

July 9, 2026

To the Judge of the Fourth Court Against Organized Crime (Chamber 2), San Salvador

Cc: Attorney General of the Republic, Rodolfo Antonio Delgado Montes

Human Rights Ombudsman, Raquel Caballero de Guevara

The undersigned organizations—religious, faith-based, immigrant, human rights, diaspora, and solidarity groups—in the United States and internationally, express our deep concern regarding the continued arbitrary detention and periods of enforced disappearance of trade unionist Geovanni Antonio Aguirre López, who is currently being prosecuted in a mass trial. We demand his immediate release, as well as full compliance with court orders that have already determined he should not remain in detention.

Geovanni, an employee of the San Salvador Mayor's Office and a trade union leader, was arrested on May 8, 2022, days after participating in a peaceful International Workers' Day march. Since then, he has been arbitrarily imprisoned under the State of Exception without being granted the due process guarantees to which he is entitled.

Judicial authorities have already issued two release orders for Geovanni. However, these court orders have not been upheld. After being released on June 1, 2023, Geovanni was immediately detained again, without prior notice to his family or his lawyer. In September 2024, Geovanni's advocates filed formal complaints characterizing his situation as an enforced disappearance, given that holding a person incommunicado following a release order not only violates due process but also constitutes a serious violation of the Constitution and international treaties to which El Salvador is a signatory. We denounce the State's refusal to provide information regarding Geovanni's whereabouts to his family and legal representatives for extended periods throughout the more than four years since his detention.

Despite Geovanni having been unjustly detained and having no ties to criminal structures, he is currently being subjected to one of the mass trials to which all those, like him, who have been arbitrarily arrested under the State of Exception are being subjected. Such proceedings undermine the right to individualized judicial review, weaken due process guarantees, and threaten to prolong Geovanni's arbitrary detention indefinitely despite existing court orders mandating his release.

Trade unions and community organizations in El Salvador have alerted the International Labour Organization (ILO) to the case of Geovanni Aguirre, demanding his release—as well as that of "all trade unionists deprived of their liberty for reasons related to their union activities"—and an "absolute end to the use of the state of exception as an instrument of anti-union persecution."

For its part, the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations has urged the Salvadoran State to take measures to release these individuals and has requested detailed reports on the specific cases brought to its attention—including Geovanni's—as well as action to fulfill its obligations as a signatory to ILO Convention No. 87.

We share these concerns given that trade union activity and the peaceful exercise of the rights to freedom of association and expression must never be treated as criminal conduct.

We therefore call on the Salvadoran authorities to:

- Immediately enforce the judicial orders granting Geovanni Antonio Aguirre López his liberty and secure his immediate release.

- Immediately disclose his whereabouts, provide his legal defense and family with proof of life, and guarantee his physical and psychological integrity while he remains under state custody.
- Guarantee an individualized judicial review that fully respects due process and international human rights standards.
- Investigate the circumstances surrounding his rearrest, his subsequent disappearance, and the failure to comply with judicial release orders, ensuring accountability for those responsible.
- Respect the rights to freedom of association, peaceful assembly, and trade union activity, and end the criminalization of labor leaders and other human rights defenders.
- End the use of the State of Exception as an instrument of persecution and criminalization of labor union activity.

Therefore, we respectfully request the Honorable Judge accept the statements made in this filing, have them added to the corresponding case file, and proceed in accordance with the law by ordering the immediate cessation of the violation of the accused's constitutional guarantees.

We urge the Salvadoran authorities to comply with their national and international legal obligations by immediately restoring Giovanni's liberty and guaranteeing justice, truth, and accountability in his case.



Organizational signers:

1. 1199 SEIU, Nueva York, EEUU
2. Alianza Américas, EEUU
3. Alliance for Social and Economic Justice, San Francisco, California, EEUU
4. Alma de Izote, Chicago, Illinois, EEUU
5. Asociación Salvadoreña de Carolina del Norte, Raleigh/Durham, Carolina del Norte, EEUU
6. Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries, Sur de California, EEUU
7. Black Joy Oregon, Keizer, Oregon, EEUU
8. Boston Democratic Socialists of America, Eastern Massachusetts, EEUU
9. Boston May Day Coalition, Boston, Massachusetts, EEUU
10. BUSCAME Buscando Desaparecidos, México
11. Cambridge United for Justice with Peace, Cambridge, Massachusetts, EEUU
12. Caminando hasta encontrarte, México
13. Central American Resource Center, CARECEN, Washington, D.C., EEUU
14. Centro Familiar Mano a Mano, Oregon, EEUU
15. Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America (CRLN), Chicago, Illinois, EEUU
16. Colectivo Buscadoras Guanajuato, MX
17. Colectivo Buscando Corazones Perdidos, Xalapa, Veracruz, MX
18. Colectivo de Federaciones y Organizaciones Mexicanas Migrantes (COLEFOM), EEUU
19. Colectivo La Chiltota, Washington, DC, EEUU
20. Comité de Solidaridad con El Salvador en México, Ciudad de México, MX
21. Comité en Solidaridad con el Pueblo de El Salvador (CISPES), EEUU
22. Comunidad Eclesial de Base (CEB) Elvira y Carlos El salvador, San Salvador

23. Comunidad Ecuménica Martin Luther King Santiago de Chile
24. Committee for Peace and Human Rights, Boston, Massachusetts, EEUU
25. Conseil Migrant, Norte America
26. Consejo Federal Ejecutivo Nacional e Internacional del Frente Mexicano Pro Derechos Humanos FREMEXDEHU, México
27. Denver Justice and Peace Committee, Denver, Colorado, EEUU
28. Diócesis del Sureste, Iglesia Anglicana de México, Xalapa, Veracruz, MX
29. Dominican Sisters of Hope, Ossining, Nueva York, EEUU
30. Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa Peace and Justice Office, Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, EEUU
31. Dominican sisters of Sparkill, Nueva York, EEUU
32. Eko Social Justice, Los Angeles, California, EEUU
33. Embajadores de la memoria - COFADEH, Tegucigalpa, Honduras
34. Espacio psicosocial por los Derechos Humanos, Ciudad de México, MX
35. Ética en los Bosques, Temuco, Araucania, Chile
36. Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR-USA), EEUU
37. Frente Intercontinental ventana de la lucha popular Salvadoreña, Oslo, Noruega
38. Global Exchange, San Francisco, California, EEUU
39. Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart, Pennsylvania y Nueva York, EEUU
40. Grupo Primero de abril, Los Angeles, California, EEUU
41. Grupo Tortura Nunca Mais/RJ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
42. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monroe, Michigan, EEUU
43. Indivisible (Equipo de Relaciones Exteriores), Capitulo Santa Cruz, California, EUU
44. Informationsgruppe Lateinamerika (IGLA), Vienna, Austria
45. InterReligious Task Force on Central America, Cleveland, Ohio EEUU
46. La Esperanza del Reencuentro, Xalapa, Veracruz, MX
47. Las Familias Solidarity, Albuquerque, New Mexico, EEUU
48. Latin America Working Group, Washington, DC, EEUU
49. Latinas en Poder, Washington, DC, EEUU
50. Linguismo, South Bend, Indiana, EEUU
51. Migrants and Minorities Alliance, Pierson, Florida, EEUU
52. Network in Solidarity with Guatemala, NISGUA, EEUU
53. Non-violence International/Isaiah Project, Washington, DC, EEUU
54. Nueva Esperanza Inc, Indianapolis, Indiana, EEUU
55. Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation, Sisters of Charity of New York, EEUU
56. Oficina Ecuménica por la Paz y la Justicia e.V., Munich, Alemania
57. Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, Portland, Oregon, EEUU
58. Provincial Council Clerics of St. Viator, Illinois, EEUU
59. Red Sea Road Consulting, Vancouver, Washington, EEUU
60. Resistencia Comunitaria, Los Angeles, California, EEUU
61. Reunite Migrant Families / Abuelas Responden, Hudson Valley, Nueva York, EEUU
62. Robert Graham and The Landing, Australia
63. Sacred Circle, Salem Oregon, EEUU
64. Salem Mennonite Church, Salem, Oregon, EEUU
65. San Francisco Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines (SFCHRP), San Francisco, California, EEUU
66. Servicios y Asesoría para la Paz, Ciudad de Mexico, MX
67. SHARE, San Francisco, California, EEUU
68. Servicio Internacional Cristiano de Solidaridad con los pueblos de América Latina «Óscar Romero», Global
69. Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Justice Team, EEUU

70. Sisters of St. Benedict, Ferdinand, Indiana, EEUU
71. Solidair met Guatemala, Aalst provincie Oost-Vlaanderen, Belgium
72. Southeast Keizer Community Center, Salem, Oregon, EEUU
73. Springfield Dominican Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Committee, Illinois, EEUU
74. Task Force on the Americas, California, EEUU, and International
75. Tribunal Internacional de Conciencia de los Pueblos en Movimiento, Internacional
76. Unidos por amor a ti, Veracruz, MX
77. Veterans For Peace, EEUU e Internacional
78. Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation, Oeste de Washington, EEUU
79. Witness at the Border, EEUU
80. Zehar-Errefuxiatuekin Euskal Herria, País Vasco