

PRISONERS DEFENDERS

ACTIVE LEGAL DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS - JURISTS - RAPORTEURS - HUMANISTS

HISTORIC CONDEMNATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS' WGAD ON ARBITRARY DETENTIONS IN CUBA: CUBA IS NOW THE COUNTRY WITH THE MOST CONDEMNATIONS BY THIS BODY SINCE 2019

The United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, through an arbitration process in which Cuba has had full rights to an effective defense, **has just ruled that 49 prisoners who were victims of the July 11 demonstrations**, all of whose cases were presented and defended before the body against the Cuban regime by Prisoners Defenders ([Complaint Case 23](#) and [Complaint Case 149](#), both from 2021), were arbitrarily detained for political and ideological reasons and without due process or defense, in addition to suffering multiple other crimes against humanity, such as forced disappearance and isolation, torture, and multiple and very serious violations of their human rights.

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Historic condemnation by the
UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions in Cuba:

Cuba is now the country in the world with the most condemnations by this body since 2019



 SPECIAL PROCEDURES
UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

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In the two final rulings (Op. [46/2025](#) and Op. [57/2025](#)), the United Nations body exposes these violations and urges Cuba to immediately release and exonerate the 49 victims and compensate them for damages. With these 49 new cases, the United Nations Working Group ranks Cuba as the world's leading country for arbitrary detention since 2019, with 93 cases between 2019 and 2025, while the second country is Egypt, with 73 cases of arbitrary detention. In addition to this, Cuba is the only country in the world that has been condemned in three mass opinions (more than 10 victims), totaling 66 cases spread over three opinions submitted by Prisoners Defenders and resolved with condemnation by the WGAD in just one year and eight months ([13/2024](#), [46/2025](#), and [57/2025](#)). Cuba, Turkey, and Nicaragua are, in that order, the only three countries in the world with the most mass convictions of this type. Of the 93 cases in Cuba, Prisoners Defenders was the rapporteur and defender of 81 of them before the body (87%).¹

¹ The data for 2025 is logically partial, pending possible subsequent publications that could alter the ranking exercise carried out. In the case of Turkey, Prisoners Defenders has also contributed to defending and demonstrating several arbitrary detentions during the period.

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ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION ACCORDING TO UNITED NATIONS RULINGS

From 2019 to 2025, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) has adopted **93 cases of arbitrary detention in Cuba**, in all of which it determined that the persons deprived of their liberty were so because they exercised internationally protected rights, such as freedom of expression, religious freedom, the right to peaceful assembly, demonstration, and civic participation, without due process, and with countless human rights violations and crimes against humanity, such as arbitrary imprisonment, torture, persecution, forced disappearance, and other inhumane acts. The WGAD merely certifies that **the Cuban regime perpetrated against these 49 new victims, and the previous 44, six of the 11 possible crimes against humanity defined by the Rome Statute.**

In all its resolutions, the WGAD acts as an arbitrator, allowing for the effective defense of the State Party, which the Cuban regime has exercised on all occasions until 2025. It is a process similar to an express judicial process, where a series of experts from various countries, endorsed and elected by the United Nations, conduct a thorough analysis of the positions and evidence of both parties in dispute, Prisoners Defenders and the Government of Cuba, to finally issue a final verdict, as in a court ruling, which they call "Opinions". The opinions of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention are public documents that assess whether a case of deprivation of liberty constitutes arbitrary detention and, if so, classify the case and recommend that the State take measures such as the release of the person.

Even so, and despite the fact that the State Party has more information and details than anyone else about the ongoing proceedings, Cuba defended itself and lost all the arbitration proceedings on the cases presented by Prisoners Defenders up to this point. Now, in 2025, with the new 49 cases presented alongside the most conclusive documentary evidence, **the regime did not venture to refute the accusations this time and tacitly agreed with the arguments and evidence presented by Prisoners Defenders. However, the Working Group did conduct a thorough review of the evidence, verifying and adopting each of our arguments after this review process, which took almost two years, and the regime's final tacit acceptance of our arguments.**

With the condemnation of the regime for the 93 arbitrarily detained persons, ruled on between 2019 and 2025, **Cuba ranks as the country with the highest number of victims of arbitrary detention recognized by the WGAD Opinions in the last six years.**² Prisoners Defenders, for its part, has prepared, submitted, conducted, and won rulings in 81 of these 93 cases (87%).

Ranking	Country	Cases (persons) 2019–2025	Opinions	Average per Opinion
1	Cuba	93 ← highest in the world	18	5.16 ← highest in the world
2	Egypt	73	33	2.21
3	Bahrain	70	16	4.38

² The data for 2025 is logically partial, pending possible subsequent publications that could alter the ranking exercise carried out.

4	China	53	29	1.83
5	Venezuela	39	30	1.30
6	Russia	34	12	2.83
7	Saudi Arabia	33	25	1.32
8	Mexico	29	18	1.61
9	Nicaragua	28	18	1.55
10	Vietnam	21	22	0.95

Table 1. Ranking of countries by arbitrary detention in the WGAD (2019-2025)³

In these 93 cases adopted by the WGAD, the United Nations Working Group has also noted that many could have constituted cases of **enforced disappearance**, which coincides with data from **the United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances**, where Cuba is already the fourth country in the world in terms of urgent actions on enforced disappearance adopted by this Committee. **With 193 urgent actions on enforced disappearances since 2012**, all of them (193) processed and carried out at the United Nations by Prisoners Defenders, **Cuba is only behind Mexico, Iraq, and Colombia**. With one essential difference. While in those countries forced disappearances occur as a result of mafia activity, **in Cuba the only mafia responsible for forced disappearances is the government itself**.⁴

Country	Urgent Actions on Enforced Disappearance	Ranking
Mexico	664	1
Iraq	598	2
Colombia	232	3
Cuba	193	4
Honduras	35	5

Table 2. Ranking of countries by CED Urgent Actions (2012-2024)⁵

However, what distinguishes the Cuban case is not only the volume, but also **the pattern of repression**. While in most countries the final rulings of the WGAD (called "*Opinions*") refer to **individual cases**, in Cuba it is now common for **a single Opinion to cover groups of people detained simultaneously**. Multiple Opinions have been documented, with **7 people (4/2020)**, and in the last year and eight months alone, with **17, 16, and 33 people (66 cases) in just three decisions (13/2024, 46/2025, and 57/2025)**.

This means that arbitrary detention in Cuba **is not an isolated or circumstantial problem**. These are not scattered cases or isolated administrative abuses. It is an **authoritarian model of governance underpinned by crimes against humanity**, in which all agents of the criminal justice system—police, prosecution, courts, and prisons—operate as part of **the same scheme of political control at the state level**.

In other words, **in Cuba, prison is a mechanism of social control through state terrorism. Detention and imprisonment are punishments for thousands, but also recurring messages of intimidation to the entire terrorized society**. Furthermore, **the punishment is not only for the detained person, but also for their family, their community, and society as a whole**, as can be seen in the 93 cases in the WGAD's final opinions, which reflect these aspects.

As a result, Cuba has **the highest average number of people detained per WGAD resolution in the world**, with **more than five people per ruling**, known as Opinions. This figure is **relevant**: compared to other countries, **arbitrary detention in Cuba is collective in nature, whether religious, family-related, or ideological**.

This means that imprisonment in Cuba functions as **a mechanism of social control**, aimed at:

- Religious communities;
- Neighborhood groups;
- Local organizations;

³ The data for 2025 is logically partial, pending possible subsequent publications that could alter the ranking exercise carried out.

⁴ Latest annual report available from the CED: https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=A%2F79%2F56&Lang=en

⁵ As of June 15, 2024, according to the latest annual report published to date by the United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED).

- Citizen movements; and
- Entire families.

Deprivation of liberty is used **not to punish behavior**, but to **dismantle humanitarian and pro-democracy networks and prevent citizens from enjoying any fundamental freedoms through state terrorism**.

There is no doubt that the United Nations human rights mechanisms have significant shortcomings, particularly due to their lack of binding power over Member States, given that the main mission of the United Nations is diplomatic dialogue and respect for sovereignty, and financial resources are limited, meaning that only a tiny fraction of cases can be processed. Nevertheless, the Working Group's technicians and experts make every effort and carry out highly skilled work within these limitations, and we must be grateful that, at least despite the limitations, human beings have these mechanisms at their disposal. Improving coverage and expanding the binding nature of cases in which crimes against humanity are detected, such as in Cuba, requires additional funding and changes in the philosophy of confrontation and the legal coverage of these cases at the UN. These paragraphs serve to reflect on this, while also expressing our infinite gratitude to the technicians involved for the work that is undoubtedly already being done today.

OPINION No. 46 OF 2025 OF THE WGAD

This opinion highlights the fact that many of the defendants were Yoruba religious leaders or members of the Free Yoruba Association of Cuba. Their cases were already included in a letter of allegations ([JAL CUB 4/2023](#)), also submitted to the United Nations by Prisoners Defenders, which was supported by five United Nations Human Rights Mandates.

From the opinion of the United Nations Working Group (Op. [46/2025](#)), whose beneficiary victims are 16 ([Mitzael Díaz Paseiro](#), [Nidia Bienes Paseiro](#), [Arianna López Roque](#), [Orlando Pineda Martínez](#), [Yunior Jorge Ramos Yera](#), [Yunior Iglesias Velázquez](#), [Loreto Hernández García](#), [Donaida Pérez Paseiro](#), [Lisdani Rodríguez Isaac](#), [Lisdiani Rodríguez Isaac](#), [Juvier Jiménez Gómez](#), [Demis Valdés Sarduy](#), [Ciro Alexis Casanova Pérez](#), [Yeidel Carrero Pablo](#), [Yamani Noel Pupo Soto](#), and [José Enrique Pablo Oliva](#)), we highlight the final decision:

"3. Decision:

113. In view of the foregoing, the Working Group issues the following opinion: **The deprivation of liberty [of the 16 victims] is arbitrary, as it contravenes articles 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and falls under categories I, II, III, and V.**

114. The Working Group calls on the Government of Cuba to take the necessary measures to **remedy the situation of the 16 persons without delay** and bring it into conformity with the relevant international standards, including those set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

115. The Working Group considers that, taking into account all the circumstances of the case, the appropriate remedy would be **to release the 16 individuals immediately and unconditionally and to grant them the effective right to obtain compensation and other forms of redress**, in accordance with international law.

116. The Working Group urges the Government to **conduct a thorough and independent investigation** into the circumstances surrounding the arbitrary deprivation of liberty of the 16 individuals and to take appropriate measures against those responsible for the violation of their rights.

We also highlight the following statements from the opinion:

"71. The Working Group, after examining the information submitted by the source, which was not refuted by the Government, concludes that the arrests of the 16 individuals took place, without exception, **after they participated in the protests of July 11, 2021, in different parts of Santa Clara (Cuba).**"

"72. As a common element, **none of the aforementioned detainees**, at the time of their apprehension, **were informed of the reasons for their detention, presented with an arrest warrant, or informed of their rights**. The detention did not take place at the location and time of the events, which prevents it from being considered a detention in flagrante delicto."

"74. These arrests **directly violate Articles 3 and 9 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, which guarantee the right to liberty and security of person, as well as the right to be informed of the charges."

"75. The Working Group insists that, for an arrest to be considered lawful, **its legality must be supervised by a judge, not by a prosecuting or security agency, as was the case here.**"

"The Working Group considers that the detainees **were not brought before a judge to challenge their detention** within 48 hours of their initial deprivation of liberty. Although the individuals were eventually brought before the courts, this occurred well after the 48-hour deadline for challenging the grounds for arrest ... **the Working Group considers that the detention of the 16 individuals was not subject to judicial review**, in violation of Article 9 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

"80. **Although Cuban law allows police investigators and prosecutors to order pretrial detention without judicial intervention for up to 168 hours (seven days), which can be extended indefinitely with the authorization of the Attorney General, this mechanism lacks independence and does not meet the international standard of review by an impartial authority.** The Working Group has repeatedly pointed out that such systems turn pretrial detention into an **anticipation of punishment, violating the presumption of innocence.**"

"81. **The investigation phase (preparatory phase) lasted for months without a judge reviewing the legality** or necessity of the detention. This lack of judicial oversight is incompatible with Article 9 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

"82. In addition to the situation described above, **the 16 detainees were held incommunicado for periods ranging from several days to several weeks.** During this time, **they were not allowed to communicate with their families, who were unaware of their whereabouts, and were victims of enforced disappearance and obvious ill-treatment.**"

"83. **Mr. Díaz Paseiro was disappeared for more than 10 days and remained without contact with his family for more than 20 days, being allowed his first family visit only after 40 days. Lisdani Rodríguez Isaac was disappeared for more than 30 days, receiving her first family visit after 120 days. Ms. Bienes Paseiro was missing for more than 10 days and had her first family visit after 40 days.**"

"84. Likewise, **Messrs. López Roque, Pérez Paseiro, Pineda Martínez, Ramos Yera, Iglesias Velázquez, Jiménez Gómez, Casanova Pérez, Carrero Pablo, Pupo Soto, Hernández García, Valdez Sarduy, and Pablo Olivase remained for several days without their families knowing their whereabouts or having any contact with them.**"

"The fact that the Government did not notify the families of the detainees of their arrest and place of detention also contravenes principle 16, paragraph 1, of the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment. **Enforced disappearance violates many substantive provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and constitutes a particularly aggravated form of arbitrary detention.**"

"The detainees did not have access to a lawyer nor were they brought before a judge to ensure the legality of the proceedings. This situation constitutes a serious violation of the right to challenge the legality of the detention."

"87. **Taking all these considerations into account, the Working Group is convinced that the detention of the 16 individuals is arbitrary under category I, as it does not comply with the causes and procedures established by law.**"

"89. The Working Group notes that, in view of the context in which these detentions took place, **the cases described in the communication show a systematic violation of multiple rights established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, especially Article 18, which guarantees freedom of thought, conscience, and religion.** Taking into account that **several detainees are Yoruba priests and priestesses and that their religion is linked to their political activism, persecuting them for their religious beliefs and political dissent violat** . Religion cannot be used as a pretext to criminalize dissent. Similarly, the Working Group notes that **Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees the right to freedom of opinion and expression, has been violated for the same reasons already stated by the source, recognized by the Working Group, and not denied by the Government.** The Working Group considers that **Article 19 is at the heart of the conflict, since the detainees protested peacefully on July 11, 2021, and freedom of expression includes the right to demonstrate. Criminalizing peaceful protest is a flagrant violation of that article, as well as Article 20, which establishes that everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.** Given that the demonstrations on July 11, 2021, were peaceful, **the mass arrest of activists for exercising this right demonstrates a systematic attack on legitimate association and social protest.**

The criminal charges are intended to coerce them for their opinions and political participation, as well as to discourage further protests in this area.

"93. The Working Group is convinced that **the criminal charges against the 16 detained persons were intended to justify detention aimed at penalizing the exercise of the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, association, assembly, and political participation**, in violation of articles 18 to 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and that their detention is therefore arbitrary under category II."

"The Working Group emphasizes that **no trial should have been held.**"

"96. In this case, **the Working Group takes note of the source's statements, who cited an exhortation by the President of Cuba on public television in which he stated that "criminals" and "officials of the (United States) Government" were behind the demonstrations, and called on the Cuban people to "fight" against those who questioned the Government.**"

"97. **This invalidates, as already mentioned, the possibility that the 16 individuals were guaranteed the presumption of innocence. Similarly, the Working Group found evidence to suggest that judges who had knowledge of the case had preconceived ideas about it.**"

"98. In all the cases reported concerning **the 16 individuals detained and convicted, it is mentioned that they were interrogated without the presence of a lawyer and that they were all charged with vague and disproportionate crimes, such as "contempt," "assault," or "public disorder," whose criminal definition lacks precision and can be used to criminalize criticism of the government.**"

"99. The source has clearly established that **the 16 individuals did not have a lawyer at the beginning of their detention, which indicates that their right to defense and to be informed of the charges in a legal framework was not respected. The authorities acted in an opaque manner, without allowing the detainees to formally know the reasons for their arrest or to exercise their right to legal representation.**"

"100. The Working Group is convinced that **the 16 detainees did not have sufficient time to prepare their defense, and that this affected their unrestricted access to the appropriate means for their legal protection.**"

"101. The source highlights with concern, and this alarms the Working Group, that **Lisdani Rodríguez Isaac, who was pregnant, was deprived of prenatal care and kept in conditions totally unsuitable for her condition. Likewise, Mr. Hernández García suffers from asthma, hypertension, diabetes, heart problems, and severe malnutrition. Despite a medical opinion stating that he is "unfit to remain in prison," he was denied extra-penal leave.**"

"With regard to **pregnant women in prison, such practices also constitute a violation of rule 28 of the Nelson Mandela Rules and rule 48 of the Bangkok Rules.**"

"104. The Working Group concludes that the **failure to comply with international standards relating to the right to a fair and impartial trial**, as recognized in articles 10 and 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is so serious that it renders the deprivation of liberty of the 16 individuals arbitrary under category III."

"The detention of the 16 individuals was the result of the exercise of their fundamental rights under international law."

"The pattern of selective detention of human rights activists, journalists, and political opponents reveals **a clear discriminatory motivation. The Government has used the criminal justice system as an instrument to silence its critics**, in violation of article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which prohibits all forms of discrimination. **This systematic conduct confirms that the detention is arbitrary under category V, on grounds of political discrimination.**"

"110. The Working Group notes the source's allegations against **Ms. Rodríguez Isaac, stating that the authorities have denied her the right to medical care** under international law and the Bangkok Rules. The source argues that Lisdani Rodríguez Isaac became pregnant and was diagnosed with placenta previa, a condition that carries a risk of premature birth, while she was in prison. In addition, **the Cuban authorities pressured her to have an abortion through ill-treatment. The source adds that Ms. Rodríguez Isaac was denied food during her imprisonment and lacked access to hot water during the winter months ... The Working Group considers that the Bangkok Rules (rules 5 and 48) have been violated and that her detention is arbitrary under category V on the grounds of gender discrimination.**

"112. The Working Group expresses concern about allegations regarding **releases** from prison **between January and March 2025, subject to conditions that the source describes as a constant threat of re-imprisonment.** These include the **obligation to perform work imposed** by the State Security Forces, a **ban on expressing oneself on social media, in the media, or before human rights organizations, and restrictions on participating in public activities critical of the Government or in defense of rights.**"

CURRENT SITUATION OF THE 16 VICTIMS

LORETO HERNÁNDEZ GARCÍA (54 years old, Cuban, born on May 4, 1971). Ifá priest and religious leader of the Association of Free Yorubas of Cuba. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who report to the Ministry of Justice. **He remains imprisoned in Guamajal prison, in the province of Villa Clara, where he is serving his full sentence in harsh conditions and in critical health. He suffers from asthma, hypertension, diabetes, heart problems, and malnutrition, and his family has reported a progressive physical deterioration that causes him constant pain in his left side and cramps in both legs, which barely allow him to walk. In May 2025, he received death threats from a State Security agent, who assured him that he would only obtain his extra-penal license if his wife, also a political prisoner, "kept quiet and bowed her head." Subsequently, in October 2025, his brother reported new death threats from prison officials, who told him verbatim: "Get the song ready, so that when we kill you, you can make it public." His medical and security situation constitutes an imminent risk to his life.**

JOSÉ ENRIQUE PABLO OLIVA (53 years old, Cuban, born May 11, 1972). Citizen detained in July 2021 in Santa Clara for his participation in the 11J demonstrations. He had no judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who report to the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently under an extra-penal license granted after undergoing surgery for an ulcer. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He is not allowed to leave his city of residence, is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

MITZAEEL DÍAZ PASEIRO (47 years old, Cuban, born on August 22, 1978). Activist with the Orlando Zapata Tamayo Civic Resistance Front, member of the Cuban Resistance Assembly and the Cuban Democratic Directorate, as well as a religious practitioner with the Association of Free Yorubas of Cuba. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and dependent on the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently serving his sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He is not allowed to leave his city of residence, is prohibited from expressing himself publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

NIDIA BIENES PASEIRO (38 years old, Cuban, born on August 7, 1987). Activist with the Orlando Zapata Tamayo National Civic Resistance Front and collaborator with the Julio Machado Academy. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and dependent on the Ministry of Justice. **She is currently serving her sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as she continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. She is not allowed to leave her city of residence, is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

ARIANNA LÓPEZ ROQUE (35 years old, Cuban, born May 14, 1990). Director of the Julio Machado Academy and activist with the Orlando Zapata Tamayo National Civic Resistance Front. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and dependent on the Ministry of Justice. **She is currently serving her sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely**

formal, as she continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. She is not allowed to leave her city of residence, is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.

DONAI DA PÉREZ PASEIRO (54 years old, Cuban, born on February 25, 1971). Yoruba priestess and member of the Association of Free Yorubas of Cuba. She was arrested in July 2021, in the context of the 11J protests, without judicial protection and without technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and dependent on the Ministry of Justice. **She had been released on parole, a purely formal measure, as she continued to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: she was not allowed to leave her city of residence, was prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, was forced to perform labor supervised by State Security, and remained under constant surveillance. On June 11, 2025, the Provincial Court of Villa Clara revoked her parole and ordered her return to prison. According to the court ruling, the measure was adopted following a request by the enforcement judge of Placetas, who alleged alleged breaches of work obligations and failure to appear in court when summoned. The political prisoner was transferred back to Guamajal prison in Villa Clara, where she remains incarcerated. This revocation demonstrates the use of the Cuban judicial system as an instrument of repression and political control against those who dissent or engage in independent religious and social activity.**

LISDANI RODRÍGUEZ ISAAC (27 years old, Cuban and Spanish, born on October 12, 1998). Religious practitioner of the Association of Free Yorubas of Cuba and community activist. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who report to the Ministry of Justice. **She is currently serving her sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as she continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. She is not allowed to leave her city of residence, is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

LISDIANI RODRÍGUEZ ISAAC (27 years old, Cuban and Spanish, born on October 12, 1998). A religious practitioner with the Association of Free Yorubas of Cuba, twin sister of Lisdani Rodríguez Isaac, and participant in civic activities in the Yoruba community. She was detained in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and dependent on the Ministry of Justice. **She is currently serving her sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as she continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. She is not allowed to leave her city of residence (), is prohibited from expressing herself publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

ORLANDO PINEDA MARTÍNEZ (41 years old, Cuban, born October 4, 1984). Citizen who participated in the July 11 protests in the province of Villa Clara, with no known political affiliation. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who report to the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently serving his sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He is not allowed to leave his city of residence, is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

YUNIOR JORGE RAMOS YERA (34 years old, Cuban, born January 11, 1991). Participant in the 11J demonstrations in Santa Clara, with no known affiliation. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who report to the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently serving his sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as he continues**

to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He is not allowed to leave his city of residence, is prohibited from expressing himself publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.

CIRO ALEXIS CASANOVA PÉREZ (50 years old, Cuban, born on September 18, 1975). A critical citizen with no known political affiliation, he was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and reporting to the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently serving his sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He cannot leave his city of residence, is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

YEIDEL CARRERO PABLO (37 years old, Cuban, born on June 19, 1988). Participant in the July 11 demonstrations without judicial protection and without technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and dependent on the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently serving his sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He cannot leave his city of residence, is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

YAMANI NOEL PUPO SOTO (36 years old, Cuban, born July 15, 1989). Citizen detained in July 2021 for his participation in the 11J protests without judicial protection and without technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and reporting to the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently serving his sentence under a conditional release regime. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He cannot leave his city of residence, is prohibited from expressing himself publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

JUVIER JIMÉNEZ GÓMEZ (54 years old, Cuban, born on April 19, 1971). Citizen detained in July 2021 without judicial protection and without technical, legal, and independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and reporting to the Ministry of Justice. **He is currently serving his sentence under a parole regime. This release from prison is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment. He cannot leave his city of residence (), is prohibited from expressing himself publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and remains under constant surveillance.**

YUNIOR IGLESIAS VELÁZQUEZ (40 years old, Cuban and Spanish, born on January 24, 1985). A dual national residing in Santa Clara, he was arrested in July 2021 for his participation in the July 11 demonstrations. He had no judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who report to the Ministry of Justice. **He was released on December 2, 2024, after serving his full sentence. However, he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment.**

DEMIS VALDÉS SARDUY (45 years old, Cuban, born on September 11, 1980). Activist with the Cuban Reflection Movement and participant in the July 11 protests. He was arrested in July 2021 and subjected to criminal proceedings on charges of public disorder. He had no judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who report to the Ministry of Justice. **He currently resides in the United States, and although he has managed to reach a safer environment, his legal situation remains uncertain and he continues to face the psychological effects of the repression he suffered in Cuba, as well as the emotional and family consequences of forced exile.**

OPINION No. 57 OF 2025 OF THE WGAD

In this case, **we are dealing with civilians, most of them humble, peaceful, and apolitical protesters, who were tried by a military court**, in clear violation of international law and depriving the victims of a fair trial. However, among them are some prominent human rights defenders.

From the ruling of the United Nations Working Group ([Op. 57/2025](#)), whose beneficiary victims are 33 ([Jorge Bello Domínguez](#), [Mijail Sánchez de la Nuez](#), [Orlando Valle Jorge](#), [Brenda Díaz García](#), [Lizandra Góngora Espinosa](#), [Yasdani Benítez Quesada](#), [Yandi Hernández Montes de Oca](#), [Carlos Manuel Fonseca Borges](#), [Yanley López Basulto](#), [Carlos Raúl Perdomo Cancio](#), [Yander Rodríguez Iglesias](#), [Ismael Rodríguez González](#), [Yendri Vidal Limonta](#), [Yasiel de Jesús China Solano](#), [Yasiel Hernández Márquez](#), [Juan Pablo Martínez Monterrey](#), [Daisel González Álvarez](#), [Lázaro Antonio Rodríguez Jerez](#), [Yasbelys Rodríguez León](#), [Marlon Noval Alonso](#), [Yunior Pérez López](#), [Yismel Alfonso Oliva](#), [Lázaro Yeison Cecé Gálvez](#), [Dariel Rosa Pérez](#), [Yosnel Laferté Salazar](#), [Joselín Orta Llorens](#), [Gilberto Castillo Castillo](#), [Jorge Luis Lugones Lara](#), [Elienay Maresma Mesa](#), [Yunaikis González Pérez](#), [Hortensia Oceguera González](#), [Claudia González Amarán](#), and [Kevin Ángel Álvarez Echevarría](#)), we highlight the final decision:

"3. Decision:

114. In view of the foregoing, the Working Group issues the following opinion: The deprivation of liberty of the 33 individuals is arbitrary, as it contravenes Articles 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 19, and 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and falls under categories I, II, III, and V.

115. The Working Group calls upon the Government of Cuba to take the necessary measures to remedy the situation of the 33 individuals without delay.

116. The Working Group considers that, taking into account all the circumstances of the case, the appropriate remedy would be to release the 33 individuals immediately and unconditionally and to grant them the effective right to obtain compensation and other forms of reparation.

"1. The Working Group urges the Government to conduct a thorough and independent investigation."

The Working Group refers this case to the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.

We also highlight the following statements from the opinion:

"72. The Working Group notes that **all detainees share the same circumstances and reasons for their detention, and many of them have been victims of enforced disappearance and incommunicado detention, being held for long periods without any contact with their families**. In addition, many of them are **in very poor health**. These statements have not been refuted by the Government either."

"The 33 detainees, as a result of the protests on July 11, 2021, face charges of **public disorder, sabotage, and other vague crimes**. The Working Group notes that most were arrested during those demonstrations, and some up to five days later, on the same charges. Furthermore, it highlights that **in none of the cases was an arrest warrant or detention order presented**."

"With regard to the 33 cases examined, **the exercise of these powers should have been subject to review and appeal before a judge** or other authority, but this was not the case."

"**In none of the 33 cases was there judicial oversight of the initial arrest**."

"The source's assertion that **there was no arrest warrant prior to the apprehension** was not refuted."

"For a detention to be considered lawful, its legality must be supervised **by a judge, not by a prosecuting or security agency, as was the case here**."

"The Working Group considers that **the detainees were not brought before a judge to challenge their detention** within 48 hours of their initial deprivation of liberty. Although the individuals were eventually brought before the courts, this occurred well after the 48-hour deadline for challenging the grounds for arrest. Based on the information received, **the Working Group considers that the detention of the 33 individuals was not subject to judicial review**."

In all cases, **the investigating police officers and the prosecutor ordered pretrial detention for all those detained, who were not brought before a judge and remained** in custody.

"83. Although Cuban law allows police investigators and prosecutors to order pretrial detention without judicial intervention for up to 168 hours (seven days), which can be extended indefinitely with the authorization of the attorney general, **this mechanism lacks independence and does not comply with the international standard** of review by an impartial authority. The Working Group has repeatedly pointed out that **such systems turn pretrial detention into an anticipation of punishment, violating the presumption of innocence.**"

"84. The investigation phase (preparatory phase) lasted **for months without a judge reviewing the legality or necessity of the detention.**"

"85. The Working Group takes into account that **the 33 individuals were held incommunicado, disappeared—their families or friends were unable to obtain information about their whereabouts—and mistreated—some of them tortured—for periods ranging from 7 to 40 days.**"

"86. The Working Group emphasizes that **incommunicado detention in an unknown location is considered, prima facie, to be enforced disappearance.** Enforced disappearance violates many substantive provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and constitutes a particularly aggravated form of arbitrary detention. In this case, **the 33 individuals were deprived of the protection of the law for weeks.**"

"87. Most of the detainees **were held incommunicado for a period of time and had no contact with their families or legal counsel. Some did not have access to a lawyer for more than a year.**"

"The Working Group concludes that the legal irregularities committed at the time of the detention of the 33 individuals constitute one of the grounds for **declaring the detention arbitrary under category I.**"

"91. The source highlights the excerpt from the judgment contained in section 2) of the "Proven Facts," which reads as follows: "with the sole purpose of attracting the attention of the people and local authorities, and consequently causing excitement and disturbances in public order." According to the source, **this statement constitutes a misrepresentation of the facts, and the Working Group accepts the source's conclusion** in the absence of any response from the Government and concludes that **no facts other than the peaceful demonstration by the 33 individuals have been proven**, while considering the intentions indicated by the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Police to be a presumption."

The Working Group agrees with the source that **the criminality of the actions carried out by the accused has not been proven**, with the source insisting that these actions are nothing more than public, peaceful demonstrations that constitute the right to freedom of expression, assembly, and participation in the public and political life of the country. Therefore, these actions constitute the exercise of **freedom of expression and assembly.**

"95. The Working Group concludes that, given that articles 19 and 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights have been violated, **these actions fall under category II.**"

"96. The Working Group further notes that the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association has stated that assemblies should not be automatically dispersed and that organizers should not be subject to criminal or administrative penalties resulting in fines or imprisonment.¹² **This, however, is precisely what happened to the 33 individuals.**"

"98. The Working Group adds that the imposition of a severe prison sentence may have a chilling effect on the exercise of human rights, including freedom of expression, and **calls on the Government to avoid unduly infringing on the rights of its citizens in this manner.**"

"99. Given its conclusion that the detention of the 33 detainees was arbitrary under category II, **the Working Group emphasizes that no trial should have been held.**" ... "The Working Group considers that **the information submitted by the source reveals violations of their right to due process during the trial and appeal proceedings.**"

"101. In all 33 cases, **the detainees were interrogated without a lawyer and charged with vague offenses such as 'contempt' or 'assault,' whose criminal definition lacks precision and can be used to criminalize critical expression of the Government.**"

"The Working Group takes note of the source's assertions, who has quoted the President of the Republic as saying on public television that 'criminals' and 'U.S. government officials' were behind the demonstrations, and calling on the Cuban people to 'fight' against those who questioned the government."

"103. **This public statement** [by the President of Cuba] **undermines the possibility that the 33 individuals subject to this opinion have been guaranteed the presumption of innocence.** Similarly, the Working Group has found **evidence to suggest that the judges who heard the case had preconceived ideas about it.**"

"104. The Working Group notes that **neither the detainees nor their families have copies of the arrest warrants or the pretrial detention orders.** This procedural opacity **prevents any effective remedy** against the illegality of the detention, which accentuates its arbitrary nature. It also notes that, according to the source, **the police interrogations of the 33 detainees took place without the presence of legal representation, which the Government, by its silence, has not refuted.**"

It has been decided to bring the case to the attention of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.

"107. The Working Group considers that the information presented confirms the source's allegations that **the fairness of the proceedings was affected by unequal arms, ill-treatment, and torture, which constitutes a violation of the right to a fair trial.**"

"The Working Group has repeatedly established that military courts are not competent to try civilians except in duly justified exceptional cases. The application of military jurisdiction to civilians **violates the principle of legality** and undermines the right to a trial before a civilian court."

"14. The Working Group finds that this situation violates the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary. **The Working Group concludes that the failure to observe international standards relating to the right to a fair and impartial trial, as recognized in articles 10 and 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is so serious that it renders the deprivation of liberty of the 33 individuals arbitrary under category III.**"

The charges in the judicial proceedings indicate that the detainees shouted slogans against the Cuban State and the Government with a high degree of violence, using pots and metal objects—which were not seized—making noise and carrying a white sheet with a sign that read: "Down with the dictatorship and freedom for Cuba." **This shows that the authorities punished them specifically for their critical political opinions.** Furthermore, given that the demonstration was a response to discontent with the government, the Working Group considers that **the 33 detainees were arrested, charged, and imprisoned solely for their alleged political affiliations. Consequently, the Working Group determines that these arrests were arbitrary under category V.**

"Final considerations:

112. This is one of several cases brought before the Working Group in recent years concerning arbitrary detention in Cuba. **The Working Group is concerned that this may indicate a widespread or systematic practice of arbitrary detention in the country. The Working Group emphasizes that States have an obligation not to engage in acts that may constitute crimes against humanity and to prevent and punish them if they are committed.**

113. The Working Group expresses **concern about allegations concerning releases from prison between January and March 2025, subject to conditions that the source describes as a "constant threat of re-entry into a prison regime."** These include **the obligation to perform work imposed by the State Security Forces; a ban on expressing oneself on social media, in the media, or before human rights organizations; and restrictions on participating in public activities critical of the Government or in defense of rights.**

CURRENT SITUATION OF THE 33 VICTIMS

DAISEL GONZÁLEZ ÁLVAREZ. He was arrested in **July 2021** without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers appointed by the state. His case is particularly serious: **he is currently missing, with no confirmation that he has left the country and no immigration records to prove it.** The initial version—according to which he had left Cuba by boat—has been denied by his own family, who say that he ultimately gave up on that idea. Since then, there has been no verifiable information about his whereabouts, and State Security has stopped

searching for him and shows no interest in clarifying his situation, which is a highly worrying indicator. **His disappearance, coupled with the total absence of any investigation by the authorities, suggests the possible existence of an enforced disappearance, which puts his life at risk and requires immediate attention from international human rights mechanisms.**

CARLOS RAÚL PERDOMO CANCIO. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who depend on the Ministry of Justice. He remains in detention at the Combinado del Este Prison in Havana, where he is facing progressive physical deterioration. He suffers from tuberculosis, related lung problems, high blood pressure, lameness, and vision problems, conditions that significantly increase the risk to his health within the Cuban prison system.

YASIEL HERNÁNDEZ MÁRQUEZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the official lawyers dependent on the state. He remains in custody at the Combinado del Este Prison in Havana, where he is suffering from severe malnutrition due to the serious shortcomings of the prison system, which increases his physical vulnerability and the risk to his life.

JORGE BELLO DOMÍNGUEZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and dependent on the Ministry of Justice. He remains in custody, held in the maximum security prison in Guanajay, Artemisa, where he is in serious physical decline. He suffers from diabetes, eye problems, testicular inflammation with bleeding, a history of heart attack, hypertension, and asthma, which significantly increases the risk to his health in prison.

MIJAÍL SÁNCHEZ DE LA NUEZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for lawyers dependent on the Ministry of Justice. He remains in custody, imprisoned in the Maximum Security Prison in Guanajay, Artemisa, where he is suffering from malnutrition and hypertension, conditions that aggravate his general state of health in a precarious prison environment.

ORLANDO VALLE JORGE. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the official state lawyers. He remains in custody, held in the Maximum Security Prison in Guanajay, Artemisa, where he suffers from hypertension and malnutrition, factors that increase the risks to his physical integrity given the poor conditions of the prison.

MARLON NOVAL ALONSO. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. He remains in detention at the Guanajay Maximum Security Prison in Artemisa, where he has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder but has no access to adequate psychiatric care, which exacerbates his vulnerability within the prison system.

JUAN PABLO MARTÍNEZ MONTERREY. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. He remains in custody, imprisoned in the Ceiba 5 Forced Labor Prison in Artemisa, where he suffers from a kidney disease that is not being adequately treated, posing a significant risk to his health in an environment lacking specialized medical care.

YASBELYS RODRÍGUEZ LEÓN. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. She remains in detention at La Lima Forced Labor Prison in Guanabacoa, where she is exposed to harsh conditions of confinement and lacks adequate access to judicial guarantees or effective mechanisms for reviewing her situation.

LIZANDRA GÓNGORA ESPINOSA. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. She remains in detention at the Los Colonos Forced Labor Prison on Isla de la Juventud, where she suffers from a uterine fibroid without receiving adequate medical care, which poses a serious risk to her health in prison conditions.

YENDRI VIDAL LIMONTA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. He remains in detention, held in a forced labor prison near the Combinado del Este, Havana, where he is suffering from malnutrition due to the precarious conditions of the prison system, which increases his vulnerability and the risk to his physical integrity.

YANDER RODRÍGUEZ IGLESIAS. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. He remains in custody, imprisoned in the Taco-Taco Prison in San Cristóbal, where he suffers from hepatitis without access to adequate treatment, which puts his health at risk and seriously violates his fundamental rights.

YASDANI BENÍTEZ QUESADA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who depend on the Ministry of Justice. In March 2025, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, by means of a subsidy of **extra-penal license** under threats of revocation and severe limitations on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

FREDDY LUIS DÍAZ GARCÍA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who depend on the Ministry of Justice. In January 2025, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, through a subsidy of **extra-penal license** under threats of revocation and severe limitations on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from expressing himself publicly or communicating with human rights organizations (), he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

YANDI HERNÁNDEZ MONTES DE OCA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings, except for the lawyers provided by the government and who depend on the Ministry of Justice. In January 2025, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, by means of a subsidy of **extra-penal license** under threats of revocation and severe limitations on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

JORGE LUIS LUGONES LARA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, with a **reduced** sentence under a regime of **coercive parole** under threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

GILBERTO CASTILLO CASTILLO. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a **coercive conditional release** subsidy, under threats of revocation and severe limitations on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited

from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

YISMEL ALFONSO OLIVA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe limitations on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

DARIEL ROSA PÉREZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe limitations on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

LÁZARO YEISON CECÉ GÁLVEZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

YOSNEL LAFERTÉ SALAZAR. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

ISMAEL RODRÍGUEZ GONZÁLEZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

YANLEY LÓPEZ BASULTO. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

YASIEL DE JESÚS CHINEA SOLANO. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **January 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

CARLOS MANUEL FONSECA BORGES. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **February 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from speaking publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

LÁZARO ANTONIO RODRÍGUEZ JEREZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. In **February 2025**, he was released from prison through an agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban regime, under a regime of **coercive parole** with threats of revocation and severe restrictions on his freedom, in violation of Cuba's own Criminal Procedure Law. This release is merely formal, as he continues to be subject to severe restrictions and threats of re-imprisonment: he cannot leave his city of residence, he is prohibited from expressing himself publicly or communicating with human rights organizations, he is subjected to forced labor supervised by State Security, and he remains under constant surveillance.

ELIENAY MARESMÁ MESA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. He is currently under an **ordinary sentence subsidy** consisting of **restricted freedom under threat**, which does not constitute real freedom. He remains subject to restrictions on his movement, constant surveillance, and the permanent risk of re-incarceration, in addition to prohibitions on expressing himself, organizing, or communicating with human rights organizations.

YUNAIKIS GONZÁLEZ PÉREZ. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. She is currently **servicing a regular sentence** in the form of **restricted freedom under threat**, which implies strict control by the authorities. She is subject to severe restrictions that violate her personal freedom, including a ban on leaving her city of residence and the constant threat of re-imprisonment.

CLAUDIA GONZÁLEZ AMARÁN. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. She is currently under **a standard sentence** of **restricted freedom under threat**, which implies strict control by the authorities. She is subject to severe restrictions that violate her personal freedom, including a ban on leaving her city of residence and the constant threat of re-imprisonment.

HORTENSIA OCEGUERA GONZÁLEZ. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. She is currently under **a standard sentence** consisting of **restricted freedom under threat**, which implies strict control by the authorities. She is subject to severe restrictions that violate her personal freedom, including a ban on leaving her city of residence and the constant threat of re-imprisonment.

KEVIN ÁNGEL ÁLVAREZ ECHEVARRÍA. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. He is currently under **a standard sentence** of **restricted freedom under threat**, which implies strict control by the authorities. He is subject to severe restrictions that violate his personal freedom, including a ban on leaving his city of residence and the constant threat of re-imprisonment.

YUNIOR PÉREZ LÓPEZ. He was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. He is currently **servicing a regular sentence** in the form of **conditional release under threat**, which implies strict control by the authorities. He is subject to severe restrictions that violate his personal freedom, including a ban on leaving his city of residence and the constant threat of re-imprisonment.

JOSELÍN ORTA LLORENS. She was arrested in July 2021 without judicial protection and did not have technical, legal, or independent defense throughout the criminal proceedings. **She is currently free after serving her full sentence; however, she continues to be subject to severe restrictions and surveillance mechanisms that significantly limit her personal freedom.** She remains at constant risk of new charges, harassment, and reprisals, as well as restrictions on her movement, expression, and contact with human rights organizations, which shows that her release from prison does not represent the full exercise of her fundamental rights.

LIST OF POTENTIAL REPRESSORS OF THE REGIME IN THE LAST 66 CASES OF THE WGAD

Below, we detail the victims, the individuals involved, and the repressors and agents of the regime related to the 66 cases of arbitrary detention, obtained through the study of public documentation collected by Prisoners Defenders.

CASE 9 OF 2021 – PROVINCIAL PEOPLE'S COURT OF HAVANA – 17 VICTIMS

LIST OF VICTIMS: Wilmer Moreno Suarez, Roberto Pérez Ortega, Odet Hernández Cruzata, Reynier Reynosa Cabrera, Fredy Beirut Matos, Katia Beirut Rodriguez, Luis Frómata Compte, Denis Ojeda Álvarez, Walnier Luis Aguilar Rivera, Yoandry Reinier Sayu Silva, Robert Orlando Cairo Diaz, Rolando Vazquez Fleita, Angel Serrano Hernández, Yerandis Rillo Pao, Oscar Luis Ortiz Arrovsmeth, Carlos Paul Michelena Valdés, and Felipe Almirall.

POLICE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR: Lieutenant Colonel Félix Rafael González Chaveco, located at 100 y Aldabó.

PROSECUTOR IN CHARGE: Yohandris López Parra

FALSE TESTIMONIES USED BY THE PROSECUTION TO BUILD THE CASE:

- **1st Lt. Yohandro Heredia Acosta** (complainant), located at the PNR Unit in Capri, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/yohandro.herediaacosta>.
- **Carlos Rubinos Lavado** (1st secretary of the PCC of the Arroyo Naranjo municipality, who, according to the prosecutor's petition, confronted the protesters), resident of Calzada de Managua No. 782, interior, between Callejón del Lucero and Giral, Mantilla neighborhood, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (identity not confirmed, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/carlos.rubinoslavado>.
- **Belkis Olmos Martínez** (PCC ideological political official in Arroyo Naranjo who, according to the prosecutor's request, confronted the protesters), resident of Calle G # 20508, between 2da and Alday, Reparto Trigal, Boyeros, Havana. Phone: (+53) 7647 9023. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100070244085837>.
- **Rafael Arturo Castillo Montoya** (President of the Arroyo Naranjo Government) resident of Calle Oeste No. 765 between Calle Cuervo and Calle Varona, Los Pinos, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification):
- **Kirenia Pomares Aldama** (Administrative Director of the Arroyo Naranjo Administration Governing Council), resident of Calle 40 # 9724 between 97 A and 97 B, Reparto Lotería, Cotorro, Havana. Phone (+53) 5220 1494. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/kirenia.pomaresaldama.3>.
- **Anibal Vicet León** (Instruction Coordinator at the Arroyo Naranjo Municipal Administration Council who, according to the prosecutor's request, confronted the protesters), resident of Avenida Trébol No. 39131, between Calle 4 and Calle 5, Boyeros, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100073068796005>.

- **Manuel Camps Pellicier** (Coordinator of the defense of the Arroyo Naranjo Municipal Government who, according to the prosecutor's petition, confronted the protesters), resident of Ronda del Sur between Fortuna and Lindero, Building 42, apartment 4, Reparto Altura del Rosario, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/manuel.campspellicier>.
- **Javier Sandoval Albert** (Director of Finance and Prices for Arroyo Naranjo who, according to the prosecutor's request, confronted the protesters), resident of Calle Edificio 8, apt. 18, Calle 246, between 247 and 249, Abel Santamaría, Boyeros, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (identity not confirmed, pending verification): www.facebook.com/javier.sandovalalbert, www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564358576515, www.facebook.com/javiersandovalalbert.sandovalalbert.
- **Juana María Miranda Rodríguez** (witness for the prosecution, member of the Communist Party, who according to the prosecutor's petition confronted the protesters) resident of Avenida del Rosario # 366, between I and Maceo, Rosario neighborhood, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana.
- **Regla Suárez Pérez** (member of the Communist Party, head of the Arroyo Naranjo Municipality's Basic Gastronomy Unit, who, according to the prosecutor's request, confronted the protesters), resident of Calle Martí No. 368 interior, between Calle Aranguren and Calle 27 de Noviembre, Regla municipality, Havana.
- **Miguel Jesús Castro Espinosa** (prominent member of the Communist Party who, according to the prosecutor's request, confronted the protesters), resident of Avenida Rosario #360, between Calle Castro and Calle Maceo, Rosario neighborhood, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/migueljesus.castroespinosa>.
- **Maykel Alejandro Castro Espinosa** (relative of prominent Communist Party member Miguel Jesús Castro Espinosa who, according to the prosecutor's request, confronted the protesters), resident of Avenida Rosario #360, between Calle Castro and Calle Maceo, Rosario neighborhood, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/maykel.castro.1654>.
- **Linet Castro Espinosa** (relative of prominent Communist Party member Miguel Jesús Castro Espinosa who, according to the prosecutor's request, confronted the protesters) resident of Avenida Rosario No. 360, between Castro Street and Maceo Street, Rosario neighborhood, Arroyo Naranjo, Havana. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/linet.castroespinosa>.
- **Ernesto Izquierdo Rivera** (Constituency Delegate, Arroyo Naranjo Municipality, Havana)
- **Limbania Carrasco Ramírez** (President of a Committee for the Defense of the Revolution). Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): www.facebook.com/limbania.carrasco, www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089856723671, and www.facebook.com/limbania.carrasco.2025.

LIST OF MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR EXPERTS WHO FALSIFIED THE "EVIDENCE":

- **Captain Mario Antonio Díaz Agudo**, reachable at the Central Criminalistics Office, and residing at 377 E No. 17816 apt. 19 between 178 and 180, Mulgoba, Boyeros, Havana. Telephone: (+53) 7671 3314.
- **Abelardo Román Concepción Serradet**, Doctor of Medicine, who can be reached at the Institute of Legal Medicine, who falsified Walnier Luis Aguilar Rivera's medical examination so that he could be sent to prison despite being diagnosed as disabled and exempt from military service prior to his arrest. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/abelardo.concepcionsserradet.3>.
- **Claudia William Pedroso**, belonging to the Central Criminalistics Laboratory,

JUDGES WHO CONVICTED THE 17 VICTIMS:

- **Daylin Yamilé Naranjo Medina** (presiding judge). Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/daylinyamile.naranjomedina>.

- **Zamira Marrero Morgado**. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/zamira.marreromorgado.18>.
- **Jennifer Cintao Pérez**. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/jennifer.cintaoperez>.
- **Adonis Soria Oliveira**. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/adonis.soria.2025>.
- **Clara Elena Zulueta Bellma**. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090446382635>.

JUDGES WHO UPHELD THE SENTENCES IN THE CASSATION PROCEEDINGS:

- **Paula Joaquina Rodríguez Sánchez** (rapporteur), People's Supreme Court, Chamber for Crimes against State Security. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/paulajoaquina.rodriguezsanchez>.
- **Plácido Batista Veranes**, People's Supreme Court, Chamber for Crimes against State Security. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/placido.batistaveranes>.
- **Alina de Fátima Santana Echerri**, People's Supreme Court, Chamber for Crimes against State Security. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <facebook.com/profile.php?id=100019446889297>, <facebook.com/profile.php?id=100019528122760> and <facebook.com/alinadefatima.santanaecherri>.
- **Lázaro Máximo León Pelegrín**, People's Supreme Court, Chamber for Crimes against State Security.
- **Marcelo Alonso Hernández**, People's Supreme Court, Chamber for Crimes against State Security.

CUBAN LAWYERS ALLEGEDLY IN CHARGE OF DEFENDING THE VICTIMS AND WHO REQUESTED THEIR CONVICTION:

- The "defense attorney," **Manuel Guzmán Montejo**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed to represent the defendants OSCAR LUIS ORTIZ ARROSMITH and YERANDIS RILLO PAO, requested that his "defendants" be charged with the crime of **sedition**, despite their innocence of any crime.
- The "defense attorney," **Luis Alberto Tejada Rovira**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, in alleged defense of the interests of the defendant WALNIER LUIS AGUILERA RIVERA (mentally disabled and officially exempt from Cuban military service due to disability), requested that his "client" be charged with the crime of **sedition**, despite being innocent of any crime and a vulnerable person who is not fit to be in prison.
- The "defense attorney," **Ronmy Ruiz Gutiérrez**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly representing the defendant DENIS OJEDA ÁLVAREZ, introduced two accusatory theses, the first to consider that her client should be held criminally responsible for the crime of **public disorder**, and the second that he should be held responsible for the crime of **sedition**, despite being innocent of any crime.
- The "defense attorney," **Ronmy Ruiz Gutiérrez**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Offices, allegedly in favor of the defendant CARLOS PAUL MICHELENA VALDÉS, ratified two petitions to the court. In one, he requested that his "client" be charged with **public disorder**, and in the other, he requested that his "client" be charged with **sedition**, despite being innocent of any crime.
- **Sergio Hernández Ramos**, the "defense attorney" working for the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly in favor of the defendant FELIPE ALMIRALL, however, put forward three arguments, two of which were condemnatory in the sense that they considered that the facts constituted the crime of **public disorder** and that the actions carried out by his client constituted the crime of **sedition**, despite him being innocent of any crime.
- The appointed "defense attorney," **José Manuel Sánchez Placeres**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly in favor of the interests of the defendant ROBERT ORLANDO CAIRO DÍAZ, requested that his "defendant" be charged with the crime of **public disorder**, despite being innocent of any crime.
- The "defense attorney," **Roberto Ortega Ortiz**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed to represent the accused REYNIER REYNOSA CABRERA,

requested that his "client" be charged with the crime of **public disorder**, despite being innocent of any crime.

- The "defense attorney," **Felipe E González Alonso**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed to represent the defendant YOANDRI REYNIER REYNOSA CABRERA, requested that his "client" be charged with the crime of **public disorder**, despite being innocent of any crime.
- The "defense attorney," **Benjamin Vladimir Delgado Goyre**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly in favor of the accused ODET HERNANDEZ CRUZATA, requested that his "defendant" be charged with the crime of **public disorder**, despite being innocent of any crime.
- The "defense attorney," **Amauris Damián Sasplugas Fernández**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly in favor of the defendant LUIS FRÓMETA COMPTE, put forward two arguments for conviction. The first was to endorse the false charges brought by the prosecutor, and the second was for the crime of **disturbing the peace**, and **he requested six years of imprisonment for his "defendant,"** despite his innocence of all crimes.
- The "defense attorney," an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, **Luis Michel Millan Castellanos**, allegedly in favor of the defendants WILMER MORENO SUÁREZ and ROBERTO PÉREZ ORTEGA, confirmed with his arguments that the crimes for which they should be punished were **illegal demonstration, incitement to commit a crime, and assault**, despite being innocent of any crime.

CASE 149 OF 2021 – MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S COURT OF SANTA CLARA – 16 VICTIMS

LIST OF VICTIMS: **Mitzael Díaz Paseiro, Nidia Bienes Paseiro, Arianna Lopez Roque, Donaida Perez Paseiro, Lisdani Rodriguez Isaac, Lisdiani Rodriguez Isaac, Orlando Pineda Martinez, Yunior Jorge Ramos Yera, Yunior Iglesias Velázquez, Loreto Hernández García, Juvier Jiménez Gómez, Demis Valdés Sarduy, Ciro Alexis Casanova Pérez, Yeidel Carrero Pablo, Yasmani Noel Pupo Soto, and José Enrique Pablo Oliva.**

INVESTIGATOR: **Captain Yailín Pérez Manso**, Placetas, Villa Clara.

PROSECUTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE OF DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY OF THE VICTIMS: **Belinda Rosmery Monteagudo Valdivia**, from the Municipal Prosecutor's Office of Placetas, Villa Clara.

JUDGES WHO, AT THE OPENING OF THE ORAL TRIAL, RATIFIED THE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES AGAINST THE VICTIMS:

- **Yisel Egües González**, of the Municipal People's Court of Santa Clara
- **Isabel del Río Collado**, from the Municipal People's Court of Santa Clara
- **Magaly Castellón Pérez**, of the Municipal People's Court of Santa Clara

PROSECUTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CASE: **Jorge Reyes Abreu**, from the Provincial Prosecutor's Office of Villa Clara. Home address: Colón No. E-14, apt. 8, between 6th and 7th, Cardoso, Santa Clara, Villa Clara. Phone: (+53) 42203160. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/jorge.reyesabreu.9>.

APPEAL COURT JUDGES:

- **Yeline de la Caridad Embaló Quijano**, with two addresses at Edif B 20 apt. 17, 26 de Diciembre, Remedios, Villa Clara, and at Carretera Camajuaní No. A-1, La Granjita, Santa Clara, Villa Clara, and with telephone numbers (+53) 42388752 and (+53) 42212017. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): www.facebook.com/yeline.de.la.c.embalo.quijano.2025 and www.facebook.com/yelinedelac.embaloquijano.
- **Maylín Pérez Blanco**, judge of the Provincial People's Court of Villa Clara, located in Santa Clara, Villa Clara. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/maylin.perez.blanco.2025>.
- **Idania Trinidad Arboláez Moré**, judge of the Provincial People's Court of Villa Clara, located in Santa Clara, Villa Clara. Similar profiles on Facebook (no confirmation of identity, pending verification): <https://www.facebook.com/idania.arbolaez> and <https://www.facebook.com/idania.arbolaez.2025>.

FALSE TESTIMONIES USED BY THE PROSECUTION TO BUILD THE CASE:

- **Jose Raul González Campo**, Sector Chief, PNR of Placetas, Villa Clara.
- **José Lázaro Pérez Galván**, PNR officer stationed at the PNR in Placetas, Villa Clara.
- **José Luis Capote Monzón**, MININT officer, can be reached at the PNR in Placetas, Villa Clara.
- **Major Héctor Orlando de la Fe Freyre**, reachable at the PNR in Placetas, Villa Clara.
- **Liván Brito Aragón**, officer of the PNR in Placetas, Villa Clara. Communist Party of Placetas.
- **Ricardo González Abreu**, Minint officer, Placetas PNR, Villa Clara.
- **Serguey Martín Guerra**, first secretary of the PCC in Placetas.
- **Ernesto Emilio González Bárcenas**, police officer, residing at Calle 5ta del Oeste No. 86 between 4ta and 5ta del Sur, Placetas, Villa Clara.
- **Esther Yolanda Altunaga López**, at 32 8th Street West between 2nd and 3rd North, Placetas, Villa Clara. She is an undercover agent for State Security, according to reports from the victims.
- **Félix Rodríguez Lorenzo**, assistant to the Minint (political police), Calle Segunda del Oeste No. 1 18 between Sexta and Séptima del Norte, Placetas, Villa Clara.
- **Melissa Rodríguez González**, member of the Communist Party, who was sent to confront the protesters, residing at 3rd between 7th and 8th, building 38, apartment 1, Placetas, Villa Clara.
- **Yusimí Abreu Ruiz**, member of the Communist Party and worker at the People's Power Assembly of Placetas, who says she was sent to confront the protesters, Calle 4ta between 8 and 9 No. 182, Placetas, Villa Clara. Furthermore, in Yusimí's case, it is known that she testified falsely, specifically about Lidany and Lisdiany, two sisters who were victims, despite not having seen them, as she later said that if she did not, they would fire her from her job, a very mediocre excuse to cover up the horrible act of falsely condemning someone.
- **Angel Luis Marrero Palomino** testified before the trial, under torture, that Loreto Hernández gave him money in exchange for going to the demonstration, which is a complete and utter fabrication. However, during the trial, he denied the entire charade, a fact that is not recorded in the sentence. Address: Calle 6ta del Oeste e/ 4 y 5 del Sur, Placetas, Villa Clara. Agent of the Minint in Placetas.

CASE 23 OF 2022 - Western Territorial Military Court - 33 VICTIMS

LIST OF VICTIMS: Jorge Bello Domínguez, Mijail Sánchez de la Nuez, Orlando Valle Jorge, Freddy Luis Díaz García, Lizandra Góngora Espinosa, Yasdany Benítez Quesada, Yandi Hernández Montes de Oca, Carlos Manuel Fonseca Borges, Yanley López Basulto, Carlos Raúl Perdomo Cancio, Yander Rodríguez Yglesias, Ismael Rodríguez González, Yendri Vidal Limonta, Yasiel de Jesús China Solano, Yasiel Hernández Márquez, Juan Pablo Martínez Monterrey, Daisel González Álvarez, Lázaro Antonio Rodríguez Jerez, Yasbelys Rodríguez León, Marlón Noval Alfonso, Yunior Pérez López, Yismel Alfonso Oliva, Lázaro Yeison Cece Gálvez, Dariel Rosa Rodríguez Pérez, Yosnel Laferte Salazar, Joselín Orta Llorens, Gilberto Castillo Castillo, Jorge Luis Lugonez Lara, Elienay Maresma Mesa, Yunaikis González Pérez, Hortensia Ocegüera González, Claudia González Amarán, and Kevin Ángel Álvarez Echevarría.

MILITARY JUDGES WHO HANDED DOWN THE INITIAL SENTENCE:

- **Lieutenant Colonel Arnel Proenza Rizo**, Western Territorial Military Court
- **Major Carlos Martín Rojo Rivero** (rapporteur), Western Territorial Military Court
- **Captain Aileen Ferrer González**, Western Territorial Military Court
- **Lieutenant Colonel Luis Rondón Nualles**, Western Territorial Military Court
- **Major Esmérida Fuente Pomares**, Western Territorial Military Court

MILITARY JUDGES WHO UPHELD THE CONVICTIONS IN THE CASSATION PHASE:

- **Lieutenant Colonel Fernando Guerra Díaz**, Military Chamber of the People's Supreme Court. Home address: Av.1a.B Edif. 507 apto.7, Camilo Cienfuegos, Habana del Este, Havana. Home telephone: (+53) 77688392.
- **Lieutenant Colonel Félix Antonio Casas Zayas (rapporteur)**, Military Chamber of the People's Supreme Court. Home telephone: (+53) 72802747. Home address: 208a No. 3503 apt. 7 e/ 35 y 37, Versalles, La Lisa, Havana.

- **Lieutenant Colonel José Miguel Reyes Morales**, Military Chamber of the People's Supreme Court. Home telephone: (+53) 76397154. Home address: 16 Edif. 13204 apt.3 e/ Embil y Parque Oeste, Embil, Boyeros, Havana.
- **Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Tornés Montero**, Military Chamber of the People's Supreme Court.
- **Major Odalys Ortiz Morejón**, Military Chamber of the People's Supreme Court.

PROSECUTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CASE: Major Suleiky García Otaño, from the Western Territorial Military Prosecutor's Office.

CUBAN LAWYERS ALLEGEDLY IN CHARGE OF DEFENDING THE VICTIMS AND WHO REQUESTED THEIR CONVICTION:

- The "defense attorney," an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, **Xiomara Caridad Galbán Martínez**, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants JUAN PABLO MARTÍNEZ MONTERREY, YASIEL HERNÁNDEZ MARQUE Z, YISMEL ALFONSO OLIVA, YANDI HERNÁNDEZ MONTES DE OCA, DAISEL GONZÁLEZ ÁLVAREZ, YANDER RODRÍGUEZ YGLESIAS, FREDDY LUIS DÍAZ GARCÍA, YASBELYS RODRÍGUEZ LEÓN, and DARIEL ROSA PÉREZ, requested that several of her "defendants" be charged with the criminal offenses of **unlawful demonstrations, sabotage, and receiving stolen goods**, despite the fact that they are all innocent of any crime and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," **Milagros Aniledif Travieso Robaina**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants YASDANY BENÍTEZ QUESADA, YASIEL DE JESÚS CHINEA SOLANO, and YOSNEL LAFERTÉ SALAZAR, requested that all her "defendants" be charged with the criminal offenses of **Illegal Demonstrations, Sabotage, Receiving Stolen Goods, and Theft**, despite the fact that they are all innocent of any crime and a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense. Her home address is Ave 59 No.7801 e/ 78 y Circunvalación, San Antonio de los Baños, Artemisa, and her home telephone number is (+53) 49383780.
- The "defense attorney," **Lliliam Lourdes Sánchez Giner**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendant YUNIOR PÉREZ LÓPEZ, requested that her "defendant" be charged with the criminal offense of **Illegal Demonstrations and Sabotage**, despite the fact that her "defendant" is innocent of any crime and a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, **Yaricel Mustafá González**, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendant MIJAÍL SÁNCHEZ DE LA NUEZ, requested that her "defendant" be charged with the criminal offense of **Theft**, despite the fact that her "defendant" is innocent of any crime and a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense. Her home address is Gervasio No. 511, apt. 20, between Zanja and Salud, Centro Habana, Havana, and her home telephone number is (+53) 78741878.
- The "defense attorney," **Gabriela Rosa Solá Miranda**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants CARLOS MANUEL FONSECA BORGES and JOSELÍN ORTA LLORENS, requested that all her "defendants" be charged with the criminal offense of **theft**, despite the fact that both are innocent of any crime and a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," **Diego Rafael García Iglesias**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants ISMAEL RODRÍGUEZ GONZÁLEZ, LÁZARO YEISÓN CECÉ GALVEZ, and GILBERTO CASTILLO CASTILLO, requested the acquittal of two of them due to mental health issues, but charged another of his "defendants" with the criminal offenses of **sabotage and theft**, despite his innocence of any crime and the fact that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," **Rayner Rosales Escobar**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants YENDRI VIDAL LIMONTA, CARLOS RAÚL PERDOMO CANCIO, and ORLANDO VALLE JORGE, began his intervention by expressing his agreement with the content of the military prosecutor's conclusions, despite the fact that his clients were innocent of any crime and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.

- The "defense attorney," **Sergio Hernández Ramos**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Offices, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants JORGE LUIS LUGONES LARA, KEVIN ANGEL ALVAREZ ECHEVARRIA, and YUNAIKIS GONZALEZ PEREZ, requested that his "defendants" be charged with various crimes (receiving stolen goods and sabotage), despite the fact that his defendants were innocent of any crime and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense. His home address is 110 No. 6105, apt. 2, between Av. 61 and Av. 63, Marianao, Havana, and his home telephone number is (+53) 52291324.
- The "defense attorney," **Héctor Gómez Castellón**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Offices, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendant CLAUDIA GONZÁLEZ AMARÁN, requested that his "client" be charged with various crimes (illegal demonstrations and theft), despite the fact that his clients were innocent of all crimes and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," **Yandri Vega Suárez**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Firms, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants JORGE BELLO DOMÍNGUEZ and MARLON NOVAL ALONSO, requested that his "defendants" be charged with various crimes (illegal demonstrations and theft), despite the fact that his clients were innocent of any crime and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Offices, **Fidel Casero Aguilera**, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendants HORTENSIA OCEGUERA GONZÁLEZ and ELIENAY MARESMÁ MESA, requested that his "defendants" be charged with various crimes such as illegal demonstrations, and that they be sentenced "benevolently," despite the fact that his clients were innocent of any crime and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," **Carlos Manuel Ruiz Álvarez**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Offices, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendant YANLEY LÓPEZ BASULTO, requested that his "client" be charged with various crimes (including illegal demonstrations and throwing stones), despite the fact that his client was innocent of all crimes and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.
- The "defense attorney," **Roberto Ortega Ortiz**, an employee of the Ministry of Justice through the Collective Law Offices, allegedly appointed by the State "in favor" of the defendant LIZANDRA GÓNGORA ESPINOSA, requested that his "client" be charged with various crimes (illegal demonstrations and throwing "a spoon" into the air), despite the fact that his client was innocent of all crimes and that a military trial is a flagrant violation of the right to defense.

FALSE TESTIMONY USED BY THE PROSECUTION TO BUILD THE CASE:

- **Leandro Sisear Fernández**, Civil Defense Officer, born in the municipality of San Antonio de los Baños, Artemisa province, 31 years old, married, with identity card number 91011326266, resident of Avenida 23, number 3609, between 36 and 40, municipality of San Antonio de los Baños, Artemisa province; he works as manager of the San Antonio de los Baños Complex of the CIMEX S.A. Corporation in Artemisa province.
- **Luis Evilio Acosta Leal**, civilian defense cadre, born in the municipality of San Antonio de los Baños, Artemisa province, 57 years old, married, identity card number 64111930289, resident of Avenida 87, number 9009, between 90 and 92, municipality of Güira de Melena, Artemisa province; works as manager of the "Palacio de Cristal" Special Commercial Complex in the municipality of Güira de Melena, subordinate to the Artemisa Territorial Division of the Caribe Chain of Stores.
- **Major Arisdelbis Pupa Amaro**, a native of the municipality of Holguín, province of the same name, 40 years old, with identity card number 81121219723, resident of building 802, apartment 15, Reparto "Raúl Hernández Vidal," municipality of San Antonio de los Baños, province of Artemisa; serves as first operational officer of Military Counterintelligence (CIM), belonging to the CIM Region of Artemisa province.
- **Otilio Alexandre Espinaca Turiño**, civilian defense cadre and manager of the "El Encanto" store.
- **Anai Esperón Rodríguez**, civilian defense cadre and economic manager of the CIMEX Artemisa Branch.
- **Alejandro Morales Blanco**, protection contingent for the stores of the Revolutionary Armed Forces.

- **Carlos Fernando López Martínez**, protection contingent for the stores of the Revolutionary Armed Forces.
- **Captain Carlos Luís Fernández Massó**, Sector Chief of the PNR in Güira de Melena.
- **Randy Rodríguez Ricardo**, who, as none of the victims had the prosecutor's petition or the preliminary investigation file, it is not easy to know about his professional activity, but who was used to identify some of the victims and their alleged false actions in unusual detail.
- **Julio Cecilio González Pérez**, who, as none of the victims had the prosecutor's petition or the preliminary investigation file, it is not easy to ascertain his professional activity, but who was used to identify some of the victims and their alleged false actions in unusual detail.
- **Lázaro García Martínez**, who, as none of the victims had the prosecutor's petition or the preliminary investigation file, it is not easy to ascertain his professional activity, but who was used to identify some of the victims and their alleged false actions in unusual detail. His possible home address could be: Av. 73 No. 21806A e/ 218 y 220, La Lisa, Havana, and his associated telephone number would be (+53) 72801814.
- **Pedro Martínez Rodríguez**, who, as none of the victims have the prosecutor's request or the preliminary investigation file, it is not easy to ascertain his professional activity, but who was used to identify some of the victims and their alleged false actions in unusual detail. His possible home address could be: 214 No. 27131 between 271 and 273, Mazorra, Boyeros, Havana, and his associated telephone number would be (+53) 76454009.
- **Crispo Alberto Muñoz Cabrera**, who, as none of the victims have the prosecutor's petition or the preliminary investigation file, it is not easy to ascertain his professional activity, but who was used to identify some of the victims and their alleged false actions in unusual detail.
- **Lázaro Luis Hevia González**, a detainee who was released without charges before the trial in exchange for falsely accusing FREDDY LUIS DÍAZ GARCÍA, YASDANY BENÍTEZ QUESADA, and CARLOS RAÚL PERDOMO CANCIO.
- **Osaine Aguilera Martínez**, a detainee who was released without charges before the trial in exchange for falsely accusing YASDANY BENÍTEZ QUESADA, CARLOS RAÚL PERDOMO CANCIO, and MIJAÍL SÁNCHEZ DE LA NUEZ.

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