

URGENT ACTION



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Note: Please write on behalf of these persons even though you may not have received the original UA when issued on December 10, 2008. Thanks!

18 December 2008

Further Information on UA 336/08 (10 December 2008) - Possible disappearance/Fear for safety

MEXICO

Javier Torres Cruz (m), aged 28

Javier Torres Cruz was released on 13 December, after being abducted on 3 December. On his return, he had a number of bruises, particularly on his hands, and complained of strong abdominal pains. His family stated that he was blindfolded and did not know where he had been held, and they believed that those who detained him were soldiers. Amnesty International believes that Javier Torres Cruz and his relatives are still in danger.



Javier Torres Cruz is from the tiny community of La Morena, Petatlán municipality, Guerrero state, and a member of a grassroots organization, Organización Ecológica de la Sierra de Coyuca y Petatlán (Environmental Organization of the Coyuca and Petatlan Mountains). At 5 am on 13 November, a group of about 100 soldiers went to La Morena in order to find Javier Torres Cruz and two of his brothers. The three brothers were not there at the time, but according to relatives, soldiers searched four houses. They also threatened, slapped and pointed their guns at women and children. That same evening, a group of about 30 armed men in plain clothes also came to the community in order to find Javier Torres Cruz and his brothers. They too, could not locate them.

In September 2007, Javier Torres Cruz and his uncle had testified against a local political boss (*cacique*) following his alleged involvement in the death of human rights defender, Digna Ochoa y Plácido, in Mexico City in 2001.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible:

- calling on the authorities to provide Javier Torres Cruz and members of his family with adequate protection, in accordance with their wishes;
- expressing concern at the abduction and torture of Javier Torres Cruz, who may have been detained by soldiers on 3 December;
- calling on the authorities to conduct an independent and impartial investigation into the abduction and torture of Javier Torres Cruz, and bring those responsible to justice.

APPEALS TO:

Attorney General of the Republic

Lic. Eduardo Medina-Mora Icaza
Procurador General de la República
Procuraduría General de la República,
Av. Paseo de la Reforma n° 211-213,
Piso 16 Col. Cuauhtémoc, Del. Cuauhtémoc, México
D.F., C.P. 06500, MEXICO

Fax: 011 52 55 5346 0908

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

Governor of Guerrero

Lic. Zeferino Torreblanca Galindo
Gobernador del Estado de Guerrero
Palacio de Gobierno, Edificio Centro, piso 2,
Ciudad de los Servicios
CP 39075, Chilpancingo, Guerrero, MÉXICO

Email: gobernador@guerrero.gob.mx

Fax: 011 52 747 471 9956

**Salutation: Señor Gobernador /
Dear Governor**

Attorney General of Guerrero

Lic. Eduardo Murueta Urrutia
Procurador del Estado de Guerrero
Carretera Nacional México-Acapulco Km. 6+300
Tramo Chilpancingo-Petaquillos
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Fax: 011 52 747 472 2328

Salutation: Dear Attorney / Señor Procurador

COPIES TO:

Human Rights Organization

Colectivo Contra la Tortura y la Impunidad,
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Email: Colectivo@contralatortura.org

Ambassador Arturo Sarukhan Casamitjana
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PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.

Check with the AIUSA Urgent Action office if sending appeals after 29 January 2009.