



# ¡EL COQUI LIBRE!

The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign Newsletter ~ May 2009 Edition Vol. 2 Issue 73 ~ [www.ProLibertadWeb.com](http://www.ProLibertadWeb.com)

## PUERTO RICAN TABLE OF SOLIDARITY AGAINST REPRESSION!

Press Release  
April 3, 2009

Dating from November 19, 2008, the Table of Solidarity Against Repression warned people of the continuing tendency to federalize institutions and life in Puerto Rico. The current governor Luis Fortuño continues and emphasizes the hand-over of our institutions, especially those related to justice, to the hands of the U.S. Attorney, the FBI, and the federal court in Puerto Rico.



***Puerto Rican Police arresting activists for doing street theater!***

Events that have been happening in the past three months prove this. The federalization of the Puerto Rico Police is a fact. The nomination of FBI agent Figueroa Sancha to head the Police was necessary for the success of the comprehensive plan that the businessmen who run the government of Luis Fortuño had prepared long ago for Puerto Rico. This plan includes, among other elements, the sale of government public services to private enterprise, the elimination of dissent from institutions that orient peo-

-ple about their rights, and the elimination of rights acquired by workers.

Let's look at what has been happening:

1. Immediately after his nomination, the FBI agent who heads the Police began training the Shock Force, FURA, SWAT, and others, supposedly to prepare them for possible social uprisings which the economic measures to be implemented by Fortuño would cause.

2. The difference between federal authorities and Puerto Rico authorities was

erased, in a supposed effort to coordinate the Municipal Police, the Puerto Rico Police and the FBI, in which any of them could equally intervene together in any type of crime. That facilitates the FBI claiming credit for solving crimes and applying the death penalty in Puerto Rico. The latter will be possible because the governor himself has affirmed that he will not intervene to avoid the application of the death penalty for crimes committed in Puerto Rico, in spite of the fact the Constitution he swore to uphold prohibits the death penalty.

3. The coordination of the previously mentioned forces was apparent first, not at the scene of a crime, but against some unions that tried to participate in hearings on the new budget at the beginning of March of 2009. The mobilization of these combined forces at the Capitol prevented the workers from entering into "public" hearings.

4. These coordinated forces perfectly coincide with announcements from federal agencies, such as the coast Guard, indicating an intent to persecute those...

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**PUERTO RICAN TABLE OF  
SOLIDARITY AGAINST RE-  
PRESSION**

...who oppose, in any manner, the policies of the government and those it calls subversive.

5. In the legislature, they have begun dismantling the Bar Association, with a project that eliminates obligatory membership of attorneys.

6. Two days ago, the police attacked a group of Telephone Company workers who were demonstrating in front of the Department of Labor. Weeks before, they also attacked those demonstrating against the gas pipeline.

7. A legislator submitted a resolution seeking a legislative investigation of the University of Puerto Rico student protests against the expectation of the return of military practices to the Río Piedras campus. The following day he accused the Brotherhood of Non Teaching Exempt Employees, the Pro Independence Students Federation, and Mothers Against the War of having made a threatening telephone call to him.

8. The Attorney General issued instructions to the prosecutors throughout the country for each district to assign an additional duty attorney to be in charge of attending to complaints generated by demonstrations by "citizens affected" by the dismissal of government employees. We can see how they plan to deprive citizens of freedom of expression.

9. They have created a program called Quality of Life, which is based on Police and FBI intervention in poor communities and public housing. It requires that after the operations, in each intervened community, while the repressive forces remain there, various agencies will offer support. We have already seen on other occasions how this does not work while the political, social and economic conditions of the country continue unchanged.

It is not a coincidence that this increase in persecution of "subversives," as they identify dissidents, is taking place during times of economic crisis. The government-boss plans an unprecedented attack on the working class. The unemployment crisis will penetrate deeply into Puerto Rican society, and the government will identify the left as "agitators" in moments like these. Unions will be targets of repression with the implementation of Law #7, which eliminates the democratic rights of assembly and collective negotiation.

We had already warned that the Superintendent of Police, who is preceded by his repressive conduct as assistant director of the FBI in Puerto Rico, has said that he is going to establish a network of "intelligence" agents with which he will obtain information among others, of community groups, neighborhoods and churches. Undoubtedly, this is the true support referred to in the Quality of Life program. This so-called support to communities is an attempt to convert the residents of those communities into informants, or, as the people say, "snitches." With this, they achieve the development of lack of trust among neighbors, which will impede communities from organizing to struggle for their well-being and social and economic advancement.

The increase in police activities in which the feds play the leading role show us the formal establishment of a police state that already existed in hidden form, in the United States as well as in Puerto Rico. The Attorney General had already warned that telephones could be intercepted, something prohibited by the Constitution of Puerto Rico, but permitted by federal jurisdiction, making clear that the feds will be in charge of the administration of justice in Puerto Rico.

Criminality is a social problem that emerges from inequality and lack of opportunities. The new government of Puerto Rico, from the beginning, threatens to deepen the inequalities with new taxes and deprivation of services that

bring unemployment and corruption, as we were able to confirm during the Roselló administration. That is why the government must increase repressive measures. And that is why Fortuño named FBI agent José Figueroa Sancha to head the Puerto Rico Police.

The Table of Solidarity Against Repression calls for the rejection of these repressive policies against a people and a working class exploited and attacked by businessmen who hold the reins of the government. We reject the policies that seek to shut down organisms that defend civil rights, such as the Bar Association. We reject the policies announced by the Coast Guard and the governments of Luis Fortuño and Barack Obama against movements in struggle and the Puerto Rican left.

The Table of Solidarity Against Repression calls on people to organize to defend the right to intimacy and civil rights. We must learn to recognize these repressive acts and denounce them, without fear. We join with the people in demanding justice and freedom.

**The Table of Solidarity  
Against Repression  
April 2, 2009**

**Contacts:  
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(787) 406-1838**



***Boricua  
Activist Rev.  
Luis Barrios  
Sentenced to  
two months in***

***Jail as a  
member of the SOA 6!***

***Check out the site:  
[www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org)***



## CARLOS ALBERTO TORRES IS GOING BEFORE THE PAROLE BOARD THE WEEK OF MAY 25



Now more than ever, we need to show the Parole Board that he has international support. We need to send the Parole board thousands of letters! We must flood their mail boxes with our demands for Carlos Alberto's parole! WE CAN MAKE FREEDOM HAPPEN!

Download a support letter at: [www.ProLibertadWeb.com](http://www.ProLibertadWeb.com)

The National Boricua Human Rights Network, El Comité de Derechos Humanos de Puerto Rico (The Puerto Rican Human Rights Committee), and The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign, are calling on all supporters of the Puerto Rican Political Prisoners to download the letter, sign it and mail it to:

*Carlos Alberto Torres*

**Jan Susler (Lawyer)**  
**1180 N. Milwaukee Ave. 3rd Fl.**  
**Chicago, IL 60622**

## JOSE PEREZ GONZALEZ NEEDS OUR SUPPORT!

Former Puerto Rican Political Prisoner Jose Perez Gonzalez, who served 5 years in prison for his work in support of the Vieques struggle, suffered a stroke in May of this year that has left him paralyzed on his left side and blind in the right eye.

His doctors have declared him incapable of employment. He cannot receive Social Security because he was in prison for the past five years and unemployed; Social Security requires you to be working for five years before the date you apply to receive it.

Ileana Morales, his wife, has been paying for all of his medical bills, medications, supporting their 9-year old daughter and covering all the household expenses on her meager salary. Also, Jose has a son who lives in Connecticut and has been unable to pay her child support since his affliction.

Ileana has written a letter to the organizations and individuals that supported Jose during this incarceration asking for economic support. This situation has been extremely stressful on both Jose and Ileana; this stress has upset Jose's recuperative process and his emotional state.

We must take action! The ProLibertad Freedom campaign is calling on our allies to support The Jose Perez Freedom Fund. We are identifying 50 organizations and individuals to donate \$20 to the Freedom Fund. Our goal is to raise \$1000 in January, so we can send Jose and his family a in February.

Please support this campaign! None of our patriots should be abandoned in a time of need! Together we can show Jose and his family that the Puerto Rican nation and all its allies care! Send your tax-deductible donation to:

**IFCO/ProLibertad**  
**418 W145th St.**  
**New York, N.Y. 10031**

Please endorse the check or money order to: IFCO/ProLibertad and write "Jose Perez Gonzalez Freedom Fund" in the memo section. Once you have sent your donation please email ProLibertad: [ProLibertad.campaign@gmail.com](mailto:ProLibertad.campaign@gmail.com) and let us know you sent your donation. ProLibertad is going to send a "Get Well card" to Jose, along with the check, and want to include a list of all the people that contributed to the Freedom Fund.



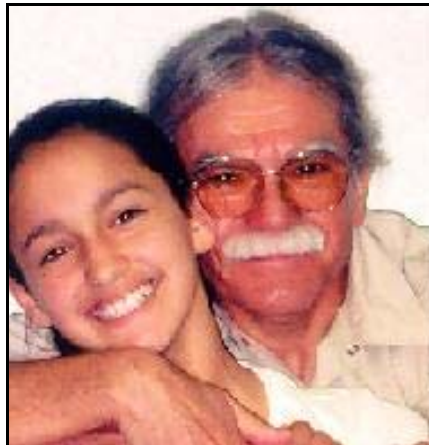
*Jose Perez Gonzalez being greeted in the airport in Puerto Rico by his supporters!*



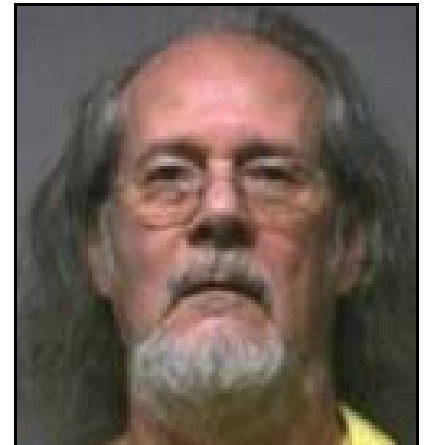
## WRITE TO THE PUERTO RICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS!!



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### MAKE A DONATION TO PROLIBERTAD

ProLibertad can only do the work it does through the support of all of our allies. Make your tax deductible donation to IFCO/ProLibertad and then mail it to:

**IFCO/ProLibertad**  
**418 w145th St.**  
**New York, N.Y. 10031**

### SEND THE PRISONERS A DONATION

If you want to send a prisoner a commissary donation (money for their general use), then please send a money order (no personal checks) to:

**Federal Bureau of Prisons**  
**The Prisoner's Name AND Prison Number**  
**PO Box 474701**  
**Des Moines IA 50947-0001**

**Print the Prisoner's name and Prison number on the money order as well.**



## ProLibertad Freedom Campaign

The ProLibertad Freedom Campaign has been working for the release of the Puerto Rican Political Prisoners for over 10 years. With the release of 11 of the Political Prisoners in September 1999, we have re-dedicated our efforts to securing the freedom of the remaining Puerto Rican political prisoners. Through educational events, lobbying and public pressure work and activities it is our goal to secure the freedom of these patriots whose only "crime" has been the love of their home land, Puerto Rico. We support the release of All U.S. held Political Prisoners, oppose the U.S. colonial control of Puerto Rico, U.S. imperialism throughout the world, and the U.S. military presence in Vieques. CONTACT US AT: [ProLibertad@Hotmail.com](mailto:ProLibertad@Hotmail.com) or call the ProLibertad Hotline at 718-601-4751. Check out our website at: <http://www.ProLibertadweb.com> for campaign updates.