

DAVID CASTILLO MUST BE TRIED AND PUNISHED FOR THE MURDER OF BERTA CÁCERES

NEWSLETTER

BERTA CÁCERES CAUSE

Honduran justice as a rule should have judged David Castillo for his involvement as co-author in the murder of Berta Cáceres before March 2, 2020. However, almost 2 and a half years after the beginning of the process and 4 and a half years after the crime, there has been no oral trial for the person who is the link between the assassination group and those who made the decision.

The preliminary hearing, in which it is decided to move on to the oral trial stage, was suspended four times due to the dilatory practices of Castillo's defense.

The hearing concluded last Friday, August 21, not without great concern on the part of the victims due to serious irregularities. Judge Carlos Irias, who developed the last audience, has 3 days to give a resolution and define the passage of the process to oral and public trial.

THE SUPREME COURT OF JUSTICE CHANGED THE JUDGE IN THE CASE.

Two days before the hearing, the untimely change of Judge Liseth Vallecillo was announced. She knew about the process from the beginning and, together with the court of appeals and the judiciary, allowed the unjustified delays.

The judge was replaced by the judge of National Jurisdiction Carlos Irias, so the legal team denounced the violation of the legal principle of immediacy.

This type of maneuvering generates concern and suspicion about the reasons for the judge's separation.



COPINH has demanded that the motives be clarified and whether it is related to acts of corruption to benefit David Castillo, derived from undue influence brought about by the delay of the judicial process and the clear search for impunity in this case.

PRELIMINARY HEARING WITHOUT TRANSPARENCY AND WITHOUT VICTIMS.

The current judge Carlos Irias León, acting arbitrarily, expelled the victims from the courtroom, violating their right to be part of the process, and at the same time, denied the possibility of publicly and transparently broadcasting a high impact process of public interest and high impact, as the judiciary itself has described

Days before this preliminary hearing, the Mission of Qualified Observation of the process of seeking justice in the Berta Cáceres case, composed of organizations and experts in human rights and

judicial processes, sent a letter to the president of the Supreme Court of Justice requesting that publicity be guaranteed, as well as to the United Nations Office for Human Rights, requesting that publicity be guaranteed **However, it was ignored.**

The right of victims' participation, publicity and a transparent process, clearly

arouses a lot of fear in the sectors of power involved in this crime. They want a rigged process that lacks truth, justice, or reparations.

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**DAVID CASTILLO MUST BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL
 AND SENTENCED AS CO-AUTHOR OF THE MURDER
 OF BERTA CÁCERES**”

JUSTICE UNDER SIEGE

Clearly the delays in the process have been used by those involved in the crime to exert undue influence in favor of David Castillo in an attempt to avoid a trial in which the truth comes out.

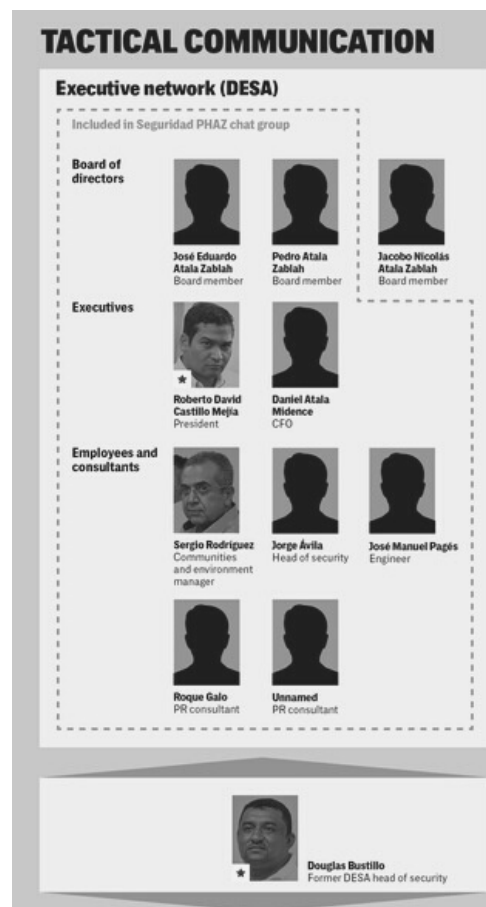
The Atala family, who were responsible for the death of Berta Cáceres, are trying at all costs to prevent David Castillo from being sentenced, so that their direct link with his criminal actions and the truth of the planning of Berta Cáceres' murder isn't revealed. That is why they are trying to influence actors in an already corrupt justice system.



THE PROOF IS CONCLUSIVE AGAINST DAVID CASTILLO, DANIEL ATALA AND THE ATALA ZABLAH.

Lawyer Juan Sánchez Cantillano, who was part of the accusations and criminalization against Berta Cáceres before her murder, sought with a speech that nobody believes, to question the evidence of David Castillo's links with those who've already been convicted for the material authorship, as with Daniel Atala Midence, who made payments with the order of the Atala Zablah brothers, to pursue, attack, instrumentalize the state security forces and finally kill Berta in order to end the opposition to the Agua Zarca hydroelectric project.

However, his own communications speak for themselves and can be verified in the more than 30 volumes that exist in the files 388-2017 and 414-2018 for the murder of Berta Cáceres.



David Castillo must be brought to trial and sentenced as co-author of the murder of Berta Cáceres. The judiciary has the duty to carryout and uphold resolve in an oral trial, with all the guarantees of the law, the standards that the cause and all the people demand in favor of truth and integral justice.

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