

Mexico, August 25, 2017

Issue:

We denounce the intimidation and harassment of defender Jaqueline Campbell

Rubén Ignacio Moreira Valdez Governor of Coahuila

Víctor Zamora Rodríguez Interior Secretary of Coahuila

Homero Ramos Gloria Attorney General of Coahuila

Hugo Gutiérrez Rodríguez General Coordinato of 'Fuerza Coahuila'

José Luis Chapa Reséndiz State Security Commissioner

Last August 21st, defender Jaqueline Campbell Dávila, counselor of the Saltillo Diocese and member of the National Network of Women Human Rights Defenders in Mexico, experienced acts of intimidation and harassment.

Around 1:30 pm that day, an officer belonging to 'Fuerza Coahuila' knelt down for a few minutes by her van, which was parked outside the diocese in downtown Saltillo, and manipulated a device that Jaqueline Campbell was unable to identify.

Whether or not the uniformed officer has taken notes, photographs or in any way altered Jaqueline Campbell's vehicle, we, the members of the RNDDHM repudiate this maneuver as one of many acts of aggression experienced by the defender as a result of her activities in defense of human rights, and particularly her work as counselor in matters of international human rights to Fray Raúl Vera López, Bishop of the Saltillo Diocese, and widely recognized for his social activism in support of groups in situations of marginalization and inequality.

¹ An elite police corps which, since its formation in 2016, has committed abuses of authority and physical attacks. See: $\underline{http://www.vanguardia.com.mx/articulo/fuerza-coahuila-acumula-denuncias-desde-su-formacion}$

In this context, we recall that two years ago, Jaqueline Campbell experienced intimidation by top officials of the government of Coahuila aimed at dissuading her from lending legal and general assistance to persons deprived of their freedom in state prisons; her work in their support led her to uncover and denounce a number of acts of torture. Jaqueline has been the target of countless smear campaigns aimed at discrediting her activities, all launched by news media with connections to the state government.

We also wish to point out that in 2016, this Defender Network wrote to the Governor and Attorney General of Coahuila to express our concern for the security and the physical and psychological integrity of Jaqueline Campbell after several slanderous news articles appeared that demeaned and made fun of her work in the defense and promotion of human rights.

Accordingly, the 204 women defenders and journalists from 24 state in Mexico, organized in the RNDDHM, demand that the government of Coahuila:

- 1. Investigate and delineate responsibilities of the masterminds and perpetrators of the acts of intimidation and harassment against defender Jaqueline Campbell;
- 2. Guarantee an end to these acts of violence; and
- 3. Guarantee the defender's right to defend human rights in conditions of security and equality.

Cordially National Network of Women Human Rights Defenders in Mexico

Aguascalientes: Icela Jaimes (Root Collective); Sara Montes Ramírez (Root Collective). Baja California: Blanca Mesina; Laura Gutiérrez (Olympia United Women of Gouges, Baja California); Margarita Ávalos (Ollin Calli Collective); Nerida Gaspar Castillo (Ollin Calli Collective). Baja California Sur: Artemisa Castro Félix (Solidarity Action Fund). Chiapas: Diana Damián (Formation and Training); Margarita Guadalupe Martínez Martínez (Independent); Martha Figueroa (Mujeres libres/Free Women); Mercedes Olivera Bustamante (Center for Women's Rights). Chihuahua: Cecilia Espinosa Martínez (Women's Roundtable Network, Ciudad Juárez / Rosa Luxemburg Women's Collective); Itzel González (Women's Roundtable Network, Ciudad Juárez); Imelda Marrufa (Women's Roundtable Network, Ciudad Juárez); Yadira Cortés (Women's Roundtable Network, Ciudad Juárez); María Luisa García (Bring our Children Home); María Hilda de la Vega (Women for Mexico in Chihuahua); Isela González Díaz (Sierra Madre Alliance); Ivonne Mendoza Salazar (Center for the Comprehensive Development of Women); Ruth Fierro (Center for the Human Rights of Women in Chihuahua); Silvia Alejandra Holguín (Center for the Human Rights of Women in Chihuahua); Yanimiriam Valdez Baca (Center for the Human Rights of Women in Chihuahua); Siria Solís (El Barzón); Zulma Méndez (Cultural Pact and Women's Roundtable Network, Chihuahua). Coahuila: Blanca Martínez (Fray Juan de Larios Diocesan Center for Human Rights); Cristina Auerbach (Pasta de Conchos Family); Elizabeth Robles (Service, Development and Peace); Jaqueline Campbell Dávila (Consultant Saltillo Diocese). Mexico City: Lydia Alpizar (Association for the Rights of Women in Development, AWID); Verónica Vidal (Association for the Rights of Women in Development, AWID); Diana López Santiago (Fray Francisco De Vitoria Center for Human Rights); Guadalupe Hernández Hernández (Fray Francisco De Vitoria Center for Human Rights); Melissa A. Vértiz Hernández (Fray Francisco De Vitoria Center for Human Rights); Salomé Almaráz (Independent); Cirenia Celestino Ortega (Women's Communication and Information, CIMAC); Fabiola González Barrera (Women's Communication and Information, CIMAC); Lucía Lagunes (Women's Communication and Information, CIMAC); Nancy López (Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights); Olga Guzmán (Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights); Agnieszka Raczynska (Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Project, PRODESC; Alejandra Nuño (Independent); Alexandra Garita (Independent); Atziri Ávila (Independent); Aurora Montaño (Independent); Claudia Erika Centeno Zaldívar (Independent); Corina del Carmen Arriola Romero (Independent); Estrella Soria (Independent); Jaqueline Santana (Independent); Lorena Peralta (Aluna, Psychosocial Accompaniment); Lydia Cacho (Independent); María Paula Castañeda (Independent); Patricia Yllescas (Independent); Sayuri Herrera Román (Independent); Verónica Rodríguez Jorge (Independent); Cristina Hardága (USAID); Laura Velázquez (Just Associates, JASS); María Martín (Just Associates, JASS); Marusia López (Just Associates, JASS); Orfe Castillo (Just Associates, JASS); Daniela Pastrana (On-the-Ground Journalists); Erika Gonzalez (Mexican Society for the Rights of Women, Semillas Fund); Dirce Navarrete Pérez Sociedad (Mexican Society for the Rights of Women. Semillas Fund and Las Enredadas Collective); Laura García Coudurier (Mexican Society for the Rights of Women, Semillas Fund); Lorena Fuentes (Mexican Society for the Rights of Women, Semillas Fund); Yanina Flores (Mexican Society for the Rights of Women, Semillas Fund); Alma R. García

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 Notebooks/PRT); Laura Carlsen (Program of the Americas); Laura Salas (Sandía Digital/Digital Watermelon); Lénika Morales
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    and Struggle, MULT); Flavia Ester Anau (Piña Palmera Children's Attention Center); Patricia Matías López (Piña Palmera
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C.c.p. Jan Jarab, Representative in Mexico of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

C.c.p. Michel Forst, UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights Defenders