

## **Armed Men Follow Attorney General Prosecutor & Victim-Witnesses In Murder Trial Against Mynor Padilla, Former Head Of Security For Hudbay Minerals/CGN**

(CGN is also co-defendant with Hudbay Minerals in the “Hudbay Lawsuits” in Canada – civil trials for negligence that resulted in the death of Adolfo Ich, the attack against German Chub and the gang rape of 11 Mayan-Q’eqchi’ women at the Lote 8 community. It is suspected, though not confirmed, that Hudbay is paying the defense of Mynor Padilla in this criminal case in Guatemala. If true, it is also possible Hudbay could be paying the costs of the unknown armed men.)

Over the past several weeks, unknown armed individuals have been carrying out acts of persecution and intimidation against the prosecuting plaintiff Angelica Choc, the Attorney General prosecutor and people who accompany them.

Additionally, the judge (Ana Leticia Peña) uses security personnel in the court room, arguing she also feels threatened. This was the argument she used to order the continuing of the trial behind closed doors, preventing access for the public and observers.

During the February 11, 2015 hearing, we were informed that the harassment and persecution by these armed men continued. On February 10, these men had been at the same place in Puerto Barrios where Angelica and those accompanying her awaited the hearing.

Mynor Padilla’s lawyer stated in court: “we bring our security personnel with us, but the CGN pays for other security personnel who we don’t know ... They move around incognito”.

This situation confirms what we had already been denouncing since the beginning of the trial regarding acts of intimidation and persecution carried out by men tied to CGN.

We call on the Human Rights Prosecutor, the CODIRSA, the United Nations High Commissioner in Guatemala, the international solidarity movement and human rights organizations, to denounce this persecution and that the trial is not being carried out in an open and public manner.

We ask for solidarity with and accompaniment for Angelica Choc in her struggle for justice for the assassination of Adolfo Ich Chaman and others who were severely injured.

We demand that the Attorney General's office and National Police carry out an investigation of the unknown individuals and the CGN's role in this. (¿Is it possible that Hudbay Minerals is also paying for these unknown armed individuals?)

FOR THE RIGHT TO LIFE.... WE DEMAND JUSTICE  
Communities in Resistance of El Estor Izabal  
February 15 2016

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To support the Q'eqchi' victims/plaintiffs as they struggle to end the impunity of Hudbay and CGN, and achieve justice in the criminal trial in Guatemala and the precedent setting civil lawsuits in Canada, make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

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