Haiti: Moving forward towards accountability

The recent arrest of Ronald Camille (alias Ronald Cadavre) after months of police failure to act on an arrest warrant issued against him, is a positive step towards enforcing the rule of law in Haiti, Amnesty International said today.

Ronald Camille, linked to popular organizations supportive of Haiti's ruling party Fanmi Lavalas, was charged with killing activist Fritzner Jean outside the Parliament building on 10 September 2001. He has also been implicated in threats against human rights defenders and perceived Fanmi Lavalas opponents.

"Police and justice officials now require continued support if full and impartial justice is to be achieved in this case," Amnesty International said, following reports that supporters of Ronald Camille have been staging violent demonstrations in Port au Prince, and have threatened more violence if he is not released. A court appearance scheduled for Tuesday 26 March was postponed due to these threats.

"The Haitian authorities must ensure that politically motivated threats and violence are not tolerated and that party activists responsible for them are held to account," the organization added.

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