

Rights Action
April 7, 2015
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Tahoe Resources' Deadly Mining In Guatemala: Telesforo Pivarel Assassinated

As a ground-breaking civil lawsuit proceeds in Canadian courts against Tahoe Resources Inc., for injuries suffered by 6 men when Tahoe's security personnel opened fire on them at close range, Telesforo Pivarel, a friend of those men, was shot to death. This is how mining works in Guatemala. Canadian/American companies are part of and benefit from repression, corruption and impunity.



(San Rafael Las Flores: Territory In Resistance to Chemical Mining)

Murder of Telesforo Odilio Pivaral Gonzalez

By CALAS (Centre for Legal, Environmental and Social Action)

<http://www.breakingthesilenceblog.com/general/urgent-action-telesforo-pivaral-murdered-near-tahoe-resources-mine/>

(Translated by Breaking the Silence)

Mr. Telesforo Odilio Pivaral Gonzalez was a member of the community resistance in El Volcancito, in the municipality of San Rafael Las Flores, Santa Rosa, and a member of the Committee in Defense of Life and Peace of San Rafael Las Flores.

On Sunday, April 5, 2015, at approximately 10am, near the community of Las Nueces (San Rafael Las Flores), Mr. Pivaral Gonzalez was murdered. He was 33 years of age, a farmer, husband, father of six children, and active member of the Committee in Defense of Life and Peace of San Rafael Las Flores. The Committee is in active resistance to the "El Escobal" mining project, owned and operated by the transnational

mining company Tahoe Resources and its Guatemalan subsidiary Minera San Rafael S.A.

Mr. Pivaral Gonzalez had left his home in El Volcancito to do business in the nearby community of Las Nueces. While waiting for public transportation on the side of the road, he was riddled with bullets by unidentified men. He received 5 bullet impacts in his cranium, face and neck, which immediately killed him.

The National Civil Police (PNC), the local Public Prosecutor's Office in Casillas, Santa Rosa and the National Forensics Institute (INACIF) are aware of the case and have begun the investigation process.

CALAS energetically condemns this act and by way of this urgent action denounces it nationally and internationally. This information has been shared with the Guatemalan Human Rights Ombudsman's Office (PDH), the Unit for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (UDEFEUGA), as well as Front Line Defenders, Protection International, Amnesty International, the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, and the United Nation's High Commission on Human Rights (OACNUDH) through its Guatemala office.

In solidarity with his widow, children and family; as well as the Community Resistance of El Volcancito and especially with the Committee in Defense of Life and Peace of San Rafael Las Flores, Santa Rosa.

We demand that the Guatemalan justice system in this case so that it does not remain in impunity.

CALAS (Centre for Legal, Environmental and Social Action)

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What To Do

This is one more case of repression likely linked to Canadian/American mining interests in Guatemala. For reasons well known to our mining industry and governments, it is next to impossible that justice will be done in Guatemala, where repression, impunity and corruption are the norm. Canadian/American companies are part of and benefit from the repression, corruption and impunity.

Send, and keep on sending copies of this information, and your own letters, to your own elected politicians (MPs, Congresspersons, Senators), to your media, and to your own pension and investment funds, asking: Why our governments, companies and investment firms do nothing about the poverty, repression and violence, and environmental and health harms associated with North American businesses, while benefiting from these economic relations with the Guatemalan and Honduran (and Mexican) political, military and economic elites?

Canada Pension Plan & Other Pension Funds ~ Do you know where your pension funds are invested? In Tahoe Resources, Goldcorp Inc, Hudbay Minerals, Barrick Gold, etc, etc? Send, and keep on sending copies of this information, and your own letters, to your own pension and investment funds, asking ...

Information About Lawsuit Against Tahoe Resources In Canada

Canadian Center for International Justice

http://www.ccij.ca/programs/cases/index.php?DOC_INST=24

info@ccij.ca

604-569-1778

NGO website: www.TahoeOnTrial.net

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & United States)

Rights Action has just sent an emergency response grant to the Committee in Defense of Life and Peace in San Rafael Las Flores, to support the family needs of Telesforo Pivarel. Since 2012, Rights Action has provided regular small grants to the Committee, as they oppose the illegal and violent mining operation of Tahoe Resources, as they support victims of this mine.

Make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- Canada: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8
- USA: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091
- Credit-Card Donations: <http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations>
- Stock donations: info@rightsaction.org

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