



**COPINH**

## CONSEJO CÍVICO DE ORGANIZACIONES POPULARES E INDÍGENAS DE HONDURAS - COPINH

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### **Berta Cáceres' killers would be released in the midst of a health crisis.**

The Civic Council of Popular and Indigenous Organizations of Honduras COPINH denounces the possibility that two of the murderers convicted of the death of Berta Cáceres will be released from prison as part of the health emergency.

According to information received by our organization, enormous efforts are being made to ensure that Sergio Rodríguez Orellana and Douglas Bustillo, workers of the Atala Zablah family, who were sentenced to 30 years in prison for the murder, are released for alleged medical reasons in the midst of the crisis by Covid-19. And also more benefits or even the release of David Castillo, one of the intellectual authors of the crime.

COPINH strongly denounces that the authorities of the State of Honduras and the National Penitentiary Institute led by the Honduran army intend to release these convicted murderers taking advantage of the health crisis the country is going through.

COPINH denounces that this plan is in addition to the privileged conditions in which the criminals linked to the murder of Berta Cáceres are held, especially David Castillo, who has enjoyed exceptional conditions of visits, VIP accommodation and freedom of transfer and transport, backed up by the former and current directions of the Támara Prison, where Rodríguez and Bustillo are now reportedly held.

We demand that the authorities in charge, headed by the director of the intervention board of the National Penitentiary System, Colonel José González Maradiaga, clarify this situation.

We are issuing a national and international call and alert.

Given on the 7th day of April 2020

*¡Con la fuerza ancestral de Berta, Lempira, Iselaca, Mota y Etempica  
se levantan nuestras voces llenas de vida, justicia, dignidad, libertad y paz!*