### PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Spanish or your own language:

- Expressing concern for the safety of Saraí Pérez and her two daughter;
- Urging the authorities to provide Saraí Pérez with effective protection in strict accordance with her wishes;
- Urging the authorities to carry out a full and impartial investigation into these incidents.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 22 MARCH 2011 TO:

Ministro de Interior y Justicia

Tareck El Aissami

Ministerio del Poder Popular para  
Relaciones Interiores y Justicia  
Avenida Urdaneta Esquina de Platanal  
Edificio Interior y Justicia Despacho del  
Ministro, Piso 3, Caracas, VENEZUELA

**Fax: + 58 212 506 1685**

**Salutation: Señor Ministro/Dear  
Minister**

Attorney General

Dra. Luisa Ortega Díaz

Fiscalía General de la República  
Avda. México, Manduca a Pelelojo,  
Edif. Sede Fiscalía General de la  
República, La Candelaria, Caracas,  
Venezuela

**Email: mp@fiscalia.gov.ve**

**Fax: +58 212 509 7264/7345**

**Salutation: Dear Attorney  
General/Estimada  
Señora Fiscal General**

### And copies to:

Human rights NGO

Red de Apoyo  
Edif. Caroata, Nivel Ofic. 2,  
Ofic. 220, Parque Central, Caracas  
Venezuela

**Fax: +58 212 574 1949 – 8005 (if  
voice answers say: " me da tono de fax,  
por favor"**

**Email:  
programadefensa@redapoyo.org.ve**

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

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