# **EXHIBIT 1**

GRACIAS LEMPIRA 18 DE ABRIL DE 2024.

Honorable Juez Castel Distrito Sur de Nueva York

Por este medio me permito remitir en mi condición de hondureña, maestra jubilada en el Departamento de Lempira, Honduras C. A; he conocido a Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado por muchos años desde muy pequeño, ya que su padre fue un hombre reconocido en la ciudad de Gracias, Lempira, Igualmente su familia; y nunca puedo imaginar que haya tenido negocios que hayan violentado las leyes de los EEUU.-

Desde su padre conozco su familia así como a su esposa, hijo, hijas y nieta como un hogar ejemplar; Juan Orlando fue un presidente de Honduras preocupado por la situación económica el país, creo en la inocencia de él por sus acciones durante su gobierno, para su familia, su esposa, hijo e hijas y nieta no ha sido fácil la situación desde su arresto hasta el juicío.

En estos momentos la ausencia de un presidente como Juan Orlando Hernández en nuestro país ha sido no fácil para la situación social y económica de Honduras; hemos tenido impacto difícil en este país.

Respetuosamente;

Gracias, Lempira, April 18th, 2024

Honorable Judge Castel

Southern District of New York

Through this letter, Ana Elena Guerra Elvir, a retired teacher from the Department of Lempira, Honduras C.A., wish to convey my acquaintance with Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado. I have known him since he was a young boy, as his father was a well-respected figure in the city of Gracias, Lempira, along with his family. I never could have imagined that he would be involved in any activities contrary to U.S. laws.

I am acquainted with his entire family, from his father to his wife, daughters, son, and granddaughter, and have always regarded them as exemplary. Juan Orlando was a President who demonstrated concern for the economic situation of our country. I believe in his innocence based on the actions he took during his time in office. The period from his arrest to his trial has been incredibly challenging for his family, including his wife, children, and granddaughter.

The absence of a leader like Juan Orlando Hernandez in our country has significantly impacted both our social and economic circumstances. We have endured considerable hardship.

Respectfully,

Carta Juez 30 abril 2024

Sr Juez Honorable P. Kevin Castel United States District Judge Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street

United States v Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado.

Me dirijo a usted con esperanza y humildad soy Aixa Marlene hermana de Juan Orlando, vivo en la ciudad de Gracias Lempira, en el occidente de Honduras, C.A.

En medio de la adversidad y confusión que vivimos como familia, confío en su bondad y discernimiento para considerar las circunstancias de este caso.

Mi hno Juan Orlando desde que tengo uso de razón ha sido un hombre de integridad inquebrantable. A lo largo de su vida, ha demostrado un compromiso con la justicia y el bienestar de nuestro departamento Lempira y luego nuestro país Honduras. El hno que yo conozco es el que siguió los consejos de nuestros amados padres quienes desde niños nos inculcaron los principios morales correctos que rigen a la sociedad hoy y siempre, siento impotencia, tristeza, dolor el haber leído las mentiras que los testigos presentados por el gobierno de EU dicen de el , nunca aceptaré al Juan Orlando que ellos describen ,sus acciones durante toda su vida no tienen nada que ver con la persona que compartí desde nuestra infancia y a lo largo de todos estos años de nuestra vida adulta.

Su compromiso fue rescatar nuestro amado país Honduras, de las garras del mal que se vivía en esos años en nuestro país.

Por lo tanto, le ruego que considere estas circunstancias al tomar una decisión sobre el caso de mi hno Juan Orlando. Su sentencia no sólo afectará su vida, también la de nuestra querida madre Elvira, su esposa, hijos y seres queridos.

Estoy segura de que, al revisar cuidadosamente todos los hechos y testimonios de ambos partes presentados, llegará a la conclusión que mi hno Juan Orlando merece clemencia y justicia divina y terrenal.

Le agradezco su atepción a este caso y su comprensión en este momento difícil.

Aixa Hernandez Alvarado

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Letter to Judge

April 30th, 2024

Mr. Judge Honorable P. Kevin Castel United States District of New York 500 Pearl Street

United States v Juan Orlando Hernandez A;varado.

I direct mysefl to you with hope and humbleness, I am Aixa Marlene, sister of Juan Orlando, I live in the city of Gracia, Lempira, in the western part of Honduras, C.A.

In the midst of adversity and confusion in which we are living as a family, I trust in your kindness and discernment to consider the circumstances of this case.

My brother, Juan Orlando, since I have had reason of mind has been a man of unbreakable integrity. Through all of his life, he has demonstrated a commitment for justice na for the well being of our State, Lempira and of our country, Honduras, as well. The brother I know, is the one who followed advise from our loving parents which since we were kids taught us correct morale principles that this society abides by, today and forever. I feel impotence, sadness, and pain having read the lies the witnesses presented by the prosecution told during the trial. I will never accept the Juan Orlando that they describe, his actions during his entire life do not have nothing to do with the person they described, nor have nothing to do with this person I shared with during our childhood and throughout our adulthood years.

His compromise was to rescue our beloved Honduras from the paws of the evil that lived in our country througout all those years.

Therefore, I beg you to consider these circumstances at the moment of taking a decision regarding the case of my brother Juan Orlando. His sentence will not only affect his life, but the one of my mother, Elvira, his wife, children and loved ones.

I am sure that by reviwieng meticulously all the facts and witnesses presented by both parties, you will reach the conclusion that my brother Juan Orlando deserves clemency and divine justice, and earthly justice as well.

I thank you for your attention in this case, and for your comprehension in this difficult moment

Aixa Hernandez Alvarado

ID 1301 1971 00198

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007, USA

Honorable Judge Castel

My name is Ana Daniela Hernandez Garcia, I am Juan Orlando Hernandez's 3rd child. With much respect I am writing this letter to you so you can know more about my father and who he really is as a person. I kindly ask you to take a moment to consider the words of a daughter who loves and respects her father dearly.

When I look back at my childhood I remember it as a happy one filled with love. Growing up I remember we would travel a lot to my father's native town of Gracias, Lempira, because of my father's position as congressman for Lempira. Although I was only a child and barely understood the world around me, I remember my dad as a hardworking and respectable man. Even though he had many responsibilities and with the passing of the years his responsibilities grew, he went from congressman to president of congress and then president of the republic, my father always made time for his family. He was the person who taught me how to ride a bike, he taught me how to swim, he taught me to be humble, to treat everyone no matter their background with respect, he taught me to fight for what's right, and he taught me to be strong.

There is this one memory I hold dearly in my heart, and it's a memory that has kept me going through this hard moment and its the following. When I was younger I would go running with my dad near our house in Gracias. We would run for miles and sometimes when I wanted to give up my dad would tell me " *you can do it beautiful daughter, remember strength, courage, and spirit (fuerza, animo y espiritu)*" and with those words and a smile in his face he would give me all the motivation I needed to keep going. Throughout my life I always looked back at that moment, I would remember those words whenever I felt like I couldn't anymore, I would remember my dad's smile and would keep going. These words are even more present in my life with everything that has happened over the past two years. One of the last times I saw my dad I held his hands and told him these words, but now I added one more; *faith*. I told him dad always remember, we must have "*strength, courage, spirit, and faith*". Now after two years, I still tell my dad these words, so we can keep on going even through this very hard time.

The day the indictment was published and my dad was requested in extradition by the US government I was with my sister living abroad in Asia, I was working and she was studying. That day our world came crumbling down. I saw in the news how 600 armed men surrounded the house I grew up in, and I remember the fear I felt for my parent's lives. Before my dad voluntarily surrendered himself to the Honduran police he called my siblings and I. He told us he was innocent and he always tried to do the best for our country Honduras. That he believed in justice and in God and that he would do the responsible thing and surrender because he was innocent. That day I saw on TV how my parents kissed goodbye and my dad was arrested and treated like a trophy for exhibition.

After his arrest I decided to move back to Honduras, I wanted to hug my dad and be with my family. I thank God I was able to go and be with him through all of the process before he was extradited. These days were some of the hardest of our lives, but I wanted to treasure every moment before he was taken away from his family and homeland. On April 20, 2022 after we hugged goodbye, it was the last day I saw my dad. Ever since then I have been missing a part of me.

After his extradition my family has suffered many hardships. We've been politically persecuted, horrible lies have been said about us that have put our lives in danger, we've been threatened and had some assaination attempts. Not to mention the emotional torment this has been, with many of us having suffered depression and panic attacks. I personally have felt some days I can't carry on due to this injustice, I've had several panic attacks and suffered from stress and anxiety that has physically affected me, but the only thing that keeps me going is faith in God he will one day allow us to reunite as a family and I will hug my dad again.

Even though I haven't seen my father in two years, I can tell you confidently he is a changed man. Although my father is a great man, he has flaws and isn't perfect like all human beings. Before all this although our family has always been close there were still some things that didn't let us be as close as we are now. Before his incarceration my father didn't express his feelings that much, it was hard for him because of the way he grew up. Now a single day doesn't go by that we talk that he doesn't tell us how much he loves us. He has grown even closer to God and studies the bible everyday. Before he was extradited he told me "daughter always remember the bigger the problem, the greater the opportunities to grow". I see my father live by these words. I see how he's grown closer to his family despite the distance, how he's grown closer to God, how he values the little things more now, how he has learned to understand people and forgive them and how he continues to teach us this.

Right after the trial I felt I was going to die, how all my world was crumbling down again and I couldn't stop thinking about my dad. I thought about how he must have felt seeing that empty bench behind him, without his wife and children behind him. Here I want to add that if you didn't see his family behind him during the trial, it wasn't because we didn't want to go, it was because it wasn't permitted to us due to our visas being revoked and even after we applied again to get them the US embassy in Honduras decided to deny them based on Section 212 (a) (2) (C) II even before my dad was judged. Days after receiving the verdict we talked with my father, you see, you would expect a man in this injustice situation to be angry and filled with negative emotions at the whole situation after being declared guilty, but not my father. You know what he told us, he told us we must learn to forgive the witnesses that lied during trial, to hold no hardships against them and for all this whole situation, to instead just pray and trust God.

Although you might have thought our family would be insulted or rejected when we go out in public because of what happened to my father, let me tell you it has not been the case. Over the last two years we've traveled the country with my mother and sister. As we are widely recognized everywhere we go. People stop us and tell us things like: "we are so very sorry for what happened, your father, Juan Orlando, is innocent". "Juan Orlando was such a great president, we miss him", "Have faith, he is going to come back, and when he does I will go to the airport to pick him up", "He is such a great man, I admire him so much", "The day Juan

Orlando was extradited my family and I cried", "My mother prays everyday for Juan Orlando's safe return" and many more like these from people all around Honduras that we don't know. Honorable Judge Castel, what I just said is the truth. If you ever visit Honduras you can ask the citizens of this beautiful country what they think of Juan Orlando and you will find many that will tell you words like these.

Before this tragedy struck our family my mother and father were ready to retire and go live in my father's native land Gracias, Lempira. To dedicate themselves to farming, riding horses, watching their grandchildren grow up, and grow old together. I know in my heart, this is still my father's dream, this is my dream for him and my mother, to have a simple and peaceful life together, one I now as an adult, together with my siblings plan to support them in.

During his time as president, my father had the initiative to take on the fight against organized crime like never before. Even before becoming president he met with senior authorities of the Southern Command to explain his vision on security issues. Even without being president, he went ahead to plan, share his ideas and strategies to combat the scourge of crime that terrorized our country at the time. As a result, the maritime shield was born, protecting Honduras from the transfer of drugs by sea. At the same time they were complemented with the help and collaboration of US security agencies. And to deliver on his vision, as the leader of the executive and legislative branches, he proactively initiated the momentum to pass critical laws that allowed Honduras to be set free from the criminal hands it had succumbed to for decades. During his time as President of Congress he was one of the people brave enough to promote the extradition law. When the first extradition occurred, he was even applauded and recognized by the DEA. The DEA said in a press release: "... efforts of President of the Honduran Republic Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado and other Honduran officials for their cooperation and support during the extradition and prosecution of Carlos Arnoldo Lobo." So it makes you think, why would a man colluded with drug dealing ever approve the extradition law if there was even the slightest chance it might affect him? No one in that scenario would.

Why was my father received at the White House on so many occasions? Why was he received in the CIA headquarters? Why was he received in the DEA headquarters? Saying he led a double life and that he somehow managed to trick the world's most informed country, the United States of America, is absurd. I am no intelligence expert, but I am 100% sure, to be received in any of these top level places and to receive so much praise from them you need to pass several security filters and need to be investigated thoroughly. I firmly believe my father passed the security clearance to enter these agencies, after all, he was received by the DEA twice and once by the CIA. Now, what torments my mind is, how come a man who passed the world's maximum intelligence agencies' background checks and investigations, be accused of conspiracy to import narcotics to the country in which these agencies operate? Judge, will all due respect, there's something fishy here. Statements, testimonies, and accusations don't fit with the truth. Of course, it was to be expected, since everything that is built on lies comes crumbling down sooner or later.

Judge, I am sure that my father is innocent. I followed the trial and it was an unfair process without evidence. During the whole process and trial we have seen that the injustices committed against him left him in a state of defenselessness, by not allowing his attorneys the necessary time to prepare. The only evidence they prosecution presented were the

testimonies of confessed drug traffickers and murderers and as you well heard when they asked each one of them if they had any evidence, they said they had NONE.

Judge, I respectfully ask once again, for you to take into consideration my words, my dad is a man who did so many great things for Honduras and this isn't only said by me, his daughter, it is said by Honduran citizens, by foreign governments, by United States officials such as presidents, senators, by different reports such as the INCSR reports, reports by the joint command task force, and many others. The words of millions of honduran citizens that are thankful to him, the words of U.S. institutions, U.S. presidents, and many others that weren't taken into account during his trial, but I am now presenting to you and to any other person reading this letter so they can know the REAL truth. My father Juan Orlando is INNOCENT of all charges and he has been wrongfully convicted.

I trust the truth will prevail and God will do the true justice.

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."- John 8:32

Sincerely,

Ana Daniela Hernandez Garcia

Honorable Judge Castel

Southern District of New York

Dear Sir, I am Ana Grissel Santos Alvarado, born in the same city as my dear friend and colleague Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado, with whom I shared my best years of childhood and youth. He was a young man who was very responsible, respectful, kind, prudent, enthusiastic, self-assured, empathetic, of good manners and upbringing, from a financially stable family. I remember him so much for his displays of affection; he always earned the respect and admiration of my parents, allowing me to go out and explore the city with him and other friends whom we nostalgically recall today. When he first ran for the presidency, I felt very proud that he chose my home to be part of his political campaign, winning the Presidency of the Republic by a landslide, elevating our country to higher standards compared to what we are experiencing now. Juan Orlando has not been perfect, but he has been the best president of the nation, even though with a tough attitude, we experienced times of security in all aspects of our lives as Honduran citizens. Today, our city and country are not the same since his arrest, as it has been a hard blow to our beloved and respected president-elect by millions of Hondurans.

Therefore, I consider it unjust to prosecute him for what he is accused of. I firmly believe he is innocent, and I appeal to you to judge him considering the good he did for his Honduran homeland.

Hoping that my opinion is valued in this decision-making matter regarding my FRIEND.

I bid you farewell with respect.

Ana Grissel Santos Alvarado.

Honorable Juez Castel

Distrito Sur de Nueva York

Estimado Señor, soy Ana Grissel Santos Alvarado, nacida en la misma ciudad de mi querido amigo y compañero Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado, con quien compartí mis mejores años de infancia y juventud. Joven que fue muy responsable, respetuoso, amable, prudente, entusiasta, seguro de si mismo, empático, de buenas costumbres y modales, proveniente de una familia económicamente estable. Lo recuerdo tanto por sus muestras de cariño, siempre conquistó el respeto y admiración de mis padres de manera que me permitían salir y pasear por la ciudad con el y otros amigos que hoy nostálgicamente recordamos. Cuando su primer lanzamiento a candidato a la presidencia me sentí muy orgullosa por seleccionar mi hogar para ser parte de su campaña política, ganando de manera arrolladora la Presidencia de la República, elevando a nuestro país a mejores estándares en comparación de lo que ahora vivimos. Juan Orlando no ha sido el perfecto, pero ha sido el mejor presidente de la Nación, aún y cuando con un temple de indio duro estuvimos viviendo tiempos de seguridad en todos los aspectos de nuestras vidas como ciudadanos hondureños. Hoy nuestra ciudad y país no es el mismo desde que el fuese arrestado, pues ha sido un duro golpe a nuestro querido presidente electo y respetado por millones de hondureños.

Por ello considero una actitud injusta enjuiciarlo como lo que le adjudican creo firmemente que es inocente y apelo a usted para que se le juzgue considerando lo bueno que hizo por su Tierra Hondureña.

Esperando mi opinión se valore ante esta situación de tema de decisión por mi AMIGO.

Me despido con respeto.

Ana Grissel Santos Alvarado.

Angel Eduardo Ramos Salinas

San Pedro Sula Abril 26 del 2024

Honorable Juez Kevin Castel Juez del Distrito Sur de los Estados Unidos Distrito Sur de New York

#### Honorable Juez Castel

Mi nombre es Angel Eduardo Ramos Salinas, tengo 57 años de edad, de nacionalidad hondureña, licenciado en administración de empresas; he laborado por mas de 25 años en una empresa familiar creada por mis padres hace 47 años, soy casado, tengo tres hijos 27, 22 y 20 años de edad, el primero profesional universitario, el segundo cursado su segundo año de universidad en honduras y la tercera estudiando en USA en su primer año de estudios de pregrado.- A lo largo de mi vida profesional, he participado en juntas directivas de diversas organizaciones gremiales de importancia en el país, Camara de Comercio e Industrias de Cortes CCIC, Federación de Camaras de Comercio e Industrias de Honduras FEDECAMARA, Federación Nacional de Agentes Aduaneros de Honduras FENADUANAH, Camara de Comercio Martima Portuaria de Honduras CCMPH, de igual forma he participado activamente en la política en procesos electorales internos y elecciones generales en el país, aspirando cargos de elección popular en el Partido Liberal de Honduras, partido político al que hemos pertenecido junto con mi padre quien se desempeñó como sub secretario y secretario de estado por ley en los despachos de economía y comercio en el gobierno del Presidente Constitucional de la Republica Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova 1982.

Realice estudios de educacion primaria y media en la ciudad de San Pedro Sula y en el año de 1983 mis padres deciden cambiarnos de centro de estudios junto con mi hermano y es así que nos trasladan al recién creado instituto Liceo Militar del Norte; En el primer año de operaciones, el Liceo Militar del Norte albergo jovenes estudiantes de los institutos de educacion media mas importantes de San Pedro Sula y del pais; en ese año de educacion cursábamos de 1ero, 2do y 3er curso de secundaria (7mo, 8avo y 9no Año).- Ahí compartimos aulas de estudios académicos los cuales eran combinados con una disciplina militar la cual era impartida por oficiales activos de las fuerzas armadas del pais, con jovenes de todos los estratos sociales de los cuales hoy hay ciudadanos ejemplares y profesionales prominentes en el país y en el extranjero, Abogados, Ingenieros, Medicos, Militares de Carrera, Lideres Religiosos y Lideres políticos como lo es el Abogado Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado Presidente Constitucional de la del Republica de Honduras en el periodo 2014-2018 y 2019-2022.- En la vida estudiantil Juan Orlando Hernandez fue un compañero humilde, sin extravagancias en su forma de vestir, era un muchacho normal como muchos otros que venia del interior del pais a superarse académicamente; se notaba en el un compañero de carácter afable pero con mucha disciplina y determinación, fue un estudiante promedio en sus notas y con un marcado liderazgo.- Nos graduamos en la misma promoción académicamente en 1985, solo que por problemas de notas no pude asistir al ultimo entrenamiento militar y no obtuve el grado militar en ese año, si no que, lo logre en 1987.- Después de egresar del Liceo Militar en 1985 todos seguimos con nuestras vidas privadas, unos nos quedamos estudiando en las universidades de San Pedro Sula, otros se trasladaron a universidades fuera del pais, otros a las academias militares en el pais y en el extranjero y otros a estudiar a la universidad en Tegucigalpa tal es el caso de Juan Orlando quien así lo determinó hacer.

Honduras es un pais pequeño, y en los medios de comunicación radiales, televisivos y escritos detallan la vida social, deportiva, política y empresarial del pais, y en ella notaba como Juan Orlando sobresalía en temas políticos y era de esperarse por lo que mencionaba al inicio, que

era un líder nato con disciplina y mucha determinación; Recuerdo que siendo el congresista de honduras tuve la oportunidad de platicar en varias ocaciones en la ciudad de Siguatepeque va que es un punto convergente para los que vamos de San Pedro Sula a la capital Tegucigalpa y el que de Tegucigalpa venia a su ciudad nata en Gracias Lempira y siempre platicábamos como amigos de las familia y de la vida privada y de la salud de cada uno, y debo decir que siempre lo note aun siendo el congresista una persona humilde y nada ostentoso en su forma de vestir ni mucho menos el vehículo que usaba para trasladarse.- debo manifestar que cuando el fue electo Presidente del Congreso Nacional de la Republica empezamos a tener mas comunicación con toda la promoción que egresamos del Liceo Militar del Nortes en el año 1985, el fue de los mayores impulsores para que hubiese mas unión de grupo, es así que empezamos a reunirnos para celebrar los aniversarios de egresados en san pedro sula y en su residencia en Gracias Lempira, una casa normal con las comodidades como las puede tener una personas de clase media alta en el pais; en una de esas reuniones de compañeros de promoción las cuales asistimos con con nuestras familias conocimos a la familia de el, en esas reuniones Juan Orlando se mostraba una persona cariñosa con sus hijos y su esposa, amante de las mascotas y jovial en el trato y podría decir sincero en las pláticas.

Siendo ya Presidente Constitucional coincidimos en reuniones de los gremios empresariales a los que yo pertenecía y pudo decir que no vi en el un cambio en su forma de ser o en el trato hacia uno en particular, siguió siendo el mismo; A mi parecer y es una opinión muy personal, como Presidente Constitucional hizo muchas cosas buenas en el pais, y como ser humano también tubo desaciertos en algunas tomas de desiciones; pero no podemos desconocer que fue notorio en sus primeros años de gobierno que estábamos yendo por el camino correcto como nación, con un aceptable crecimiento económico, generación de empleo, reducción de inseguridad jurídica y de las personas.

Una opinión muy personal es que despues de sus primeros años de gobierno en el cual todo iba bien, Juan Orlando tuvo varios desaciertos en sus políticas públicas lo cual llevo a estar confrontado con el sector privado del pais, desconozco las razones que lo orillaron a tener esa actitud como gobernante, y muchas de esas políticas públicas empezaron a generar descontento en el sector privado y la población lo que genero un acelerado porcentaje de migración de nuestros jovenes al exterior, pero es ser justo también, mencionar que estos desaciertos no solo han ocurrido con el como presidente, si no que han existido a lo largo de la historia democrática del pais.

Un evento que dejo marcado en mi, es cuando vi por televisión que al Presidente Juan Orlando Hernandez persona con la que compartimos aulas de estudios secundarios en 1985, lo estaban extraditando del pais y también fue doloroso ver en la forma en que fue expuesto cuando salió de manera voluntaria de su casa, en ese preciso momento sentí un dolor profundo en mi corazón, porque la forma como lo conocí y pude observar las pocas veces que visite su hogar y de como vivía el, su esposa y sus hijos, su madre, se me hace casi imposible creer que el sea responsable de todo lo que se le acusa.- Esta situación que esta viviendo su familia es muy difícil y dolorosa, las humillaciones y ofensas y el denotado odio de un sector radical político contrario a el mostrado en las redes sociales que a diario vive sus familia es desde el lado cristiano, inhumano para alguien al que considero trabajo incansablemente por tener una mejor Honduras.

Solo Dios y el saben a ciencia cierta lo que ha sucedido, como lo dijo en su discurso en su toma de posesión "<u>yo respondo por mis actos y por los actos de mis hijos menores</u>", con ello demuestra que cada quien es responsable de sus actos y como humanos tenemos defectos pero también virtudes; Confío en Dios, para que exista el acto de buena fe y le pueda brindar a el, la oportunidad de defenderse y mostrar en el caso que así sea, que de lo que se le acusa el no es responsable, y que la justicia le brinde la oportunidad para que pueda en el corto o

Angel Eduardo Ramos Salinas

mediano plazo, volver a reunirse con su esposa, hijos, nietos y confiemos en Dios que con su madre Dona Elvira.  ${\it I}$ 

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ANGEL EDUÁRDO RAMÓS SALINAS

Angel Eduardo Ramos Salinas

San Pedro Sula April 26, 2024

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel United States District Judge for the Southern District of the United States Southern District of New York

#### Honorable Judge Castel

My name is Angel Eduardo Ramos Salinas, I am 57 years old, of Honduran nationality, with a degree in business administration; I have worked for more than 25 years in a family business created by my parents 47 years ago, I am married, I have three children 27, 22 and 20 years old, the first is a university professional, the second is in his second year of university in Honduras and the third is studying in the USA in her first year of undergraduate studies. Throughout my professional life, I have participated in boards of directors of various trade organizations of importance in the country, Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Cortes CCIC, Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industries of Honduras FEDECAMARA, National Federation of Customs Agents of Honduras FENADUANAH, Chamber of Commerce Maritime Port of Honduras CCMPH, likewise I have actively participated in politics in internal elections and general elections in the country, aspiring to positions of popular election in the Liberal Party of Honduras, political party to which we have belonged along with my father who served as undersecretary and secretary of state by law in the offices of economy and trade in the government of the Constitutional President of the Republic Dr. Roberto Suazo Cordova 1982.

I studied elementary and middle school in the city of San Pedro Sula and in the year 1983 my parents decided to change our school along with my brother and so we moved to the newly created institute Liceo Militar del Norte; In the first year of operations, the Liceo Militar del Norte housed young students from the most important high schools in San Pedro Sula and the country; in that year of education, we studied the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd years of high school (7th, 8th, and 9th grade).-There we shared classrooms of academic studies which were combined with a military discipline which was taught by active officers of the armed forces of the country, with young people of all social strata of which today there are exemplary citizens and prominent professionals in the country and abroad, lawyers, engineers, doctors, professional military, religious leaders and political leaders as is the Lawyer Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado Constitutional President of the Republic of Honduras in the period 2014-2018 and 2019-2022.-In his student life Juan Orlando Hernandez was a humble classmate, without extravagance in the way he dressed, he was a normal boy like many others who came from the interior of the country to excel academically; you could see in him a companion with an affable character but with a lot of discipline and determination, he was an average student in his grades and with a marked leadership. We graduated in the same class in 1985, but due to grade problems I could not attend the last military training and I did not obtain the military rank in that year, but I did it in 1987. -After graduating from the Liceo Militar in 1985 we all continued with our private lives, some of us stayed studying in the universities of San Pedro Sula, others moved to universities outside the country, others to military academies in the country and abroad and others to study at the university in Tegucigalpa such is the case of Juan Orlando who decided to do so.

Honduras is a small country, and in the radio, television and written media they detail the social,

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sports, political and business life of the country, and in it I noticed how Juan Orlando excelled in political affairs and it was to be expected because of what I mentioned at the beginning, that he was a born leader with discipline and great determination; I remember that being the congressman of Honduras I had the opportunity to talk on several occasions in the city of Siguatepeque as it is a converging point for those who go from San Pedro Sula to the capital Tegucigalpa and from Tegucigalpa came to his hometown in Gracias Lempira and we always talked as friends about the family and private life and health of each other, and I must say that I always noticed him even though the congressman was a humble person and nothing ostentatious in the way he dressed and much less the vehicle he used to move. - I must say that when he was elected President of the National Congress of the Republic we began to have more communication with the entire graduating class of the Liceo Militar del Nortes in 1985, he was one of the biggest drivers for there to be more group unity, so we began to meet to celebrate the anniversaries of graduates in San Pedro Sula and at his residence in Gracias Lempira, a normal house with the comforts as you can have a person of upper middle class in the country; In one of those reunions of classmates which we attended with our families we met his family, in those meetings Juan Orlando showed a loving person with his children and his wife, pet lover and jovial in the treatment and I could say sincere in conversation.

Being already Constitutional President we coincided in meetings of the business associations to which I belonged and I could say that I did not see in him a change in his way of being or in the treatment towards one in particular, he remained the same; In my opinion and it is a very personal opinion, as Constitutional President he did many good things in the country, and as a human being he also had mistakes in some decisions; but we cannot ignore that it was notorious in his first years of government that we were on the right path as a nation, with an acceptable economic growth, employment generation, reduction of legal insecurity and of people's insecurity.

A very personal opinion is that after his first years of government in which everything was going well, Juan Orlando had several mistakes in his public policies which led to be confronted with the private sector of the country, I do not know the reasons that led him to have that attitude as President, and many of these public policies began to generate discontent in the private sector and the population which generated an accelerated percentage of migration of our young people abroad. But it is also fair to mention that these mistakes have not only occurred with him as president, but have existed throughout the democratic history of the country.

An event that left a mark on me is when I saw on television that President Juan Orlando Hernandez, a person with whom we shared high school classrooms in 1985, was being extradited from the country and it was also painful to see the way he was exposed when he voluntarily left his home, at that moment I felt a deep pain in my heart, because the way I knew him and could observe the few times I visited his home and how he lived, his wife and children, his mother, I find it almost impossible to believe that he is responsible for everything he is accused of. This situation that his family is living is very difficult and painful, the humiliations and offenses and the denoted hatred of a radical political sector contrary to him shown in social media that his family lives daily is from the Christian side, inhuman for someone who I consider work tirelessly to have a better Honduras.

Only God and he knows for sure what has happened, as he said in his speech at his inauguration "*I am responsible for my actions and for the actions of my minor children*", thus demonstrating that everyone is responsible for their actions and as humans we have flaws but also virtues; I trust in God, that there is an act of good faith and that he can be given the

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opportunity to defend himself and show, if so, that he is not responsible for what he is accused of, and that justice will give him the opportunity to be reunited in the short or medium term with his wife, children, grandchildren and, we trust in God, with his mother Doña Elvira.

Sincerely,

ANGEL EDUARDO RAMOS SALINAS

Honorable Judge Castel

New York South District,

My name is Ariana Guzman, and I am the niece of Juan Orlando. Whenever I think of him, I always think of a hard-working man who puts his family above everything else. He always made sure to teach my cousins and me the importance of honesty and integrity. For these reasons and others, I truly do not believe he committed these heinous crimes. I know my uncle is not a perfect man like all human beings; he makes mistakes, but he would never do what he is accused of. I saw how my uncle changed the country I lived in. Honduras went from being one of the most dangerous countries in the world to being a country where you were able to have a walk in the park without fearing for your life. I was able to see how domestic tourism flourished and small businesses thrived during his presidency. After my uncle was extradited, my family was never the same. It was hard for every one of us, and while it was hard for me to see my uncle being humiliated on national news, I know it was especially hard for my aunt and cousins. It breaks my heart to see our family separated for a crime he did not commit. I will always continue to pray for my uncle's safe return, and as an American citizen, I strongly believe that the truth will prevail, and this great nation will serve justice.

Sincerely,

Ariana Guzman

Tegucigalpa MDC 23 abril del 2024

Honorable Juez Castel Distrito Sur Nueva York

Hola Honorable Juez Castel, mi carta será breve mi nombre es Carlos Tinoco trabajé muy de cerca con el presidente Juan Orlando Hernández, fuí su asistente en casa presidencial, me encargaba de la logística y que la agenda se cumpliera en tiempo y forma, coordinando todos sus eventos.- cuando alguien trabaja con una persona como el abogado Juan Orlando se da cuenta que el trabajo que uno hacía nunca era suficiente ya que todo tenia que salir muy bien, por que él era muy detallista, comprometido con el apoyo que se le daba a las personas y siempre buscando nuevas maneras de mejorar las condiciones del país en general, Señor Castel en el tiempo que pude servir al presidente Juan Orlando me di cuenta que no solamente es una persona que siente el dolor de la gente si no que busca todas las alternativas posibles para ayudar a la gente más vulnerable tanto dentro y fuera del país para que sucedieran de forma inmediata. lo que sucedió en la pandemia con los huracanes ETA e IOTA en este país fue catastrófico y sin presendetes, de igual manera él realizó muchas acciones para ayudar a los hondureños, Juez Castel no es fácil por que somos un país lleno de mucha necesidad donde la pobreza crece día con día, pero el gobierno de JOH dejó grandes legados tangibles en infraestructura, seguridad, ambiente, social y económico, así como también en seguridad alimentaria. Sé que él está acusado por corrupción y narco trafico, lo cual yo no lo comparto ya que puedo dar fe de lo que viví durante esos años y todas las personas que trabajamos con él nos pudimos dar cuenta que es un hombre trabajador, determinante con una visión de país que llegó a realizar cambios que no se veían en muchos años atrás, miles de familias hondureñas que hoy por hoy se preguntan como fue que le sucedió esto a Juan Orlando, como es posible que este hombre que dejó en segundo plano a su familia, que puso primero al país antes que a él hoy este privado de su libertad en una cárcel de Estados Unidos, Juez Castel es importante que revisen muy detenidamente el caso del presidente sin perjuicios ni sectarismo, que sea de manera objetiva porque en lo que a mi compete jamás mire nada que estuviera fuera de lugar o raro, al contrario siempre quería que las cosas se hicieran bien, yo soy un hijo de DIOS, padre de familia el cual al ver algo raro o algo que pusiera en peligro mi integridad o la vida de mi familia yo hubiese sido el primero en hacerme a un lado, no se si alguien podría hacer algo por el presidente, yo no pierdo las esperanzas, solo espero que se haga justicia de verdad, si yo hubiera visto algo tangible que él fuese culpable y si lo es pues que lo muestren, pero el creerle aun par de mafiosos solo por decir que él es culpable de ser un narco traficante y que en verdad no se vieran pruebas de peso nos hace pensar que fue un complot y una conspiración en contra de él por qué

en su gobierno desarticuló muchas bandas criminales de todo nivel desde robo común hasta crimen organizado, ahora nuestro país vuelve hacer uno de los más inseguros del mundo, Juez Castel espero puedan darle una segunda oportunidad a ese hombre que dejó su carne en este pavimento lleno de odio mezquindad la naturaleza del ser humano es ser miserable y desleal, pero habemos hombres leales y llenos de vida con DIOS, que creemos en que todo pasa por que DIOS tiene un propósito para la vida y familia del presidente Juan Orlando.

Honorable Juez Castel , que DIOS le bendiga y le cuide y termino diciendo una frase de un ex presidente de EEUU.

"La libertad, cuando empieza a echar raíces es una planta de rápido crecimiento". George Washington.

Carlos Alberto Tinoco Recinos

Honorable Judge Castel New York South District

Hello Honorable Judge Castel, my letter will be brief my name is Carlos Tinoco and I worked very closely with President Juan Orlando Hernandez. I was his assistant in the presidential house, and I was in charge of logistics so that the agenda was met promptly, coordinating all his events - when someone works with a person like Mr. Juan Orlando you realize that the work you did was never enough because everything had to go very well. After all, he paid attention to every detail, he was committed to giving the people the support they needed and always looking for new ways to improve the conditions of the country in general. Mr. Castel during the time I was able to serve President Juan Orlando I realized that he is not only a person who feels the pain of the people but he looks for all possible alternatives to guickly help the most vulnerable people both inside and outside the country. What happened during the pandemic with hurricanes ETA and IOTA in the country was catastrophic and without precedents. Judge Castel, it is not easy because we are a country full of need where poverty grows day by day, but JOH's government left a great tangible legacy to help the Honduran people. I know that he is accused of corruption and drug trafficking, which I do not think is true because I can attest to what I experienced during those years and all the people who worked with him could see that he is a hardworking man, decisive with a vision for the country, who managed to make changes that were not seen in many years, thousands of Honduran families who today are left wondering how this happened to Juan Orlando. how is it possible that this man who had to put his family second and who put the country before himself, today is deprived of his freedom in a U.S. prison, Judge Castel, it is important that you meticulously review the case against the president without prejudice or sectarianism, in an objective manner because as far as I am concerned I never saw anything that was out of place or strange, On the contrary, he always wanted things to be done right, I am a child of God, a father who, when seeing something strange or something that endangered my integrity or the life of my family, I would have been the first one to step aside. I don't know if anyone could do anything for the president, I will not lose hope, I just hope that justice can be truly done, if I had seen something tangible that he was guilty and if they are saying he is guilty then they should show it, but to believe a couple of criminals are just for saying he is guilty of being a drug trafficker and that in truth there is no real evidence that makes us think that it was a plot and a conspiracy against him because during his administration he dismantled many criminal gangs of all levels from common robbery to organized crime. Now our country is once again one of the most dangerous in the world, Judge Castel I hope you can give a second chance to this man who left his blood on this pavement. The human being's nature is to be miserable and disloyal, but there are loyal men and full of life with God, we believe that everything happens because God has a purpose for the life and family of President Juan Orlando.

Honorable Judge Castel, may GOD bless you and take care of you. I conclude by saying a phrase from a former US president.

Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth.

-George Washington.



Carlos Alberto Tinoco Recinos

# Carta de apoyo

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C Martes 23 de abril, 2024

Para: Honorable Señor Juez Castel Distrito sur de Nueva York De: Cristian Alejandro Gómez Zambrano.

¡Saludos!, un gusto. Mi nombre Cristian Alejandro Gómez Zambrano. No. de identidad: 0801-1996-03059 Nacionalidad: Hondureña

Trabajé con el presidente Hernández por 10 años, nos conocimos en el Congreso Nacional, en esa época estaba el presidente Lobo en el poder. Estuve en la avanzada, parte del servicio del despacho y parte de la seguridad, con Orgullo.

Es un buen padre de familia, Un líder en el partido nacional y la cabeza del hogar de la familia García-Hernández.

Tuve la confianza de estar en su casa, acompañando a sus hijos y a su esposa, trabajando en Casa Presidencial, los dos periodos que él estuvo. Fue el mejor presidente, sacando adelante al país, muy profesional con su trabajo, dando horas y horas en su trabajo. Siempre ocupado solucionando los problemas del país.

Estuvimos viajando por todo el país, inaugurando muchos proyectos. Tiene el proyecto cariño de todo el pueblo hondureño. Nunca renunció, siempre la frente en alto, peleando por el bienestar y seguridad del país.

El presidente Hernández es inocente, estuve cerca de el y nunca miré algo fuera de lo normal.

El juicio fue muy difícil, muchos se aprovecharon de eso, el hizo lo humano posible, pero lo humillaron a él, a su familia y al Partido Nacional de Honduras. Fue muy fuerte, una venganza masiva. Sacando pecho del nombre del presidente Hernández, fueron días difíciles, no había trabajo, el país dividido, más el sufrimiento de su familia por señalarlo como un delincuente. Estoy orgulloso de ser parte de su equipo y volvería a sus servicios si llegase a salir, volver a su país y a su hogar, con su familia, que esta carta la vean y tenga la opinión de todos.

IISaludos presidente Hernández!!

Cristian Gómez

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C. Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Letter of Support

To: Honorable Judge Castel New York's South District From: Cristian Alejandro Gómez Zambrano.

Greetings, a pleasure. My name is Cristian Alejandro Gómez Zambrano. Identity No.: 0801-1996-03059 Nationality: Honduran

I worked with President Hernandez for 10 years, we first met in the National Congress, at that time President Lobo was in power. I was in the outpost, part of the office services and part of the security, with Pride.

He is a good family man, a leader in the national party and the head of the García-Hernández family household. I had the opportunity to be in his home, accompanying his children and his wife, working in the Presidential House, during the two periods he was in office. He was the best president, leading the country to success, very professional with his work, putting in hours and hours in his job. He was always busy solving the country's problems.

We traveled all over the country, inaugurating many projects. He has the affection of all the Honduran people. He never quit, always with his head held high, fighting for the welfare and security of the country.

President Hernandez is innocent, I was close to him and I never saw anything out of the ordinary.

The trial was very rough, and many took advantage of that, he made the best human efforts possible, but they humiliated him, his family, and the National Party of Honduras. he was very strong, despite a massive vendetta against him. It was a massive revenge. Standing up for the name of President Hernandez, those were difficult days, there was no work, the country was divided, plus the suffering of his family branded him as a criminal.

I am very proud to be part of your team and would return to your services if you ever come back , come back to your country and your home, with your family, may this letter be seen and have others' opinion.

Greetings President Hernandez!!!

Gracias, Lempira 20 de abril de 2024

Homorable Juez Castel Distrito Sur Nueva York Estados Unidos

Mi nombre es Cruz Eloisa Torres Corea, tengo la edad de 85 años, con número de DNI 1314-1938-00028, hondureña por nacimiento, maestra de educación primaria jubilada. Vivo en Gracias, Lempira y labore en la escuela donde el abogado Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado realizo sus estudios de primaria.

Conocí a Juan Orlando desde sus primeros años de edad, lo recuerdo como un niño muy educado, con valores y principios inculcados por su familia, fue un joven sobresaliente en sus estudios y con aspiraciones de superación en el ámbito profesional.

Pertenece a una familia muy reconocida en nuestra ciudad, sus padres honorables y honrados, personas trabajadoras y por esfuerzo llegaron a tener sus propiedades de manera honesta.

Puedo describir a Juan Orlando como un hombre que llego a la presidencia de nuestro querido país Honduras por la simpatía y sus ganas de sacar adelante a este país que estaba dominado por la delincuencia y las maras, en el gobierno de Juan Orlando se combatió y hubo un cambio significativo en la calidad de vida de los hondureños, vivíamos en un país menos corrupto, con más seguridad, más apertura de fuentes de empleo, donde El ayudó mucho a los hondureños.

Nuestra ciudad Gracias Lempira tuvo un cambio de progreso, sus amigos y personas que lo conocemos le extrañamos y creemos que es inocente de todos los cargos que se acusan, lo conocemos de siempre y es imposible pensar que El sea capaz de hacer todo eso.

Juan Orlando un ciudadano ejemplar, un hijo amoroso, un padre excepcional, un esposo entregado a su familia, eso podía observar en El.

Plenso que es injusto lo que personas por venganza han dicho para arruinar la vida de Juan Orlando, la vida de su familia y de los hondureños que lo queremos, nuestro país lo necesita.

Con todo respeto me atrevo a solicitarle analizar bien el caso antes de dar una sentencia, El es un hombre inocente, que lo único que hizo fue querer realizar cambios positivos en nuestra nación y combatir a los delincuentes.

Respetuosamente,

Cruz Eloisa Torres Corea.

Honorable Judge Castel New York Southern District United States of America

My name is Cruz Eloisa Torres Corea, I am 85 years old with ID number 1314-1938-00028, Honduran by birth and retired elementary school teacher. I live in Gracias, Lempira and I worked at the school where the lawyer, Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, attended elementary school. I met Juan Orlando from a very early age, I remember him as a very polite young boy, with values and principles instilled by his family. He was an outstanding student and with aspirations for professional advancement.

He belongs to a very well-known family in our city, his parents are honorable and honest, hard-working people who through their effort obtained their properties in an honest way.

I can describe Juan Orlando as a man who achieved our beloved country's, Honduras, presidency through the sympathy and desire to take our country forward which was being dominated by delinquency and gangs, during Juan Orlando's time in office, these issues were fought against and the was a significant change in Hondurans' life quality, we lived in a less corrupt country, much safer and with more sources of employment, where he helped many Hondurans.

Our city of Gracias, Lempira had a change of progress. His friends and us, people who know him, miss him and believe he is innocent of all charges he's being accused of, we have always known him and it is impossible to think that he is able to do all that.

Juan Orlando is an exemplary citizen, loving son, exceptional father, a husband devoted to his family, that is what I could see in him.

I think it is unfair what people because of revenge have said to ruin Juan Orlando's life, his family's life and that of Hondurans that love him, our country needs him.

With all due respect, I dare to ask you to analyze the case well before giving a sentence. He is an innocent man, who all he did was want to make positive changes in our nation and fight delinquents.

Respectfully,

Cruz Eloisa Torres Corea

Tegucigalpa, 17 de abril del 2024

Honorable Juez P. KEVIN CASTEL Distrito Sur de Nueva York, USA

Honorable Juez Castel:

Mi nombre es Danne Chávez, abogada, soy hondureña, amiga de Juan Orlando Hernández, a quien conozco desde hace 37 años, cuando fuimos compañeros en la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras UNAH, donde éramos estudiantes de la carrera de Derecho, siempre se caracterizó por ser un estudiante respetuoso, aplicado, disciplinado.

Durante su trayectoria estudiantil, profesional y política se preocupó siempre por el bienestar de nuestra amada Honduras, trabajo siempre con ahincó y determinación, por sacar adelante el país.

Al conocer a Juan Orlando, durante todo ese tiempo tengo la seguridad que no cometió los delitos que se le acusan, ya que desde todas sus posiciones como funcionario público, que tuvo en este país, lucho de frente contra estos delitos.

La situación que Juan Orlando ha pasado en todo este tiempo, desde su arresto a la fecha, ha traído dolor a su familia y amigos.

Al terminar sus funciones públicas, planeaba vivir en su amada Gracias, al lado de su familia, dedicarse a sus asuntos personales, sin perjudicar a nadie, en este tiempo Dios ha trabajado en su vida, moldeando su carácter, valorando lo mas valioso de su vida, su esposa, hijos, nieta y familia.

Sinceramente Danne Ch

Tegucigalpa, April 17, 2024

Honorable Judge

P. KEVIN CASTEL

Southern District of New York, USA

Honorable Judge Castel:

My name is Danne Chavez, lawyer, Honduran, and friend of Juan Orlando Hernandez, whom I have known for 37 years since we were classmates at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras UNAH, where we were law students, he was always well known for being a respectful, diligent and disciplined student.

During his studies, professional, and political career he was always concerned about the welfare of our beloved Honduras, he always worked hard and with determination, to improve the country.

Knowing Juan Orlando, during all that time I am sure that he did not commit the crimes he is accused of, since from all his positions as a public official, he fought head-on against these crimes.

The experience that Juan Orlando has gone through during all this time, from his arrest to date, has brought pain to his family and friends.

At the end of his public functions, he was planning to live in his beloved Gracias, next to his family, and dedicate himself to his personal affairs, without harming anyone, in these times God has worked in his life, molding his character, valuing the most valuable things in his life, his wife, children, granddaughter and family.

Sincerely,

Danne Chavez

Honorable Juez Kevin Castel Corte del Distrito Sur de Nueva York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Honorable Juez Castel.

Mi nombre es Edwin Daniel Altamirano Hondureño por nacimiento, desde hace 31 años formo parte de la empresa privada de mi país, he trabajado para transnacionales como LEVI 's, ALCOA Inc. y Coats America.

En esta ocasión me dirijo a usted para expresarle unas palabras en relación al Ex Presidente Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, a quien conozco desde 1983, cuando compartíamos aulas de clase en la adolescencia, posteriormente el tomo su rumbo en Tegucigalpa y yo continue desde San Pedro sula lugar donde me he desempeñado en el campo Profesional.

He conocido a Juan Orlando como una persona de principios y alguien que valora mucho a la familia, y estoy mas que seguro que todas sus decisiones fueron tomadas en función del beneficio de nuestro país.

Yo soy padre de familia de 4 hijos y a veces tome decisiones equivocadas, pero en el fondo la intención era la mejor, no somos perfectos, como humanos cometemos errores, y en relación con el Expresidente Hernandez, talvez se equivoco en algunas decisiones, pero en el fondo la intención era la mejor.

Al compañero y amigo le toco tomar decisiones difíciles que nunca otros gobernantes se habían atrevido a hacerlo, esto le llevo a buscarse muchos problemas y enemigos gratuitos, razón por la cual no todos hablaran bien de él.

Espero en Dios, que puedan evaluarse todos los pro y contras de su gestión para que se haga notar la calidad humana del Expresidente Hernandez.

Agradezco mucho su atención, Saludos cordiales

Edwin Daniel Altamirano

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Honorable Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Honorable Judge Castel.

My name is Edwin Daniel Altamirano Honduran by birth, for 31 years I have been part of the private enterprise of my country, I have worked for transnational companies such as LEVI 's, ALCOA Inc. and Coats America.

On this occasion I am writing to you to express a few words in relation to former President Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, whom I have known since 1983, when we shared classrooms in adolescence, later he took his course in Tegucigalpa and I continue from San Pedro Sula where I have worked in the professional field.

I have known Juan Orlando as a person of principles and someone who values family very much, and I am more than sure that all his decisions were made for the benefit of our country.

I am a father of 4 children and sometimes I made wrong decisions, but deep down the intention was the best, we are not perfect, as humans we make mistakes, and in relation to former President Hernandez, maybe he was wrong in some decisions, but deep down his intention was the best.

The comrade and friend had to make difficult decisions that never other governors had dared to do, this led him to face many problems and gratuitous enemies, which is why not everyone will speak well of him.

I hope to God that all the pros and cons of his administration can be evaluated so that the human quality of former President Hernandez can be noted.

I thank you very much for your attention, Best regards

Edwin Daniel Altamirano

Honorable Judge Castel

Southern District of New York

My name is Elsina Medrano, I worked for the Department of State for 20 years in the Immigrant Visa Section at the Tegucigalpa Consulate as a Supervisor. I had been nominated several times for awards including the Meritorious Honor Award. I applied for my work residence after completing the time stipulated by the Department.

Through her wife, the former First Lady, Attorney Ana Garcia, she personally introduced me former President Juan Orlando, to support them spiritually. Due to the extensive knowledge of former President Juan Orlando Hernandez in the matters of problems of Honduras, he provided the Pastors of Honduras with his unconditional support to know several aspects that we did not know and that would facilitate the development of plans to be able to execute social projects in our communities and cause an impact of reconstructions of Christian and moral values.

The day the former President was arrested, the atmosphere in the country, entire families, and me personally was one of uncertainty and fear because He provided us with security in the streets and in our homes. We felt great sadness to learn that His word was not valued during the trial, and it brought great sadness to my life and that of my family, believing that the word of the Ex-president along with the actions of his Government would be taken into greater account than the words of people who we have considered undesirable in our country.

I believe that the lack of Witnesses on the part of Mr. Juan Orlando to be able to demonstrate in person what I am writing to you today, Mr. Judge, could have helped to understand and demonstrate the Innocence of Mr. Juan Orlando, an honorable man, a family man and respectable in Honduras.

We believe in the justice of the United States, we have seen how you have collaborated with our country for more than a hundred years, you have helped us in recent years to remove people and organizations from the country that have done so much harm to us for years. We wish that you had lived the experiences that we lived during the period of Former President Juan Orlando, we felt peace, tranquility, we were able to walk down the street and know that neither we nor our children would be assaulted or kidnapped. Our children took to the streets walking through our beautiful country knowing that nothing would happen thanks to the work of Security that the former President did. The impact that his government in the field of security caused in the country, established in us again the confidence of a safe country.

Today we find ourselves again in a situation of insecurity, and we are convinced that if He were in the country, He would be working hard as we saw him do during his period in Government.

Currently, neither He nor his family have stopped seeking spiritual help. We have learned that people are not perfect, and that He is not perfect, but far from being perfect, he is a human being with great quality and honorability. I am sure that he and his family will continue the right path with the hand of God and that he will always be there to support them spiritually and emotionally.

Amedrano

Elsina Medrano

Honorable Juez Castel

Distrito Sur de New York

Mi nombre es Elsina Medrano, labore para el Departamento de Estado por 20 años en la Sección de Visa de Inmigrante en el Consulado de Tegucigalpa como Supervisora. nominada varias veces a los premios incluyendo el de Mertirois Honor Award. Aplique a mi residencia de trabajo al cumplir el tiempo estipulado por el Departamento.

A través de su Esposa la Ex primera dama la Abogada Ana García conocí personalmente al expresidente Juan Orlando, apoyándolos espiritualmente. Debido al Amplio conocimiento del expresidente Juan Orlando Hernández en la problemática de Honduras, proporciono a los Pastores de Honduras su apoyo incondicional a conocer varios aspectos que desconocíamos y que nos facilitarían la elaboración de planes para poder ejecutar proyectos sociales en nuestras comunidades y causar un impacto de reconstrucciones de valores cristianos y morales.

El día en que arrestaron al expresidente, el ambiente en el país, familias enteras, y en lo personal fue de incertidumbre y temor debido a que el nos proporcionaba seguridad en las calles y en nuestras casas. Sentimos gran tristeza al conocer que la palabra de el no era valorada durante el juicio y trajo a mi vida y a la de mi familia una gran tristeza, creyendo que la palabra del Expresidente junto con los hechos de su gobierno serian tomados en cuenta más que las palabras de personas que para nosotros hemos considerados indeseables en nuestro país.

Creo que la falta de Testigos de parte del Señor Juan Orlando para poder demostrar en persona lo que hoy le escribo Señor Juez podría haber ayudado a entender y demostrar la Inocencia del Señor Juan Orlando, hombre honorable, hombre de familia y respetable en Honduras.

Creemos en la justicia de Estados Unidos, hemos visto como ustedes han colaborado con nuestro país durante más de cien años, nos han ayudado en los últimos anos a sacar del país a personas y organizaciones que nos han hecho tanto daño durante años. Desearíamos que ustedes hubieran vivido las experiencias que nosotros vivimos durante el periodo del Expresidente Juan Orlando, sentíamos Paz, tranquilidad, éramos capaces de caminar por la calle y saber que no seriamos asaltados o secuestrados ni nosotros, ni nuestros hijos. Nuestros hijos salían a las calles caminando por nuestro bello país sabiendo que nada pasaría gracias al trabajo de Seguridad que hizo el expresidente. El impacto que su Gobierno en el ámbito de seguridad causo en el país, estableció en nosotros otra vez la confianza de un país Seguro.

Hoy nos encontramos nuevamente en una situación de inseguridad, y estamos convencidos que, si El estuviera en el país, estaría trabajando arduamente como lo vimos hacer durante su periodo en el Gobierno.

En estos momentos, ni el ni su familia no han dejado de buscar ayuda spiritual, hemos conocido que las personas no son perfectas, y que el no es perfecto, pero lejos de ser perfecto es un ser humano con una gran Calidad y honorabilidad. Estoy Segura que el y su familia continuaran el camino correcto de la mano de Dios y que siempre estaré ahí para apoyarlos espiritualmente y emocionalmente.

Amedrano

Elsina Medrano

JOH Sent.0033

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., 22 de abril de 2024

Honorable Juez Castel Distrito Sur de New York

Es un placer dirigirme a usted. Mi nombre es Erick Mauricio Rodríguez Gavarrete, nací en la hermosa ciudad de Gracias, departamento de Lempira, un lugar que compartimos con el ciudadano Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado.

Desde nuestra infancia en el Jardín de Niños "Ángel María Navarro" infancia hasta nuestros años juntos en la escuela primaria "Juan Lindo", Juan y yo compartimos momentos inolvidables que forjaron una amistad basada en la colaboración, el sentido humano y la camaradería. Durante seis años en la escuela y dos años en el Instituto "Ramón Rosa", pude presenciar de primera mano la dedicación y el espíritu solidario que Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado demostraba en cada situación.

Posteriormente, ambos continuamos nuestros caminos académicos, donde él se destacó por su compromiso y pasión. Luego coincidimos cuatro años de estudios en la Facultad de Derecho en la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras, demostrando una vez más su ánimo y su deseo de contribuir positivamente a la sociedad. Es por todo esto que no puedo dejar pasar la oportunidad de hablar sobre él, su humildad, su integridad, su ética de trabajo impecable y su corazón generoso son cualidades que lo distinguen como una persona excepcional, digna de confianza y respeto. Durante todo ese tiempo, siempre se caracterizó por su franqueza y rectitud al abordar las situaciones, buscando el bienestar de sus compañeros y de la comunidad en general. En su labor política, se ha destacado por su compromiso con el desarrollo de los municipios de nuestro departamento a través de la implementación de importantes obras de infraestructura de beneficio social. Su visión a largo plazo y su dedicación han contribuido y seguirán contribuyendo al progreso de la región, beneficiando a múltiples generaciones. Es una persona profundamente comprometida con el bienestar de la colectividad, siempre dispuesto a colaborar y aportar su granito de arena para mejorar la calidad de vida de todos.

Su actitud proactiva y su capacidad para liderar con ejemplo lo convierten en un individuo ejemplar y digno Estoy seguro de que su integridad y su pasión por el servicio público lo convierten en una pieza clave para el desarrollo y el bienestar de nuestro país. Durante ese tiempo se conoció en la lucha frontal contra la delincuencia en el departamento y en todo el país; aun siendo presidente una persona humilde y sencilla como desde la infancia que compartimos fue una de las principales virtudes.

Espero que esta carta te haya brindado una visión más clara de quién es Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado, y por qué creo firmemente en sus cualidades y capacidades. No dudes en contactarme si necesitas más información o referencias sobre él.

Erick Mauricio Rodríguez Gavarrete Cel. (+504) 9985-2016

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., April 22, 2024

Honorable Judge Castel Southern District of New York

It is a pleasure to address you. My name is Erick Mauricio Rodriguez Gavarrete, I was born in the beautiful city of Gracias, department of Lempira, a place we share with the citizen Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado.

From our childhood in the "Angel Maria Navarro" kindergarten to our years together in the "Juan Lindo" elementary school, Juan and I shared unforgettable moments that forged a friendship based on collaboration, human sense and camaraderie. During six years at the school and two years at the "Ramón Rosa" Institute, I was able to witness firsthand the dedication and spirit of solidarity that Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado demonstrated in every situation.

Later, we both continued our academic paths, where he stood out for his commitment and passion. We then coincided for four years of studies at the Law School of the National Autonomous University of Honduras, demonstrating once again his spirit and desire to contribute positively to society. It is because of all this that I cannot pass up the opportunity to talk about him, his humility, his integrity, his impeccable work ethic and his generous heart are qualities that distinguish him as an exceptional person, worthy of trust and respect. During all this time, he was always characterized by his frankness and straightforwardness in dealing with situations, seeking the welfare of his colleagues and the community in general.

In his political work, he has stood out for his commitment to the development of the municipalities of our department through the implementation of important infrastructure works of social benefit. His long-term vision and dedication have contributed and will continue to contribute to the progress of the region, benefiting multiple generations. He is a person deeply committed to the welfare of the community, always willing to collaborate and contribute his grain of sand to improve the quality of life for everyone.

His proactive attitude and his ability to lead by example make him an exemplary and worthy individual. I am sure that his integrity and passion for public service make him a key player in the development and welfare of our country. During that time he was known in the frontal fight against crime in the department and throughout the country; even as president he was a humble and simple person just as he was since our shared childhood, it was one of the main virtues.

I hope this letter has given you a clearer vision of who Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado is, and why I firmly believe in his qualities and capabilities. Do not hesitate to contact me if you need more information or references about him.

Erick Mauricio Rodríguez Gavarrete

JOH Sent.0037

Cel. (+504) 9985-2016

Tegucigalpa, M D.C., 20 de abril de 2024

Al Honorable Juez

Kevin Castel

Distrito Sur de Nueva York.

Distinguido Juez Castel, me permito dirigirme a usted con el debido respeto y consideración; mi nombre es Ethel Deras Enamorado, de nacionalidad hondureña, de profesión abogada y con documento nacional de identificación No 1401-1989-00350.

En mi país me desempeñé en diferentes cargos públicos, fui juez durante 2 años, fiscal del Ministerio Público durante 16 años; asistente de magistrado de la sala Constitucional del Poder Judicial 1 año; Procuradora General de la República de Honduras de 2010 al 2014; y de febrero del 2014 hasta inicios de febrero del 2022 ejercí el cargo de Presidenta de la Comisión Nacional de Bancos y Seguros.

Conocí a Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado aproximadamente en el año de 1986, hace unos 36 años cuando éramos estudiantes en la Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras. En esos años estudiantiles el comenzó su noviazgo con Ana Rosalinda García actualmente su esposa, con quien he mantenido amistad desde que cursamos la educación secundaria en el mismo centro de educación y posteriormente compañeras de clases en las aulas universitarias.

Desde ese tiempo, el sobresalió por su formalidad, educación, seriedad y liderazgo lo que le llevo a ser electo presidente de la Asociación de Estudiantes de la Facultad de Derecho de dicha universidad.

A lo largo de todos estos años compartí en muchas ocasiones con ellos en diferentes ámbitos de su vida pública y familiar. Me consta personalmente que Juan Orlando siempre se caracterizó por ser respetuosa con las personas, abierto y tolerante ante las críticas y opiniones contrarias, no gustaba de discusiones o enfrentamientos por el contrario procuraba el dialogo, la conciliación y la armonía. Vi en sus actuaciones un comportamiento cimentado en valores y respeto, con una gran vocación de servicio y de convicciones democráticas. Expresaba su deseo de ver a Honduras en mejores condiciones de seguridad ciudadana, con crecimiento y desarrollo económico basado en el progreso técnico y la inversión en actividades productivas.

La seguridad de las personas y la convivencia en paz, fueron elementos pilares de su gobierno. Lo vi trabajar incansablemente para lograr disminuir los índices de violencia y la comisión de delitos en territorio nacional y no lo vi claudicar en ningún momento, aun cuando sufrió amenazas personales y peligros al fijarlo como uno de sus objetivos primordiales de gobierno.

Di seguimiento a las noticias que se difundieron sobre el juicio en su contra en el Tribunal del Distrito Sur de Nueva York, leí lo que se expresó sobre Juan Orlando, la conducta que le imputaron, las frases y palabras que le atribuyen, así como los actos violentos en los cuales

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lo relacionaron y definitivamente no concuerdan y son diametralmente opuestas al conocimiento personal y de larga data que tengo de su persona, por lo que me resulta a la fecha inverosímil los actos que le fueron imputados, más me parecía que hablaban de otra persona y que su carácter juicioso formado con educación y valores como el de la paz fueron distorsionados.

Cuando fui electa Procuradora General de la República, Juan Orlando era el presidente del Congreso Nacional, no olvido que ese día me dijo: "Nunca te voy a pedir nada y peor algo al margen de la ley, todos estamos obligados a sujetarnos a la ley", Ése es el Juan Orlando que conozco desde hace muchos años hasta el último día que le vi en el país.

Sin duda, el proceso judicial y resultado del juicio de Juan Orlando, así como los juicios a los que se sometieron diferentes personas que fueron extraditadas de mi país por iguales o similares delitos y las penas que estos últimos ya cumplieron o les falta cumplir, me ha hecho reflexionar profundamente sobre el principio o concepto del valor Justicia conocido en sentido amplio como "dar a cada uno lo que le corresponde ", así como el objetivo último que persigue el proceso penal. En atención a esto último, me permití con todo respeto enviar esta carta.

Señoría, aprovecho esta oportunidad para transmitirle mi más alta consideración y reiterar mi respeto.

Atentamente Ethel Deras Enamorado Correo: ederass@yahoo.com No. Celular: 504 (94501289)

Southern District of New York.

Tegucigalpa, M D.C., April 20, 2024

Honorable Judge

Kevin Castel

Distinguished Judge Castel, I am writing to you with all due respect and consideration; my name is Ethel Deras Enamorado, of Honduran nationality, of legal profession and with national identification document No. 1401-1989-00350.

In my country I served in different public positions, I was a judge for 2 years, prosecutor of the Public Ministry for 16 years; assistant magistrate of the Constitutional Chamber of the Judiciary for 1 year; Attorney General of the Republic of Honduras from 2010 to 2014; and from February 2014 until early February 2022 I served as President of the National Banking and Insurance Commission.

I met Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado approximately in 1986, some 36 years ago when we were students at the Law School of the National Autonomous University of Honduras. In those student years, he began his courtship with Ana Rosalinda Garcia, currently his wife, with whom I have been friends since we attended high school in the same educational center and later shared classes in the university classrooms.

He has always stood out for his formality, education, seriousness, and leadership, which led him to be elected president of the Student Association of the Law School of the university.

Throughout all these years I shared many times with them in different areas of their public and family life. I personally know that Juan Orlando was always characterized by being respectful with people, open and tolerant to criticism and contrary opinions, he did not like discussions or confrontations, on the contrary, he sought dialogue, conciliation, and harmony. I saw in his actions a behavior based on values and respect, with a great vocation of service and democratic convictions. He expressed his desire to see Honduras in better conditions of citizen security, with growth and economic development based on technical progress and investment in productive activities.

The security of the people and peaceful coexistence were key elements of his government. I saw him work tirelessly to reduce the rates of violence and the commission of crimes in the national territory and I did not see him give up at any time, even when he suffered personal threats and dangers when he set this as one of his primary government objectives.

I followed the news that was broadcast about the trial against him in the Southern District Court of New York, and I read what was said about Juan Orlando, the conduct he was accused of, the phrases and words attributed to him, as well as the violent acts in which he was involved, and they definitely do not match and are diametrically opposed to the personal and long-standing knowledge I have of his person, so it seems to me to date that the acts that were imputed to him, but it seems to me that they spoke of another person and that his judicious character formed with education and values such as peace was distorted. When I was elected Attorney General of the Republic, Juan Orlando was the president of the National Congress, I will never forget that day when he told me: "I will never ask you for anything and do anything outside the law, we are all obliged to abide by the law", that is the Juan Orlando that I have known for many years until the last day I saw him in the country.

Undoubtedly, the judicial process and the result of Juan Orlando's trial, as well as the trials to which different persons who were extradited from my country were subjected for the same or similar crimes and the sentences they have already served or have yet to serve, have made me reflect deeply on the principle or concept of the value of Justice known in a large sense as "give to each one what is due to him", as well as the ultimate objective pursued by the

criminal process. It is with this in mind that I respectfully submit this letter.

Your Honor, I take this opportunity to convey to you my highest consideration and reiterate my respect.

Yours sincerely,

Ethel Deras Enamorado

Email: ederass@yahoo.com

Cellular No.: 504 (94501289)

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Honorable Judge Castel,

I hereby formally introduce myself to you. My name is Felix Puerto, I'm a United States citizen, dedicated to car sales for more than three decades.

It is an honor for me to address you in order to express my opinion and support for the cause of former President Juan Orlando Hernández. I would like to express my sincerest recommendation for him as a person and as a former public official.

I have had the privilege of knowing former President Hernández since our childhood at Liceo Militar Del Norte, and for decades, we have maintained a friendship rooted in solid values and unbreakable principles, many of which he inherited from his parents, who provided him with such upbringing and which always identified us in our friendship.

In adulthood, although with separate paths, I was able to observe his dedication to public service and his commitment to the well-being of his country and its people, whom he always professed to love and work tirelessly to change the destiny of many.

Former President Hernández has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills, as well as a deep understanding of the challenges Honduras faced when he was democratically elected President of the country. His relentless focus on combating corruption and organized crime was crucial to advancing stability and progress, a testimony shared by thousands of Hondurans, even recorded in the history of those of us who experienced times of peace and security during his presidential term.

Furthermore, I can attest to his integrity and willingness to address the most pressing issues with determination and responsibility. His commitment to justice and the rule of law is undeniable, and although, like any public servant, he may have made mistakes in some decisions, history records an agenda aimed at ensuring peace and security in a country rated as one of the most dangerous in the world.

For all these reasons and based on his achievements as a man in his personal life and as a politician in his public service, I have no doubt in recommending former President Juan Orlando Hernández as a person of the highest integrity. We would not hesitate to offer him our spiritual and supportive support if he were to need it when facing this tough ordeal.

Thank you for your attention to this letter and for considering my testimony about the human quality, solidarity, respect for God, and the law that defines the personality of former President Hernández. My admiration and respect to you.

Sincerely,

Felix Donaldo Puerto

Runda

JOH Sent.0043

Honorable Judge Kevin Castell Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

My name is Felix Francisco Pacheco Reyes, former officer of the Honduran Air Force, military aviator pilot since 1987, aviation entrepreneur, with his own company founded in 2004 in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, father of a family, grandfather and faithful servant of this Homeland Honduras.

I was a classmate of Juan Orlando Hernandez in the military school from 1983 to 1985, being him, an exceptional companion, correct, loyal, brave as a military man, what we call in military jargon a "Prussian" a "tiger" and already making his career after college in universities and as a lawyer, he was an exceptional man. A great family man.

He was and still is a hope in our country, because we saw what he managed and did for Honduras. He fought crime at its roots, drug trafficking, things that other political figures fled for fear of these criminals, he was not afraid of them.

Your servant as a military pilot, in my time of service, fought drug trafficking and we know how to recognize the work that was done by him, against drug trafficking in this country. I don't know how you could believe those criminals, if you lived in this country, you would realize who they were and you would hate them as we hate them. With this that happened, nobody else will want to fight drug trafficking because those criminals, their word is worth more than their tangible actions. Data did not matter, what mattered was the statement of confessed murderers. That was the message, don't fight drug traffickJuan Orlando as a man, made many mistakes, because the easiest thing for a man is to make mistakes, political decisions, late attention to certain issues, poor choice of officials, etc..

This trial affected Honduras terribly, what you hear in the news, social networks, that is not the thinking of the vast majority of Hondurans, it is the opinion of people who have time to do that since they do not work and are politically financed by the left and hate you. With this, you yourselves helped your enemies to continue with the plan of the Sao Paulo forum against you.

Our country needs men like the presidents of the United States, Juan Orlando in his measure was like that and being your ally much was achieved. But everything went down the drain.

We hope that this situation will be ratified, the truth will come out and all Hondurans here will be ready to support you. I know that you apply the law and that is based on you, honorable man, but you believed in those criminals.

With the greatest respect.

I subscribe to you with the greatest respect..,

Félix Francisco Pacheco Reyes. 0501-1968-04073

General (R) Fredy Santiago Diaz Zelaya 1

Tegucigalpa, Honduras, CA 25 de abril del 2024 Honorable Sr. Juez del Distrito Sur de NY Sr. Kevin Castel Su Oficina

Soy el General Fredy Santiago Diaz Zelaya en condición de Retiro, fui designado como Jefe de Estado Mayor Conjunto de la Fuerzas Armadas de Honduras (máxima autoridad militar) por el Sr. Presidente Hernández en los dos primeros años de su primer mandato, año 2014 y 2015, éstos fueron los dos últimos años de mi carrera militar.

El año 2017 el Sr. Presidente Hernández me nombró como Viceministro de Defensa.

En los 4 años de su segundo mandato el Sr. Presidente me nombró como Ministro de Defensa.

Durante mi vida como soldado profesional durante 38 años antes de ser nombrado Jefe de Estado Mayor Conjunto, fueron años de servicio apegado a principios y valores y sobre todo un hombre temeroso de Dios, esta currícula sirvió para que el Sr. Presidente Hernandez me seleccionara para ser el Jefe de Estado Mayor Conjunto.

En el año 2014 se recibió un país en materia de seguridad como el país más violento del mundo con 86.5 homicidios por cada cien mil habitantes, razón por la cual se tomó la decisión de que Fuerzas Armadas de Honduras apoyara a la Policía Nacional; cuando hicimos el estudio del por qué este fenómeno, comprobamos que el 80% de estos homicidios eran generados o impulsados por el paso de la droga por nuestro país, ya que por Honduras se decía que pasaba entre el 60% al 80% que iba para USA.

Era una situación sumamente compleja y difícil para un gobernante, se ocupaba de un Presidente de valor pero sobre todo comprometido con su pueblo y eso fue lo que me inspiró a mí para ser parte del equipo de trabajo del Presidente Hernández.

Había que tomar decisiones para poder hacer frente a esta situación tan difícil; para eso se hicieron acciones como:

- Se elaboró el Plan Morazán
- Se creó FUSINA (Fuerza Nacional de Seguridad Institucional Nacional)
- Se creó la Policía Militar del Orden Público (PMOP)

Pero hay que destacar que siempre contamos con la ayuda/colaboración del Comando Sur y en especial el General Kelly y el Almirante Faller entre otros, ellos fueron nuestros mejores aliados, trabajando fuerte en el escudo marítimo.

Al final de los dos períodos de gobierno del Presidente Hernández nos sentimos sumamente satisfechos de lo que se había logrado con el liderazgo y una férrea decisión política del Presidente Hernández, resultados tan objetivos y medibles como:

- Haber reducido los homicidios de 86.5 a 38 por cada cien mil habitantes, refrendado o confirmado por el Observatorio de la Violencia de la Universidad Autónoma de Honduras (UNAH) y la Policía Nacional de Honduras

- Haber reducido el paso de la droga por nuestro país del 60% a 80% y al 4%, refrendado o confirmado por "Joint Interagency Task Force (JIIATF) South"

Estos fueron nuestros sueños al inicio de nuestra gestión.

Antes de aceptar los cargos que me asignó el Sr. Presidente Hernández pude ver en el Presidente Hernández un hombre de decisión y valor cuando en el año 2013 como Presidente del Congreso Nacional aprobó la Ley de Extradición, fue un evento sin precedentes, ya que se te tenía conocimiento de vinculación con el narcotráfico de algunos diputados, la Ley de Extradición la aprobó el Congreso Nacional a puerta cerrada.

Tengo presente en mi mente que cuando iniciamos nuestra gestión como Jefe de Estado Mayor Conjunto, con mucha escasez de recursos y con muchas condiciones adversas en una reunión de trabajo, el Sr. Presidente me expresó "son ellos o el Estado" refiriéndose a los narcotraficantes.

Siempre las directrices que él dio fueron apegadas a la Ley.

Por todo lo antes expresado y con todo el respeto que usted se merece Sr. Juez Kevin Castel, yo me resisto a creer que el Sr. Presidente Hernández haya cometido los delitos que a él se le acusó.

Con todo el respeto para usted.

General (R) Fredy Santiago Diaz Zelaya

Tegucigalpa, Honduras, CA April 25, 2024 Honorable Mr. Judge of the Southern District of NY Mr. Kevin Castel Your Office

I am General Fredy Santiago Diaz Zelaya in Retired status, I was appointed as Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces of Honduras (highest military authority) by Mr. President Hernandez in the first two years of his first term, 2014 and 2015, these were the last two years of my military career.

In 2017, Mr. President Hernandez appointed me as Vice Minister of Defense.

In the 4 years of his second term, Mr. President appointed me as Minister of Defense.

During my 38 years as a professional soldier before being appointed Joint Chief of Staff, I was attached to principles and values and above all a God-fearing man. This curriculum served for Mr. President Hernandez to select me to be the Joint Chief of Staff.

In 2014 the country was received in terms of security as the most violent country in the world with 86.5 homicides per hundred thousand inhabitants, which is why the decision was made that the Armed Forces of Honduras would support the National Police; when we made the study of why this phenomenon, we found that 80% of these homicides were generated or driven by the passage of drugs through our country, since it was said that between 60% to 80% went through Honduras to the USA.

It was an extremely complex and difficult situation for a president, it required a courageous President, but above all committed to his people and that is what inspired me to be part of President Hernandez's work team.

Decisions had to be made to be able to face this difficult situation; for that reason, actions were taken such as:

- The Morazán Plan was elaborated.
- FUSINA (National Force for National Institutional Security) was created.
- The Military Police of Public Order (PMOP) was created.

But it must be emphasized that we always had the help/collaboration of the Southern Command and especially General Kelly and Admiral Faller among others, they were our best allies, working hard on the maritime shield.

At the end of President Hernandez's two terms in office we felt extremely satisfied with what had been achieved with the leadership and strong political decisions of President Hernandez, results as objective and measurable as:

- Having reduced homicides from 86.5 to 38 per hundred thousand inhabitants, endorsed or confirmed by the Observatory of Violence of the Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH) and the National Police of Honduras.

- To have reduced the passage of drugs through our country from 60% to 80% and to 4%, endorsed or confirmed by the "Joint Interagency Task Force (JIIATF) South".

These were our dreams at the beginning of our administration.

Before accepting the positions assigned to me by President Hernandez I could see in President Hernandez a man of decision and courage when in 2013 as President of the National Congress he approved the Extradition Law, it was an unprecedented event, since it was known that some congressmen were linked to drug trafficking, the Extradition Law was approved by the National Congress behind closed doors.

I keep in mind that when I started my term as Joint Chief of Staff, with very scarce resources and with many adverse conditions in a work meeting, Mr. President told me, "it is them or the State" referring to the drug traffickers.

The directions he gave were always in accordance with the Law.

For all of the above and with all the respect you deserve Mr. Judge Kevin Castel, I refuse to believe that Mr. President Hernandez has committed the crimes he was accused of.

With all due respect to you.

General (R) Fredy Santiago Diaz Zelaya

Honorable Kevin Castel United States District Judge Southern District of New York

My name is Gladis Abigail Oseguera; I'm 31 years old. I was born and raised in Honduras, and reside in New Jersey since 2011, where I first came as an international student to pursue Structural Engineering. I've been working for consulting firms in New York City for the past 7 years, where I currently manage Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvement Projects for the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA). My father is Honduran Armed Forces Brigadier General Willy Joel Oseguera Rodas.

I first met Juan Orlando Hernandez around 2010 when I applied to merit-based scholarships/financing programs known as EDUCREDITO, which was one of the government's programs he continued to support as President of the National Congress of Honduras. I also knew Juan Orlando's oldest daughter and son, as we attended the same high school in Tegucigalpa. As he later became President of Honduras, I heard more about Juan Orlando as my father held key positions in the Honduran Army as his career progressed. I knew Juan Orlando was working relentlessly, especially in matters of safety and security. I would occasionally greet Juan Orlando at the Westin Hotel's entrance in NYC during the United Nations General Assembly every year, or at any public event we happened to cross paths. He was always very respectful and would greet me with a smile. During my last interaction with Juan Orlando prior to his arrest, we spoke about infrastructure improvements in Honduras; he met my husband that day, and we spoke about ways we could contribute back to our country as engineers.

During the 8 years Juan Orlando was President of Honduras, I saw my father and many others work tirelessly to combat narcotrafficking and organized crime. I many times feared for the well-being and safety of my father, as he led frontal efforts to combat the largest criminal organizations in Honduras and the region; I many times cried for the lives of the soldiers and policemen that were lost during special operations. Juan Orlando created/promoted several laws and then created several special defense and security units to combat drug trafficking, to control extortion, to combat MS-13 and Pandilla 18. He created/promoted the National Anti-Gang Force (FENAMP), the National Extortion Force (FNA), the Military Police of Public Order (PMOP), the National Inter-Agency Security Force (FUSINA), among others. Every citizen in Honduras knew this and could attest to how the streets were gradually becoming safer. Juan Orlando was working closely with the United States in these efforts, which were publicly recognized and known to everyone in the region. I personally attended several public events where either General John Kelly from the Southern Command, or any other US Representative, would speak about the joint efforts and praise Juan Orlando for all the initiatives he had undertaken. It was clear to everyone that Juan Orlando was leading and directing efforts completely opposite of what he is being convicted for, and that the United States considered him an ally in this fight.

I have never been fond of any political party or politician. Juan Orlando was no exception. I many times criticized decisions he made and how he handled several topics as President. I would criticize some of his speeches as he would come off as arrogant; I would question why he would name

specific people in his cabinet. He certainly made many mistakes; in my opinion, seeking reelection being one of them. Nevertheless, in defense and security matters, even though it was not a perfect fight, I've always thought it was a genuine one.

I remember having lunch with my family in Tegucigalpa during one of my visits, when the news came out about Juan Orlando being requested for extradition by the US on drug and gun trafficking charges. We were speechless. To the people who risked their lives combating narcotrafficking, and families like mine, who could speak to everything that had been done, it felt like a slap in the face. Juan Orlando being extradited represented a win for all the criminals who had been put in jail, to all the drug dealers and gang members who had taken innocent lives away; it was their happiest day; and far from taking forward steps, Honduras as a nation, has just lost years of hard work and advancement.

Several years ago, I met his sister, Aixa, back in Gracias, Lempira, where they're originally from. She would greet me with a piece of hand-made bread at the family hotel she managed. Aixa was never involved in politics, neither was their mother, Doña Elvira. I recall speaking to Aixa's daughters as they were pursuing their studies abroad and thought of themselves as collateral damage. It was extremely unfortunate and unfair to see Aixa and several others in his family basically homeless, following Juan Orlando's extradition. It has been an extenuating journey for his family, as their lives have been irrevocably changed, and the ways they can help Juan Orlando have been extremely limited. Juan Orlando was publicly exposed during his arrest, and so was his family. Their properties were seized, and their bank accounts were frozen, limiting their resources to afford his legal defense. Just prior to his trial, a GoFundMe account was created to help pay his legal fees. Within hours, hundreds of people had shown support to Juan Orlando and his family through this platform. Unfortunately, Jorge Bar Levy succeeded in getting the account suspended and all the funds raised did not reach their purpose, resulting in Juan Orlando not being able to afford an effective defense.

This has been such an impactful case; it has done so much damage not only to his inner circle, but to Honduras as a society. The media has played such an immense role in this case, as Juan Orlando cannot publicly deny or disprove what is being said and many simply take it as true. There have been so many lies, and so many made-up stories, it's aggravating. Juan Orlando being in prison has given the opposing political party, currently in government, to use him and his family as a trophy, and justify their mistakes based on his administration; it has also given them an opportunity to retaliate against people who worked alongside Juan Orlando.

Being incarcerated abroad, not having the opportunity to see your loved ones, and not having the chance to speak up to deny or disprove things that are not true, is devastating. His family's US visitor visas were revoked at the start of this process. It has been shattering for Juan Orlando to not see his daughters and son, grandchildren, wife, mother, siblings. I personally think he did not have an effective defense and he was at many times at a disadvantage, which severely impacted his preparedness for trial. Juan Orlando never thought he could be in this situation; I know this process has humbled him. He has deposited his faith in God since the beginning, and truth be told, that's the only reason why he's still sane to this day.

I was at the SDNY Court during Juan Orlando's trial, alongside my father who testified. It was an extremely stressful experience for us as a family, as we were basically at the center of controversy of an entire region. This case has impacted my family, as Juan Orlando's conviction represents all those years of my father's hard work were for nothing. My father has been one of the very few who have spoken up, as many others fear political persecution from the current government. My father has made sure the more than 7,000 men he led during those years are confident and well-aware that he never received, nor he gave, an illegal order to anyone, and that the lives lost were not in vain. I recognize Juan Orlando is far from perfect, but I personally believe he is not guilty of what he is being convicted for based on the evidence presented during trial. I trust God and His ways and believe the Justice System will only be fair. I know that at the end of this process, Juan Orlando will be a different man and will view life differently. I know he will treasure his close ones and live a grateful life.

I write this letter in support of Juan Orlando Hernandez, his family, and the work that was done during all those years to make Honduras a safer place. I sincerely thank you for your time and consideration to this letter.

Best,

Gladis Abigail Oseguera

Gracias Lempira Honduras Abril 2024

Honorable Juez Castel:

Mi nombre es Gloria Carmen Guevara Ardón, cristiana, madre, esposa y ciudadana defensora de la vida, de la familia y también las causas justas, por lo que siento profundo desprecio por la injusticia en todas su manifestaciónes.

En mis casi 60 años nunca antes vi, un presidente de mi país que luchara de frente, sin miedo, con determinación en contra de estas fuerzas malignas, como el crimen organizado y las estructuras criminales, como lo hizo Juan Orlando, bajaron las muertes violentas, la terrible extorción, disminuyo el secuestro, el trafico de droga, los altos niveles de inseguridad disminuyeron significativamente.

Desde sus posiciones de la administración pública creo, e impulso duras leyes para castigar y despojar, dejando sin poder económico a estos criminales. Su compromiso con Honduras fue notable y admirable, su visión de país hizo cosas que nunca antes nadie las hizo, un hombre sencillo, inteligente, de personalidad fuerte y un liderazgo genuino, sensible con carisma, querido por muchos y odiado por pocos.

A raíz de los hechos acontecidos anteriormente y que todos conocemos, nació una campaña de descrédito y calumnias para el presidente. Sin embargo, cuando fue detenido y más tarde extraditado no lo podíamos creer, un momento increíblemente doloroso para toda su familia y amigos.

Recientemente sometido a un juicio. Y que a mi juicio y el de muchos hondureños no fue justo al contrario muy desigual. Cómo amiga de la familia por muchos años vecina, podría decir que los conozco bien, fuimos a la misma escuela y mis hijos jugaron con sus hijos, que en su caso no es perfecto como todo ser humano debilidades las habrá tenido, pero nunca al nivel señalado.

Lo que sí está claro es que el él peleó una guerra espiritual en lo natural y la venganza no se hizo esperar del enemigo.

Honorable Juez Castel: Apelo a su misericordia de hombre recto, que cree hacer las cosas bien, pero a la vez compasivo, piadoso ante la situación de un hombre que es padre, esposo y abuelo que anhela regresar pronto a su casa y disfrutar de ese entorno maravilloso y calientito que es la familia.

Respetuosamente,

Gloria Carmen Guevara Ardón DNI 1308196400066

# Escaneado con CamScanner

Honorable Judge Castel:

My name is Gloria Carmen Guevara Ardon, Christian, mother, wife, and a citizen defender of life, of family and also fair causes, for which I feel a deep contempt for injustice in all its manifestations.

Never in my almost 60 years of life, have I seen a president of my country that fought head on, fearlessly with determination against malicious forces, such as organized crime, and criminal structures, as Juan Orlando did, violent deaths, the terrible extorsion, kidnapping, drug trafficking and high levels of unsafety decreased significantly.

From his positions in public administration he created and promoted tough laws to punish and strip, leaving these criminals with no economic power. His compromise to Honduras was noticeable and admirable, his country vision did things that no one ever did, a simple man, smart, of strong personality and a genuine leadership, sensitive with charisma, loved by many and hated by few.

As a result of the events that previously took place and that we are all aware of, a campaign of disrepute and slander was born against the president. However, when he was detained and later on extradited, we could not believe it, an unbelievably painful moment for his family and friends.

Recently subjected to a trial. Which to my judgment and to the one of many Hondurans was not a fair one, to the contrary, a very unequal trial. As a friend of the family, and neighbor for many years, I can say that I know them well, we went to the same school, my kids played with their kids, that in his case he is not perfect, as every human being, he will have had weaknesses, but never to the level indicated.

What is clear is that he fought a spiritual war in nature and revenge was not long in coming from the enemy.

Honorable Judge Castel, I appeal to your mercy as an upright man, who believes in doing things right, but at the same time compassionate, merciful to the situation of a man who is a father, husband, grandfather who longs to return home soon and enjoy the wonderful and warm environment that is family.

Respectfully,

Gloria Carmen Guevara Ardon ID 130819640006 May 22, 2024 Honorable Judge Peter Kevin Castel District Court for the Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Greetings, your honor, Judge Castel. My name is Isabela Hernandez Garcia. I'm the youngest of four siblings fathered by Juan Orlando Hernandez. To speak about my father is to speak about someone whom I genuinely love and admire. I could easily list all the qualities that make him an honorable man, a child of God, and a courageous spirit. However, I know better. I understand that in this world, once a first impression has been firmly established, it is very difficult to be reversed. This is why, instead of listing all the traits that encapsulate Juan Orlando Hernandez, I will opt by offering you a glimpse of him through my eyes.

Your Honor, I'm writing to you from our small but beloved country, Honduras. A country not known by many but one heavily influenced by the events unfolded in courtroom 11D of the Southern District Court of New York. Since my father's indictment, Honduras has been on the watch for every occurrence of his trial's proceedings. Naturally, his trial was no exception, and like the rest of the country, we, his family, had to watch like spectators. To be very sincere with you, Judge Castel, I am deeply saddened by this injustice. The accusations, lies, and schemes expressed during the trial took a big toll on every single one of our family members. Every day, it felt like our aching heart tore apart more and more. However, what truly shattered it was the fact we couldn't be there for my father as our whole world was crumbling down. Unfortunately, we didn't have the same opportunity the real drug dealers (and their families) did. We couldn't hug him, touch him, or even see him. We haven't done so in the last two years. Judge Castel, I genuinely wonder why our family was denied this right. I wonder why the actual criminals got to have their family there, as their verdict came through, but our family didn't.

To be honest and with all due respect, your Honor, I would have never imagined writing a letter to a District Judge. Never in my life would I have thought lies would separate my family, but then again, I would have never imagined vengeance could ever triumph in the eyes of American Justice.

I write this letter in the same room that used to echo the door knocks when my dad arrived at night, the same room where we would chat about his vision for Honduras. I'm writing from the same bed where he would sit down to tell me about his day. I still remember how we used to live then. A family united by love but distanced by "sacrifices for the greater good," as my parents would phrase them (and they still do). Back then, I was too little to understand what it all meant. Back then, I was dazed by innocence.

During his political career, my father used to arrive home late at night. He would arrive very late from meetings at Congress, and as the years went on from his campaign and then from the Presidential Office. Nevertheless, no matter how busy his day, he always made time for his family. We would dedicate time to one another at night or during our Sunday lunch. In hindsight, I realize that even if he was sleep-deprived, stressed, and scared, he was always there for our family. No matter the point of his career, he never failed to knock on my door. No matter the time, he would always open the door, just enough so I could see his face, and kiss me goodnight. He was always there until he wasn't. It all stopped two years ago.

Judge, if you let me, let me take you back to more than a decade ago. It was a devastating time when Honduras suffered a lot. Growing up, I didn't understand it much. As a kid, God gave me the blessing of being encapsulated in a protective bubble, shielding my innocence. I was kept away from the crimson-tainted hands that wreaked havoc in this nation. Where murderers, gangs, drug dealers, and criminals alike molded Honduras to their liking, robbing our people of countless lives and years of development. Your Honor, I came to realize the severity of Honduras' reality at a later point in life. Unfortunately, not all children have this opportunity.

Honduras used to be the country where crime ruled the streets. It was known as the "Most Dangerous Country in the World," with the most dangerous city in the world. A country where the homicide rate reached the peak of 80+ murders per 100,000 habitants. Where the lives of innocent women, children, and men were taken away as if they held no value. Thankfully, and by the Grace of God, the criminal rates went down due to a series of measures taken by my father's administration. I understand if the previous statement may be perceived as biased. Nonetheless, I remain firm in my affirmation. I do so after reading various official transcripts of public U.S. government materials. However, the origin of my statement is not based on my readings but on my knowledge of my father's character and actions.

Juan Orlando Hernandez is an honorable man, a dedicated husband, a loving father, and a committed patriot. I can vouch for these four statements and have my life experience to prove it. My dad always stressed the importance of hard work, a truth he learned from a young age. At eight years old, he worked on my grandfather's farm. He grazed the cattle, cut the grass, milked the cows, and harvested corn. After all the day's work, my grandfather instructed him to read the sacred scriptures daily. He did this to instill our God's way in my dad's life, and I'm glad to say it came to happen. Since my parents met, God has been the center and guide of their relationship, characterizing every step they took together and apart. Together, they made our united family, our support and strength amid this devastating process. Together, they also embarked on a sacrificed journey to transform Honduras for the better. They did this, knowing what consequences would follow. However, none of us ever imagined the situation we live in today would be one of them.

My dad always told me to be humble, honest, and act with dignity. He taught me to be kind to everybody and never feel superior to anybody. He upheld us to strict standards, never allowing us to deviate into anything but the righteous path. Of course, he did this with love and in our best interest. He taught us all these qualities in the best way, by leading with his example. Throughout my life, I have grown up next to a man who has all the respect for the law. After all, he decided to specialize as a lawyer and notary. His perseverance and determination allowed him to become part of the legislative and executive branches, enabling him to enact the very same laws that persecuted those who wreaked havoc in Honduras. The same laws returned long-awaited peace to Honduran citizens.

It is fair to say my father's administration regained Honduras' security with the help of the American government. He worked tirelessly with top agencies of your country, including the CIA, DEA, South Command, and the Joint Interagency Task Force, to combat crime at all levels, especially drug dealing. I'm proud to say that together, they achieved notable results in this fight, to the extent that on multiple occasions, my father and Honduras were commended by top US officials both privately and publicly. (These statements can be found on the American archive sites.) However, I fail to comprehend how, after all this work, effort, and sacrifices, someone who was once an ally is now treated like the enemy. I fail to understand how the most informed government of the world worked hand in hand with my father if there was even a semblance of truth to the charges he is accused of. With all due respect, your Honor, for all these reasons and more, I remain firm in my belief that my father is not guilty of all the three counts he was tried for.

Writing this letter to you, Judge Castel, has been very hard. Putting all my words, thoughts, and feelings into writing is difficult. In all sincerity, I would never wish this pain and hardship upon anybody. However, it is important that you are given more perspective on our family's side of the story.

February 14th is a day celebrated around the globe commemorating love and friendship. To my family, February 14th marks the day this whole nightmare began. It was the day my father's extradition request was announced, a terrible day I will never forget. I still remember the fast pace at which my heart was beating and how all the world immediately stopped when I read the dreadful headlines, when I saw more than six hundred police officers surrounding my childhood home, and when I was told my parents were alone. Like the trial, I had to watch it through TV like a spectator, not knowing how my dad was feeling, how my mom was reacting, or what was going on. We tried calling, but no one answered, until he did. I will never forget the words that he said to us: "Please know that I am innocent." Words which were quickly followed by mine, "You don't have to ever tell us that, Pa, we know you are." Just like that, he told us he would surrender to face the accusations, and so he did. Like I said before, my dad has always led by example. Confident in the power of justice, he turned himself in, knowing he was innocent of all the accusations.

After my father's arrest, my sister and I returned to Honduras. I was studying abroad, so I returned a few days after my sister. I traveled completely alone, literally from the other side of the world, to be with my dad. As I sat down in my airplane seat, ready to cross the Atlantic Ocean, I noticed a little black news banner on the seat's screen that read something along the lines of "BBC: Honduras President Faces Extradition." Immediately, my heart sank, and I felt tears flooding my eyes. I couldn't believe what I was seeing. I couldn't believe how one who fought so bravely would be treated with such disdain, but I remained composed, following my dad's example even in the greatest hardships. I don't remember much of the flight, all the 20+ hours of it. I just remember feeling anxious and worried about returning to a country that no longer felt like the home I was used to.

2022 was the last year I saw my dad in person. I was lucky to put my studies on hold and go see him one last time before he was extradited. I'm immensely thankful to God for giving me this opportunity. When I saw him, it took one look for me to know what he was thinking. Just like me, he couldn't believe the situation we were in, but he knew he had truth and justice by his side, and he knew they would prevail over the lies.

Once again, just like the rest of Honduras, I was the spectator of the show that was put on for his extradition. Every news channel broadcasted how the Honduran authorities "practiced" my father's extradition. Like the rest of the country, we didn't know when it would happen. It was terrible to go through it, and as I write this, I feel like I'm reliving it all again. Just like counsel informed you, upon my father's arrival to the United States, he was isolated for 21 days. Twenty-one days went by without knowing how my father was doing, how he was feeling, and what was happening to him. It really pains me to know he was alone, in a foreign country, without his family, and he spent three weeks all by himself. Unfortunately, this didn't happen once, but twice. He was yet alone when he faced his trial without us at his side. Judge Castel, it's important for me to let you know that the bench behind the counsel's table was not empty by choice. We would've given anything to be there for my dad during the trial, even if that meant going through the worst experience of our lives. We would've been there to support him.

Unfortunately, we couldn't because the United States government revoked our visas and denied our applications.

Before the trial in November, my sister and I applied for a visa to visit my father. On November 13th, 2023, we visited the American Embassy in Tegucigalpa for our visa interview. I explicitly remember the immigration officer telling us they knew we were coming and that they knew who our father was. As the interview ended, the officer told us we would "likely qualify." My sister asked again if that meant we would get our visas approved, and he said yes. Your Honor, we waited three months for our visas, checking daily to see if our application status had changed. When it did, it came back as DENIED. Once again, we felt another punch in the gut. One that meant that, once more, we couldn't be next to our father when he needed us the most.

I understand the trial has ended and that the verdict has been given. However, I would like to give you more insight into my father's perception here in Honduras. Since the trial, my mother, sister and I have traveled to different parts of Honduras, meeting with people from different departments. People from around the country have approached us to tell us that "Juan Orlando is innocent," "we saw the trial's news, not a single piece of evidence," and "we know your father is not guilty." They sympathize with our family's cause because they know who Juan Orlando was as President. They know that during my father's tenure, drastic measures against criminality were taken. They know this because Honduras was able to enjoy a period of reduced violence and chaos. As such, they recognize my father's role as a contributor to these results.

This entire process has hit my family multiple times, and every hit has caused lasting pain. Nevertheless, we have felt God's grace even in the darkest of times. Because even though my dad's extradition and arrest have taken a huge toll on all of us, it has made us stronger as a family; it has made us stronger in our faith and our convictions. Your Honor, I have faith in justice; I genuinely do. However, with all due respect, it is my opinion, as it is my right, that justice wasn't served in courtroom 11D of the SDNY court. I pray to my God with all my heart that the truth will prevail one day, and the entire world will know my dad's innocence. That one day, we will be reunited as a family and live our days in peace and tranquility, just like we all had envisioned. That one day, my mom will wake up next to the love of her life, that one day, my dad will walk me down the aisle, and I pray that one day, my grandma will embrace her son again.

Your Honor, I thank you for your time and consideration. May God always guide your path so that every decision you take is made according to His will.

Respectfully, Isabela Hernandez Garcia

Ivan Alvarenga 18631 N 42 Ave Glendale, AZ 85308

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Honorable Judge Kevin Castel US District Court for the Southern District of New York

Dear Judge Kevin Castel,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my well-known friend Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado who has been judged wrongfully.

I have personally known Juan Orlando Hernandez since we were classmates in high school. We eventually became best friends and neighbors living in the same city of San Pedro Sula, Honduras. I want to state that Mr. Hernandez is a true gentleman, very respectful of the laws and will never commit a crime especially being President of Honduras.

I am a true witness of his honesty and honorable daily manner towards his coworkers.

The evidence which leads to him being convicted has been manufactured and manipulated so I request you to look with a further detailed investigation. He is a living jolly human being and he's there for anyone in need of help. He helped tons of people in Honduras that lived with a very low or no income, constructing houses for them, giving them hope and peace in their hearts.

His family has been going through tough times and are completely distorted on hearing all those bad news. His family are believers of God and He's the only support they have for peace in their hearts.

I would request you to look at his case once again before finalizing your verdict. I can vouch for the right character of Juan Orlando Hernandez, and I would request you to consider this character letter before finalizing any verdict.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Ivan Alvarenga

Tegucigalpa MDC 22 abril 2024

Honorable Juez Castel Distrito Sur de Nueva York

Me presento, mi nombre es Javier Funes Guzman, tengo 28 años, soy Licenciado en Negocio Internacional, Master en Administración de Empresas, soy egresado de la Universidad de Ming Chuan, en Taiwán, donde viví por 7 años.

A los 24 años, en el año 2019, al terminar mis estudios, tomé la decisión de volver a mi país y buscar un espacio en el que pudiera apoyar al desarrollo de Honduras, algo que en parte fue influenciado al observar la persona que presidía a mi querido país, Juan Orlando Hernandez, y observar también, sus logros en materia económica-fiscal, seguridad y de apoyo social. Fue así que tuve la oportunidad de formar parte de la Oficina de Cumplimiento de Asuntos Presidenciales, una "delivery unit" conformada por un grupo de jóvenes expertos en diferentes materias, que daban seguimiento y facilitaban la ejecución de proyectos prioritarios para la Presidencia de la Republica. Allí tuve la oportunidad de conocer y trabajar con el Presidente Hernandez, de hecho participaba frecuentemente como oyente en reuniones de alto nivel entre el Presidente, sus ministros, miembros de la empresa privada, como ser Camaras de Comercio, Asociaciones Bancarias y tambien Organizaciones Internacionales, IDB, WB, IMF. No hubo una reunión en la que el Presidente Hernandez no girara indicaciones proactivas, transparentes e imprimiera un sentido de urgencia en cualquier asunto relacionado al bienestar hondureño.

Posteriormente se me asignó el seguimiento de su Agenda de Trabajo, junto con otro compañero de la unidad. Era de conocimiento no solo de aquellos que trabajamos con el, pero del público en general, lo cargada que era la agenda del Pdte Hernandez, y su esfuerzo descomunal, por aprovechar cada minuto de su día en visitas, reuniones de trabajo llamadas etc.

Recuerdo muy bien, que en un par de ocasiones, me llamó muy temprano en la mañana, despertándome, debo admitir, para consultarme sobre el avance de diferentes proyectos, o para pedirme que le diera especial seguimiento a algún tema relacionado con su agenda de Gobierno. Lo que más me sorprendió de esto, era de que el Presidente de la República me llamaba a mi, un joven de 25 años en aquel entonces, que no tenia ningun poder de toma de decisión relevante, pero tal era su afán de llevar a cabo su labor como Presidente que se tomaba el tiempo, durante su horario de ejercicio físico de 5:00 a 6:30 am, para llevar adelante

sus proyecto, demostrando un compromiso con Honduras, como nadie lo ha hecho antes. Eso me demostraba también, que había tomado la decisión correcta de volver al país y trabajar bajo el liderazgo de un gran hombre.

En base a lo que pude vivir en los dos años que trabajé en la Administración del Presidente se Hernandez, por los resultados TANGIBLES que lograron y la población hondureña, como ser, disminución sustantiva de la en pro de criminalidad, tráfico de drogas y tasa de homicidios, no me cabe la menor duda de la persona correcta que es el Presidente Hernandez, podrá tener defectos, y podría haberse equivocado en algunas decisiones, lo cual es totalmente normal, pero en lo referente a los motivos por los cuales ha sido juzgado, no existen dudas que se ha cometido un grave error, el cual esperamos que por el bien de Honduras y sobre todo de la familia Hernandez, pueda ser enmendado a la brevedad

Me despido atentamente de su Señoría y espero que Dios siempre guíe sus decisiones,

Javier/Funes Guzman

Tegucigalpa MDC

April 22, 2024

Honorable Judge Castel

Southern District of New York

I introduce myself, my name is Javier Funes Guzman, I am 28 years old, I have a degree in International Business, Master in Business Administration, I am a graduate of Ming Chuan University, in Taiwan, where I lived for 7 years.

At the age of 24, in 2019, when I finished my studies, I made the decision to return to my country and look for a space where I could support the development of Honduras, something that was partly influenced by observing the person who presided over my beloved country, Juan Orlando Hernandez, and also observe his achievements in economic-fiscal, security and social support. I had the opportunity to be part of the Presidential Affairs Compliance Office, a "delivery unit" formed by a group of young experts in different areas, who followed up and facilitated the execution of priority projects for the Presidency of the Republic. There I had the opportunity to meet and work with President Hernandez, in fact I frequently participated as a listener in high level meetings between the President, his ministers, members of private enterprise, such as Chambers of Commerce, Banking Associations and also International Organizations, IDB, WB, IMF. There was not a meeting in which President Hernandez did not give proactive, transparent indications and a sense of urgency in any matter related to Honduran welfare.

I was subsequently assigned to follow up on his Work Agenda, along with another colleague in the unit. It was well known not only to those of us who worked with him, but to the public in general, how full President Hernandez's agenda was, and his enormous effort to make the most of every minute of his day in visits, work meetings, calls, etc.

I remember very well, that in a couple of occasions, he called me very early in the morning, waking me up, I must admit, to consult me about the progress of different projects, or to ask me to give special follow up to some topic related to his government agenda. What surprised me the most was that the President of the Republic was calling me, a young man of 25 years old at that time, who had no relevant decision-making power, but such was his eagerness to carry out

his work as President that he took the time, during his physical exercise schedule from 5:00 to 6:30 am, to carry out his projects, demonstrating a commitment to Honduras, as no one had ever done before. This also showed me that I had made the right decision to return to the country and work under the leadership of a great man.

Based on what I was able to experience in the two years I worked in President Hernandez's administration, and on the results of my work in Honduras.

Hernandez, and the TANGIBLE results that were achieved for the benefit of the Honduran population, such as a substantial decrease in crime, drug trafficking and homicide rate, I have no doubt that President Hernandez is the right person, he may have flaws, and he could have made mistakes in some decisions, which is totally normal, but regarding the reasons for which he has been judged, there is no doubt that a serious mistake has been made, which we hope that for the good of Honduras and above all for the Hernandez family, can be amended as soon as possible.

I take my leave of your Honor and I hope that God will always guide your decisions,

Javier Fumes Guzman

Honorable Peter Kevin Castel, Juez de Distrito de los Estados Unidos

Distrito Sur de Nueva York

Su oficina

Reciba un respetuoso saludo, deseándole éxitos en sus delicadas funciones.

Mi nombre es Javier Mondragón Hemández, exalcalde de la ciudad de Gracias Lempira, durante los periodos; 1,994-1998 y 1998-2002.

He conocido a Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado y a su familia por más de 40 años, tiempo durante el cual he conocido sus múltiples cualidades y también, como ser humano, sus defectos. A través de los años, lo vi crecer con sólidos principios morales y espirituales, bajo el cuidado amoroso y la autoridad de sus padres, personas muy estimadas y admiradas en nuestra comunidad. Durante los años de su juventud, siempre se destacó por su liderazgo, influyendo de manera positiva tanto en los jóvenes de nuestro departamento como en toda la población. hemos podido conocerlo como amigo leal, honesto y sincero, aunque un poco terco y orgulloso, ha sido un hijo respetuoso y amoroso con sus padres y demás familiares, un excelente padre siempre al cuidado de sus hijos y de su esposa quien junto a él, desde antes de llegar a los altos cargos que desempeñó, han dado un gran servicio al país, demostrando ambos, siempre su don de servicio, preocupándose por el bienestar de los más pobres y tratando de ayudar en la medida de sus posibilidades a quien más lo necesitara, trabajando incansablemente hasta altas horas de la noche por llevar esperanza a las personas que habitan en las zonas más olvidadas de nuestro país, al llegar a la presidencia de nuestro país, combatió férreamente el narcotráfico, la extorsión y todo tipo de delincuencia, logrando desarticular muchas estructuras criminales que operaban en nuestro país, poniendo en riesgo su vida y la de su familia en muchas ocasiones, por esta y muchas razones más, creo que Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado es inocente, y que ha sido víctima de una trampa de sus enemigos. Para nosotros, sus amigos, y para toda nuestra comunidad, ha sido un duro golpe que llena de tristeza nuestros corazones, al ver que una persona que ha hecho tanto bien a nuestra comunidad, sea arrestado, humillado por las autoridades de turno, que más que justicia buscan venganza, que sea enjuiciado, sin tener a su alcance los recursos necesarios para defenderse y que sea condenado por el testimonio de otras personas que han cometido grandes crímenes en nuestro país. Extraño a mi amigo en casa, pero lo echan más de menos, su madre, su hermana su esposa y sus hijas, ya no somos los mismos desde su partida, nuestro corazón se entristece por su ausencia y sabemos que el sufre más por no poder ver y abrazar a su familia y amigos, espero su regreso pronto, para juntos, seguir trabajando por un mejor futuro para nuestra niñez, para nuestros jóvenes y adultos mayores como él siempre lo soñó.

De usted respetuosamente

Javier Mondragón Hernández DNI 1620-1960-00363

The Honorable Peter Kevin Castel, United States District Judge

Southern District of New York Your Office

I respectfully greet you, wishing you success in your delicate duties. My name is Javier Mondragón Hemández, former Mayor of the city of Gracias Lempira, during the periods; 1,994-1998 and 1998-2002.

I have known Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado and his family for more than 40 years, during which time I have known his many qualities and also, as a human being, his defects. Through the years, I saw him grow up with solid moral and spiritual principles, under the loving care and authority of his parents, highly esteemed and admired people in our community. During the years of his youth, he always stood out for his leadership, positively influencing both the youth of our department and the entire population. We have been able to know him as a loyal, honest and sincere friend, although a little stubborn and proud, he has been a respectful and loving son with his parents and other family members, an excellent father always taking care of his children and his wife who together with him, since before reaching the high positions he held, have given a great service to the country, showing both, always his gift of service, worrying about the welfare of the poorest and trying to help to the extent of their ability to those who needed it most, working tirelessly until late at night to bring hope to the people living in the most forgotten areas of our country, when he became president of our country, he fiercely fought drug trafficking, extortion and all kinds of crime, managing to dismantle many criminal structures operating in our country, putting his life and that of his family at risk on many occasions, for this and many more reasons, I believe that Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado is innocent, and has been the victim of a trap of his enemies. For us, his friends, and for our entire community, it has been a hard blow that fills our hearts with sadness, to see that a person who has done so much good to our community, be arrested, humiliated by the current authorities, that more than justice they seek revenge, that he be prosecuted, without having at his disposal the necessary resources to defend himself and that he be condemned by the testimony of other people who have committed great crimes in our country. I miss my friend at home, but he is missed more, his mother, his sister, his wife and his daughters, we are no longer the same since his departure, our hearts are saddened by his absence and we know that he suffers more for not being able to see and embrace his family and friends, I hope his return soon, so that together, we can continue working for a better future for our children, for our youth and seniors as he always dreamed.

From yours respectfully.

Javier Mondragón Hernández DNI 1620-1960-00363

New York, New York 10007

The Honorable P. kevin Castel United States District Judge Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street

April 21 - 2024

United States v. Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, S2 15 Cr. 379 (PCK)

Dear Judge Castel

With the usual respect for the authorities that are of such high investiture as the one that your Excellency holds.

The person writing to you is brother 12 (Military with the Rank of Colonel, already in Retirement; Lawyer and Notary in practice) of our dear Juan Orlando, brother number 15 of 17 brothers that we are, and whom I have known since the first days of his life, whom I watched grow for a few years before leaving our native Gracias, Lempira, Department of the Republic of Honduras, Central America where we are originally from; We grew up in our beloved Gracias Lempira, each of us relating to each other through the contemporaneity of the respective ages and school relationships and different students, but with a common relationship, the education and training that we received in our Parents' home, characterized by having been rooted in the fulfillment of household duties, performance at work with responsibility and usefulness for our society. - Your Honor, at no time did we receive bad upbringing or induction towards a dishonest lifestyle or huge profits, much less having received an orientation towards the practices of common or organized crime.

We grew up, taking the arduous example of our Father, valuing the usefulness of small things as well as constant advice because we had to prepare ourselves to have a decent and honorable life forged in study and carrying out the path we took with the greatest responsibility, loyalty, sacrifice. , honor and above all honest with the service to others, committed to the love of our Nation and our Country. Thus things were and after I left the town, years later when visiting the family at our Father's house, I found a grownup Juan Orlando, already established as a Lawyer with the initiative of going out to study in your Country the specialty of Public Administration and who, having already married with his family, made efforts, made his struggles to study and who, to contribute with the meager support that his parents could send him, dedicated himself to teaching Spanish classes to citizens of that American Nation in the State of Louisiana; I remember that before he left for that Great Northern Nation, on that visit while we were talking, when he was 22 years old, when I asked him what his intention was to go abroad to study, he told me that the United States was the best place to study. Politics, since he considered that it was the Country with the best example of Democracy and that for him it was important to bring to our Country a different way of doing politics, to uproot those forms of caudillismo that generated inequality, cronyism and participation in politics according to the economic resources that were contributed to the Campaign and that for this it was necessary to look for spaces that would allow it to grow in its leadership based on the knowledge and technique that the democratic game allowed.

Juan Orlando, like the majority of our family, speaking in a broad sense (because that was the value that was instilled in us) is a professional and entrepreneur who longs to raise his family forward; He, now the

father of four adult children and a one-year-old granddaughter, is going through a tough test that only fate could have given him, or only God, could have allowed him to go through what he is going through because in reality, as Every person is exposed to risks, in trying to follow the advice that our Father gave us all the brothers, he always tried to do things correctly by doing good and practicing respect for others as is his custom.

Your Honor, Juan Orlando since his adolescence has been working with zeal, dedication and effort with the purpose of being the best to serve others, this is how he achieved the First Judiciary of our Country, and he arrives at such a difficult time where It finds it with regions co-opted by drug activity, the main cities (Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula) classified as the most violent in the world, with a rate of 74 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants daily, with an airport (Toncontin) considered one of the most dangerous in the world, to mention some critical facts that it is forced to correct and to do so it makes several crucial decisions, since in our practice we say that "for great evils, great remedies" that is why it makes, among others, decisions such as: 1. Issue the Air Ceiling Law, 2. Carry out, lead, execute the frontal fight against drug activity, and 3. Build the Palmerola Airport; The consequences of these decisions are what put him at risk of abandoning his role as Father and Grandfather, seeing his little daughters and granddaughter develop, as well as giving them the proper guidance that as such he has the duty to do, but it is also a young man who is about to lose his freedom for being loyal and visionary with the solutions he took for the good of his country but who is now affected by those who accuse him of having acted against them, causing him harm without having participated in their misdeeds.

For this reason and more, in the face of his constant rhetorical questions: Why me? What did I do? I come before you, your Honor, in your capacity as Judge hearing this case to implore mercy for my brother, knowing that this son, brother, father of a family and hard-working servant because he has also helped many families and communities of limited resources carrying out social works when he was a congressman, President of the National Congress, President of the Republic for two terms, is that he does not deserve such accusations or extremes that are attributed to him, and for this reason I ask your Mercy to have clemency towards Juan Orlando, appealing to your status as Administrator of Justice in this District, where no harm has been caused by this man for him to suffer such an accusation and its consequent punishment.

Your Honor, you can have full security and confidence that whatever your ruling will be taken with the most absolute conviction and security of humility, confident that "all authority comes from God and they must be obeyed", but if you can listen to our outcry, I beg you to have clemency and/or mercy in the face of the trial of this man, who in his fight against drug activity only proposed to contribute to the effort of lowering crime rates in our country, and blocking the passage and trafficking of drugs that affect the health of our compatriots in our countries.

Your Honor, please accept my humbly request from a distraught man crying out for his brother's freedom.

## JOSE AMILCAR HERNADEZ FLORES

New York, New York 10007

The Honorable P. kevin Castel United States District Judge Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street

April 21 - 2024

United States v. Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, S2 15 Cr. 379 (PCK)

Dear Judge Castel

Con el acostumbrado respeto a las autoridades que son de tan alta investidura como la que vuestra Excelencia ostenta.

Quien le escribe es el hermano 12 (Militar con el Grado de Coronel, ya en el Retiro; Abogado y Notario en el ejercicio) de nuestro querido Juan Orlando, el hermano número 15 de 17 hermanos que somos, y a quien conozco desde los primeros días de su vida, a quien miré crecer por unos años antes de salir de nuestro natal Gracias, Lempira, Departamento de la República de Honduras, centro América de donde somos originarios; crecimos en nuestra querida Gracias Lempira, relacionándonos cada uno por la contemporaneidad de las respectivas edades y relaciones escolares y de estudiantes diferentes, pero con una relación común, la educación y formación que recibimos en casa de nuestros Padres, caracterizadas estas por haber sido arraigadas en el cumplimiento de los deberes de casa, el rendimiento para el trabajo con responsabilidad y utilidad para nuestra sociedad.- De manera su Señoría que en ningún momento recibimos mala crianza o inducciones hacia un estilo de vida deshonesto o de pingües ganancias y mucho menos haber recibido una orientación hacia la practicas de la delincuencia común u organizada.

Crecimos, tomando el arduo ejemplo de nuestro Padre, valorando la utilidad de las pequeñas cosas, asi como el consejo constante porque debiamos prepararnos para tener una vida decente y honorable foriada en el estudio y desempeñando el camino que tomáramos con la mayor responsabilidad, lealtad, sacrificio, honor y sobre todo honestos con el servicio a los demás, comprometidos con el amor hacia nuestra Nación y nuestra Patria. Así las cosas y después de que salí del Pueblo, años después al visitar la familia en casa de nuestro Padre, encontré a un Juan Orlando crecido, ya forjado como Abogado con la iniciativa de salir a estudiar en vuestro País la especialidad de Administración Pública y quien saliendo ya casado con su familia hizo esfuerzos, hizo sus luchas por estudiar y quien para contribuir con el exiguo apovo que sus padres le podían enviar se dedicó a impartir clases de Español a ciudadanos de esa Nación Americana en el Estado de Luisiana; recuerdo que antes que partiera para esa Gran Nación del Norte, en esa visita mientras conversábamos, él con una edad de 22 años al preguntarle cuál era su intención de salir a estudiar al extranjero me expresaba que EE.UU. era el mejor espacio para estudiar Política, pues él consideraba que era el País con mejor ejemplo de Democracia y que para el era importante traer a nuestro País una manera diferente de hacer política, como para desarraigar esas formas de caudillismo que generaban inequidad, compadrazgo y participación en la política según los recursos económicos que se aportaban a la Campaña y que para ello era necesario buscar los espacios que le permitieran crecer en su liderazgo basado en el conocimiento y la técnica que el juego democrático permitía.

Juan Orlando, como la mayoría de nuestra familia, hablando en sentido lato (porque ese fue el valor que se nos inculco) es un profesionista y emprendedor que anhela sacar su familia adelante; él, ahora Padre

de cuatro hijos ya mayores de edad y una nietecita de un año pasa por una dura prueba que solo el destino se la pudo haber marcado, o solo Dios, pudo haber permitido pasar por lo que está pasando porque en realidad, como toda persona, esta expuesta a riesgos, él en procura de seguir los consejos que nuestro Padre nos dio a todos los hermanos, siempre procuró hacer las cosas correctamente haciendo el bien y practicando el respeto para con los demás como es su costumbre.

Su Señoría, Juan Orlando desde su adolescencia ha venido trabajando con ahínco, dedicación y esfuerzo con el propósito de ser el mejor para servir a los demás, así es como alcanza la Primera Magistratura de nuestro País, y llega en un momento tan dificil en donde lo encuentra con regiones cooptadas por la narcoactividad, las ciudades principales (Tegucigalpa y San pedro Sula) catalogadas como las más violentas del mundo, con un índice de 74 muertes por cada 100,000 habitantes diariamente, con un aeropuerto (Toncontin) considerado como uno de los más peligrosos del mundo, para mencionar algunos hechos criticos que se ve obligado a corregir y para ello toma varias decisiones cruciales, ya que en nuestra practica decimos que "a grandes males, grandes remedios" es por ello que toma entre otras, decisiones como: 1. Emitir la Ley de Techo Aéreo, 2. Llevar, liderar, ejecutar la lucha frontal contra la narcoactividad, y 3. Construir el Aeropuerto de Palmerola; las consecuencias de estas decisiones son las que lo ponen en riesgo de dejar abandonado su papel de Padre y Abuelo, el ver desarrollarse a sus hijitas y su nietecita, así como darles las debida orientación que como tal tiene el deber de hacer, pero también es un hombre joven que está a punto de perder su libertad por el hecho de ser leal y visionario con la soluciones que tomó en bien para su País pero que ahora afectado por quienes lo acusan por haber actuado contra ellos, le provocan un daño sin haber participado en sus fechorías.

Por ello y más, ante sus constantes retoricas preguntas: ¿Por qué yo? ¿Qué hice? es que vengo ante Usted su Señoría, en su condición de Juez que conoce de ésta causa a implorar misericordia para con mi hermano, sabiendo y conociendo que este hijo, hermano, padre de familia y esforzado servidor porque también ha ayudado a muchas familias y comunidades de escasos recursos llevando obras sociales cuando fue congresista, Presidente del Congreso Nacional, Presidente de la Republica por dos mandatos es que no merece tales acusaciones o extremos que se le imputan, y por ello ruego a vuestra Merced tener clemencia para con Juan Orlando, apelando a vuestra condición de Administrador de la Justicia en este Distrito, donde ningún daño ha causado éste hombre para que sufra tal acusación y su consecuente pena.

Su Señoría, podéis tener la plena seguridad y confianza que cualquiera que sea vuestro fallo será tomado con la más absoluta convicción y seguridad de humildad, confiados en que "toda autoridad viene de Dios y a ellos hay que obedecer", pero si os puedes escuchar nuestro clamor, os ruego porque que tengáis clemencia y/o piedad ante el juzgamiento de éste hombre, quien en su lucha contra la narcoactividad solo se propuso contribuir con el esfuerzo de bajar los índices de criminalidad en nuestro País, y bloquear el paso y tráfico de drogas que afecta la salud de nuestros compatriotas en nuestros países.

Su Señoria, reciba mi humildemente petición de un acongojado hombre que clama por la libertad de su hermano.

## JOSE AMILCAR HERNADEZ FLORES

### Jose Armando Zelaya Vairo

armando.zelaya@gmail.com Phone: +504 9995 4491

### Honorable Judge Kevin Castel

Court District of New York United States of America

REF- Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado aka "JOH"

### Honorable Judge Castel:

I think you have one of the most difficult Jobs there is, discerning in the depts of the human heart to find truth, in my 55 years after being married for 33, and graduating my three kids from college and also being the proud grandfather of 2-year old baby girl, I know that more often than not, truth come as a rare and strange property. There are truths, half-truths, semi-truths and no truths at all.

Although I went to college at NYIT in the late 80's and Honduras thereafter, I did not finished my studies as an Industrial Engineer for finding the love of my life and supporting my own already growing family, the years flew by and when I could pick up my education where I left it, I decided to prepare myself in theology an serve at my local church where I have been a Sunday school teacher of Male Adults for more than 30 years while making a career in apparel manufacturing in this country, most of my employers since early on have been directly or indirectly American based companies, such as Hanes, Fruit of the Loom, Tropical Sportswear, among a larger list, I have worked in the capacity of General Plant Manager to Operations Director with Multi-Country responsibility and more recently as a Quality Director by my current employer Delta Apparel Inc.

I went to a boy's military high school with JOH and met him at the age of 14, we were just a bunch of kids with a lot of dreams and we were prepared to think about changing the world, we were raised under the highest ethics and moral standards there is, "never to lie, never to steal, never to cheat" this was our motto. Juan was outstanding back then, he was not only the youngest among about 350 students that went in the first year, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> runner of the 58 of us that made in the last year after no small sacrifices, no weekends, no hair on our heads at age 17 and triple the amount of classes that a regular high school kid had to take at any other school. I finished on rank 17. That is the truth.

I have never worked in the government, but I know how politics work, I know that there are a lots of half-truths, and semi-truths that are sometimes used, according to how one wants to accommodate facts, in following the development of JOH's trial I think without debate one of this half-truths if that Honduras actually worsen on JOH's terms as president in Crime Reduction and operating as a Narc State, thou there might have been more to do on fighting poverty and development.

[Type the sender company name]

I, as most people in country feel we have regressed on crime rampage, drug trafficking and other indicators from Juan's years to now, and Honduras was a more violent country prior to Juan as during his term, several drug cartels kept a lower profile.

You are a busy man, so I will cut right to the chase, although I only saw JOH but a handful of times over the last 25 years, and he can be faulted administratively for a wrongdoing from his attackers, or even actively modifying laws to illegally have the opportunity to extradite criminals from Honduras to other countries(another half-truth) I think it is a "not truth at all" instance that he directed a drug cartel or conspired to move drugs into the United States, I think you have the wrong man, but you are also just that, another man seeking to impart justice based on the picture that is painted in front of you, believe me, there is more to that picture than what you been seeing, I only ask that you let him show you the rest of it, I am not asking you to do nothing else than that, and in doing so, follow your heart.

I apologize for the time is taken you to read my letter, I have only hoped to make you ponder the idea that you may have locked behind bars an innocent man.

JOSE ARMANDO ZELAYA VAIRO

JOSE ARMANDO ZELAYA VAIRO March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Abril 20, 2024

### HONORABLE JUEZ CASTEL

Distrito Sur de New York

Honorable Juez Castel:

Soy el sexto hermano de Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado, al amparo de sentimiento del amor de hermano que existe entre todos nosotros, me acerco a Usted, para que, como Juez del proceso, después del estudio de los medios de prueba que corren en el expediente, vuestro fallo absuelva de toda culpa a mi inocente hermano que, con ello, su Señoría, hará prevalecer la justicia.

Justicia que las personas que han sufrido los efectos de la reforma legislativa que realizó Juan Orlando realizó cuando fungió como legislador, buscan que Usted no aplique.

Su Señoría: el hacer legislativo de Juan Orlando le resultó más que difícil porque sus deseos de luchar en contra del Crimen Organizado, causaba mucho temor en gran parte de sus compañeros.

La reforma de la Constitución para hacer posible la extradición, se logró, a su insistencia.

Con el respeto debido su Señoría, sabido que no hay mas injusto que buscar premio en la justicia, efecto que persiguen los detractores de Juan Orlando, si él es condenado.

Imploro de usted Señor Juez, que la benignidad prive en su deber de hacer justicia, dado que en nuestro país si hay conciencia de la lucha abierta de mi hermano en contra del Narcotráfico.

Con la esperanza en el Supremo que, para usted, <u>la equidad NO es el sueño del que sufre sino</u> <u>que la religión del Juez</u>, en su momento de dictar su fallo, éste venga cargado de clemencia, no solo por la falta de pruebas materiales en el juicio, sino que además, tenga presente a los tres hijos y esposa de mi queridísimo hermano Juan Orlando que se preocupó al máximo por evitar que llegase droga a los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica.

Que EL SUPREMO HACEDOR lo acompañe/

JUAN ARNALDO HERNANDEZ ESPINOZA 1301194100113 DN

April 20th, 2024

Honorable Judge Castel: Southern District of New York

Honorable Judge Castel:

As the sixth sibling of Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, under the shelter of the brotherly love that binds us, I address you in the hope that, as the presiding Judge of this case, after careful examination of the evidence presented in this proceeding, your decision will absolve any guilt of my brother. Through your judgment, Your Honor, may justice prevail.

The justice sought by those who have suffered the repercussions of the legislative reforms enacted by Juan Orlando during his tenure as a legislator, is one that many fear you may not uphold.

Your Honor, Juan Orlando's legislative efforts, particularly his endeavors to combat organized crime, were met with significant opposition and fear among his colleagues. The constitutional reform enabling extradition was a direct result of his relentless fight.

With all due respect, it is well understood that there is no greater injustice than seeking retribution in the name of justice, a notion advocated by detractors of Juan Orlando, should he be convicted.

I beseech you, Judge, to let integrity guide your duty in administering justice, given my brother's well-documented fight against drug trafficking.

I pray that the divine being, understanding that equity is not just the dream of the oppressed, but also the religion of the Judge, will weigh your decision with mercy. Consider not only the lack of material evidence during the trial but also the well-being of my beloved brother Juan Orlando's wife and three children, who spared no effort to prevent drugs from reaching the United States of America.

May the SUPREME MAKER be with you.

Juan Arnaldo Hernandez Espinoza

ID: 1301194100113

Honorable Judge Castel

New York South District,

My name is Juan Guzman. I have been a close friend of Juan Orlando for 25 years. I have seen how he became a lawyer through hard work and dedication, with his concern for the people of Honduras always at the forefront of his mind. He knew that to tackle the corruption and drug trafficking issues plaguing the country, he had to become a politician. With the help of his wife, his family, and close friends, he started his journey into politics. I remember Anna's family hosting fundraiser events and preparing and selling lunches, raffles, and activities to raise the money needed to run his campaign.

Through hard work and education, he rose through the ranks until he became the speaker of the house. One of his goals was to pass legislation to control the influx of drugs coming into Honduras en route to the US. So, he passed the extradition law, through which Honduras citizens could be extradited to the US to be judged for the crimes of money laundering and drug trafficking. This was something unheard of in a country overrun by cartels. He became the president of Honduras to accomplish his dreams of having a more secure and prosperous country, and he accomplished this despite all the opposition from powerful families and cartels that were benefiting from drug trafficking. Now, the same people that he helped extradite have accused him of being part of the drug cartel, and to me, that doesn't make any sense. It doesn't make any sense to me that he would pass the law of extradition where Honduras citizens could be extradited and then commit the same crimes that he was fighting.

The Juan Orlando that I know puts the love of his family first, and he would never do anything to hurt them. There is a saying that kids are a reflection of their parents, and based on that, his children could not be more loving, honest, and down-to-earth. I have been at his dinner table plenty of times, and while some politicians spend thousands on luxury foods, his table had beans and rice like any other Honduran family. I would like to thank you for your time, consideration, and opportunity to send this letter.

Sincerely,

Juan Guzman

June 10, 2024 Honorable Judge Peter Kevin Castel District Court for the Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

#### Honorable Judge Castel,

Allow me to introduce myself and the purpose of my letter. My name is Juan Orlando Hernandez Garcia, I am the son of former president Juan Orlando and first lady Ana Garcia. I am 34 years old, married with one daughter, and currently reside in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. I am a professional photographer with 8+ years of experience. Ever since I was a little boy, I've looked up to my father, grand-father, and great grandfather as examples of what honorable men are supposed to be like. My father was raised by his father to be such a man, hard-working and honest. He is the 14<sup>th</sup> son of my grandfather Juan Hernandez and raised in a humble town in western Honduras named Gracias, Lempira.

It was in this town where his love for his people was cultivated. Being around hardworking and humble people, he saw many obstacles and injustices that they faced, little opportunity for success, and policies that took advantage of the poor and humble. I do not tell you this just because I am a son who loves his father, but because I have personally witnessed the incredible changes that have taken place in my country and heard countless personal stories from locals whose lives have changed for the better since the presidency of my father. I realize your time is precious and valuable, especially a man of your position, but I humbly request a little of your time where I can share a few of these changes and my thoughts and feelings regarding the trial of my father.

Growing up in Honduras in a family of 5, I've always seen my dad as not only the head of our household, but as a natural born leader. Since his early days as a politician, he has always been there for others, especially those in the most remote and humble parts of our country. Since my first years of life, I remember we went on many family trips to his hometown Gracias, Lempira, in that time the rides lasted around 7 hours just to get to Gracias. He always started his day praying to God. He was the man who taught me how to do many things such as ride a bike, swim, climb hills, and be a humble man. He taught my siblings and I to be responsible, honorable, and respectful. As you can imagine, I have countless memories I will never forget, that will always remain in my heart. One of these is a hike we did at Celaque Mountain from 5 am- 6pm. It was a tour where the locals took us from the bottom to the very top. In total it was a 6-hour trip to its highest point and a 7 hour walk to the visitor's center.

It was on this day that the lessons my father had been trying to teach me were cemented in my heart and mind. To say it was a strenuous hike would be putting it mildly, and at one point it became rather difficult for me to keep pace. It was at this difficult point in our journey that my dad encouraged me to keep walking even if the mountain was too steep or muddy. He taught me to always watch the steps you take in life. These are some of the things I would like to do again with my father, sisters, and family, but more importantly with my daughter. During his first years as a politician, he was elected as the first senator of the department of Lempira during the late 1990's where he first implemented many projects to help the people of his home state. From that moment, the people knew who Juan Orlando was, a man who had a vision for his home. During the following years he grew as a respectable and honorable senator.

As a young senator full of energy, projects, ideas and dreams he often found himself at odds with other politicians, but this did not stop him. He would passionately debate others during congress session defending his principles and fighting for the benefits of the Honduran people. In 2010 when he was elected one more time a as senator he was elected as the President of Congress. It was during this time that he helped create laws and projects that truly benefited the country. Some of these laws included the extradition law, whose sole objectives were to regain control from violent gangs and re-establish peace and provide more security measures so the people of Honduras could once again have a sense of normalcy and safety. With this law and many other laws created to deal with safety and security, the police with the help of the military were able to recover the security of the country. Prior to his election, it was widely known that corruption had conquered the whole police and military system, which is why he ordered the police depuration to remove corrupted police officers due to their illegal activities.

With a weak or insufficient police system, he created the Military Police of Public Order (PMOP) to aid the other security institutions to fight the cartels, gangs, and everyday criminal activities. With the creation of the PMOP, citizens felt relieved, and the country enjoyed more peaceful days than it had in quite a long time. The PMOP gained the people's trust within months of its creation. The reason I chose to highlight my father's achievements brings me to the next purpose of this letter.

Judge Castel, with all due respect, I humbly ask that you ponder about the following questions that have weighed heavily on my mind. The first being, why would a drug dealer purposefully sacrifice time, money, effort, his family, and personal safety to implement changes that benefit a country and its citizens, when usually a drug dealer's sole purpose is self-gain? Would a drug dealer foster social programs for the benefit of others? Would a drug dealer disobey the order from an agency who told HIM not to touch or capture its allies? I can't imagine any man who has fought every day of his presidency against gangs and organizations who had a country on its knees would ever join forces with them. It would defeat the very purpose and work of all his sacrifice. This man fought every single day since his humble beginnings. I would know, I was raised by and lived with this man.

This man was and still is the hope for thousands of Hondurans, he brought back peace, work, security, prosperity and many benefits to our country. He began many social programs such as Vida Mejor, Bono 10,000, the eco-stoves (ecofogones), the solidarity bag, the solidarity credit, Ciudad Mujer, and many more that have helped many families across the nation for good. Unfortunately, today most of those social programs are closed or finished because my father was the one who started them.

In 2022, with the end of his presidency, we thought we would finally have time to be together as a family, but sadly it wasn't to be. On February 14th, 2022, our lives changed forever, this was the day we learned that the United States ordered my father's immediate extradition.

That night my parents and their lawyers lived a real nightmare, one that unless you have personally experienced, you cannot imagine it. Throughout that night and into the early morning hours, my parent's house was surrounded by more than 600-armed military and police officers. It was during these hours that my parents called my sisters and I and told us that he was and is innocent, and to avoid a potentially dangerous situation would surrender to the authorities. I know my father, he did this thinking and believing in the justice system of our country. The Supreme Court of our country had other orders, regardless of already knowing of my father's innocence. When the day of his departure came, we felt a horrible pain like never before. He arrived at the Westchester airport north of NYC.

His first days in prison were horrible for my family, and I can't even begin to imagine how my father must have felt. We were not allowed to talk to him for more than twenty days, he was treated as a war criminal and not as the great ally he strived to be for the United States. I do not understand how and why the USA would deny this man basic rights to communicate with family and to have visitors. I wish with all my heart you or someone else could explain to my family why he received this treatment.

During these past couple of years, we've seen many unfair actions come from one of our country's best allies. I always believed in the sense of justice and freedom that the very name of The United States of America invokes, the country whose very foundations and laws were established to preserve these rights. But my faith in such virtues and rights have been shattered by the mistreatment of my father's trial. From the beginning, it has clearly been unfair, accusations based on lies, hearsay, testimonies of murderers, killers, and drug traffickers. As a Judge, I imagine you deal with such people more than you'd like and have seen how quickly people with no sense of morals, but their own selfish perseverance can quickly change their stories, lie, and throw innocent people under the bus for the sake of a reduced sentence or other benefit. You must see this daily, and I ask you to ponder on your calling as a Judge and ask yourself if Justice has truly been served in this trial.

Last November my sisters, my daughter and I decided to apply for a US visa, through an emergency appointment, and this appointment was granted within a 2-week waiting time. The day arrived and we went to the appointment with the hope to get our visas renewed, my daughter's visa was approved by the consular agent and mine had to go through administrative processing. We checked every day to see the status had changed and we had to wait more than 3 months to get our passports back, we thought we had our visas but no, the agents denied them all. Why was my daughters visa approved during the interview and at the end it was denied, why?

Your Honor, my name is Juan Orlando Hernandez, same as my father. I know the consular agents knew whose son I am. What I fail to understand is how they admitted us into the Embassy, gave us an emergency appointment, and conducted an interview, if my father was "guilty" and to only deny us a visa.

I cannot fathom how the justice system of one of the best nations of the world could so quickly and easily believe the words of criminals, killers, drug addicts and cartel leaders over the actions and testimony of a once great ally and President. I am not naïve, nor biased because I am the son of Juan Orlando Hernandez. I know people are imperfect, but there is a big gap of morality and character between a man who was striving for justice in his home country and that of a common drug criminal. I can only hope and pray that the world will soon know the type of justice that rules great nations, and the price for such "justice".

There have been many countless cases where citizens of your own country have been unjustly incarcerated and have had years of their lives taken from them all because of unjust men and unfair trials. This whole trial reminds me of events that are seen only in movies, narco-novellas and in fiction stories, but this is the first time I have seen it in real life. My family and I have heard from various individuals who assisted from the first day to the final day of my father's trial that they expected more evidence than what was shown during the testimonies. These individuals truly believed that what was to be presented would have been the material that had value, real proof, evidence that would speak against the lies that have been fabricated. Unfortunately, nothing of that magnitude was shown, only lies, lies, lies and no evidence at all.

My family believed that the people who wanted to testify in favor of my father were going to be allowed, but most of them were denied. I am not familiar with all the laws of your country, but as a Judge, perhaps you could explain why and how this was allowed? Why was his right for a real defense violated? Why? If this were true, what can we expect for the future of this world? When that guilty verdict was presented on that day in the SDNY court, it not only affected Juan Orlando and his family, but it also affected Honduras as a whole country.

History has taught us that sometimes, the more an individual strives for good, the more adversity pushes back. There will always be selfish people with their own agendas in politics who will do anything to silence and remove honest individuals who strive for the betterment of their country, but I truly believe that God changes people's hearts, and I can see how people's perspective in my country have changed. Those who thought he was

really a guilty man, now see the truth, that he is innocent, and thousands of Hondurans miss those days when my father was the President because the country had more prosperity and peace.

This is what my father stood and strived for. A country of unity, peace, and growth. This is what the citizens of Honduras, our family, friends, and other allies saw and continue to see in Juan Orlando Hernandez, the man who sacrificed many things for his people and nation and paid the ultimate price for it. Your Honor, one of my wishes from the bottom of my heart, is to see my dad home again. To see my father grow old and enjoy time with his family as he rightfully deserves. To go camping, hiking, ride a horse with my dad, and to have quality time with him and our whole family. And one of the greatest wishes that I want is for my dad to be able to have quality time with my 2-year-old daughter. She misses him every day and night, she only has 2 grand parents living in Honduras, but she wants to see, play, bother, run, walk, see movies with her "Tata", as she so lovingly calls him.

My father had and still has a vision and a dream, this is to see our country in a better way. The very things he did for our country such as the police depuration, the new jails in the outskirts of the main cities of the country, and the agreement to work with the United States agencies for the extraditions of those who had the country in ruins, brought peace and hope to millions living in Honduras. But we never knew that the extradition law would affect my father, he made this important step in his presidential life. People and history will remember that no other man or president has done or will do the things that my father did for his country.

Judge Castel, I may not personally know you, but I sincerely plead with you from the depths of my heart and soul that you look upon me and my family with compassion and grant us that wish, to be able to see my father again. I do not know if you have children, but you are a son, and I humbly petition you to put yourself in my shoes and imagine the lengths you would go to see a parent once more. If there is even the slightest chance that you can make this wish happen, I plead you find it in your heart to grant that opportunity. I can tell you with my full trust and knowledge that my father Juan Orlando Hernandez is a great man, great friend, great ally, great husband, a great grandpa, a great father, and a man who served his country in the best way possible, but most importantly, I can assure you that Juan Orlando Hernandez is INNOCENT.

Juan Orlando Hernandez García

Tegucigalpa, 19 de abril del 2024

Honorable Juez P. KEVIN CASTEL Distrito Sur de Nueva York, USA

Honorable Juez Castel:

Mi nombre es Julia Garcia, odontóloga, soy hondureña, cuñada de Juan Orlando Hernández, a quien conozco desde hace aproximadamente 37 años cuando el era estudiante de Derecho, en donde se conocieron con mi hermana y en el año 1990 se casaron, tiempo después finalizo sus estudios, siendo un estudiante aplicado y que le apasiono su carrera de Derecho, por lo que decidió continuar sus estudios en la Universidad de Albany, Nueva york. Durante su tiempo de estudios fue presidente de la Asociación de Estudiantes de Derecho, mostrando su liderazgo y compromiso en esta etapa de su vida.

Durante su estadía en Albany, convivimos durante un año, ya que yo fui a estudiar inglés a la universidad, lo que me permitió convivir mas de cerca con el, mi hermana y mi sobrino, que tenia en aquel momento 4 años. Durante este tiempo pude ver a un joven lleno de sueños, anhelos y con un gran deseo de servir a nuestra patria desde una posición como congresista, por lo que decidió sacar una maestría en....., lo que le permitiría hacer su trabajo con excelencia y conocimiento en el área legislativa.

Recuerdo los momentos en que sentados alrededor de una mesa plegable hablábamos del futuro, teniendo conversaciones, sobre la necesidad de crear leyes a favor de los más necesitados.

Al regresar a Honduras Juan Orlando, empezó a participar en política para alcanzar una posición como Diputado del Congreso Nacional y poder aplicar los conocimiento adquiridos y así para poder realizar sus sueños y anhelos que lo impulsaron a estudiar la carrera de leyes, poniéndolos en práctica mediante la creación de leyes y políticas públicas que ayuden a mejorar la vida de los hondureños que menos tiene.

Juan Orlando es un hombre con principios y valores que siempre lo han acompañado en su vida profesional, como padre y como amigo. Siempre ha respetado a todas las personas por igual y nunca ha hecho distinción de clases sociales ni de raza. Siempre ha apoyado a los más necesitados por lo que creo programas con un enfoque solidario dirigidos a los más pobres.

Como padre, ha sido cariñoso y bromista con sus hijos, pero siempre les enseño ha ser personas rectas, con valores y principios para que sean personas que impacten positivamente en la vida de los demás. Como esposo es respetuoso, cariñoso y responsable. Juan Orlando no es un hombre perfecto, porque perfecto solo Dios, tiene sus virtudes, pero también tiene defectos como ser perfeccionista y un poco orgulloso.

El conocer a Juan Orlando durante tantos años y conocer de cerca su vida y su comportamiento tengo la convicción y certeza que no cometió los delitos que se le acusan, ya que ha sido siempre respetoso de la ley, además desde su posición como servidor público ha luchado de frente contra estos delitos creando políticas publicas para hacer frente a esta problemática que enfrenta Honduras y que generan inseguridad y dolor a muchas familias.

El saber que el no cometió estos delitos, estas acusaciones y el proceso del juicio ha sido duro para toda la familia y para Juan Orlando. Este juicio ha traído dolor, sufrimiento, pero también miedo por todo lo que se ha dicho en relación al juicio que ha sido utilizado por personas malas para acosar y amedrentar a la familia. Toda esta situación ha traído la separación dolorosa para toda la familia siendo como un sueño difícil de entender y comprender, ya que en nuestra mente no entendemos esta situación llena de sufrimiento debido a que no concebimos todo lo que hemos venido enfrentando durante más de dos años y como persona que he estado cerca de Juan Orlando, mi hermana y sobrinos conozco una realidad en donde ha habido un actuar y forma de vida enmarcada en valores, temor a Dios y la transparencia en todos sus actos como persona, padre, esposo y profesional y por lo tanto tenemos la convicción que nunca realizo las cosas de que se le ha acusado.

Juan Orlando, como todos los seres humanos siempre soñó con retirarse a vivir a su amada Gracias, en el departamento de Lempira, trabajar la tierra y la ganadería, disfrutar a su familia y a sus nietos. Contemplar los amaneceres en su tierra natal y disfrutar las cosas hermosas que Dios ha creado.

Sinceramente Julia Garcia Carlas

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Tegucigalpa, April 19, 2024 Honorable Judge P. KEVIN CASTEL Southern District of New York, USA

Honorable Judge Castel:

My name is Julia Garcia, an orthodontist, I am Honduran, and sister-in-law of Juan Orlando Hernandez, whom I have known for approximately 37 years since he was a law student, where he met and married my sister in 1990, sometime later he finished his studies, and was a dedicated student who was passionate about his law career, which is why he decided to continue his studies at the University of Albany, New York. During his studies he was president of the Law Students Association, showing his leadership and commitment in this stage of his life.

During his stay in Albany, we lived together for a year, since I went to study English at the university, which allowed me to live more closely with him, my sister, and my nephew, who was 4 years old at the time. During this time I could see a young man full of dreams, and a great desire to serve our country from a position as a congressman, which is why he decided to get a master's degree which will allow him to do his job with excellence and knowledge in the legislative area. I remember the moments when we would sit around a folding table and talk about the future, having conversations about the need to create laws in favor of the most needy. Upon returning to Honduras, Juan Orlando began to participate in politics to reach a position as a Deputy of the National Congress and be able to apply the knowledge acquired and thus be able to realize his dreams and desires that drove him to study law, putting them into practice through the creation of laws and public policies that help improve the lives of the Hondurans most in need.

Juan Orlando is a man with principles and values that have always accompanied him in his professional life, as a father and as a friend. He has always respected all people equally and has never made distinctions of social class or race. He has always supported the most impoverished and has created programs with a solidary approach directed to the poorest.

As a father, he has been loving and playful with his children, but he has always taught them to be upright people, with values and principles so that they can be people who will have a positive impact on the lives of others. As a husband, he is respectful, caring and responsible. Juan Orlando is not a perfect man, because only God is perfect, he has his virtues, but he also has flaws such as being a perfectionist and a bit proud of himself.

Having known Juan Orlando for so many years and knowing firsthand about his life and behavior, I have the conviction and certainty that he did not commit the crimes he is accused of, since he has always been respectful of the law, and from his position as a public servant he has fought head-on against this type of crime by creating public policies to address the problems that Honduras faces and that generate insecurity and pain for many families.

Knowing that he did not commit these crimes, the accusations and the trial process have been extremely hard for the whole family and for Juan Orlando. This trial has brought pain, suffering, but also fear for all the things that have been said in relation to the trial that have been used by bad people to harass and intimidate our family. This entire situation has brought a painful separation for the whole family and has been like a dream that is difficult to understand and comprehend, since in our minds we do not grasp this situation full of misery because we cannot fully conceive all that we have been facing for more than two years and as a person who has been close to Juan Orlando, my sister and nephews, and nieces, I know the reality of the situation in which there has been a lifestyle rooted in values, fear of God, and transparency in all his actions as a person, father, husband, and professional, and therefore we have the conviction that he never did the things he has been accused of.

Juan Orlando, like all human beings, always dreamed of retiring to live in his beloved Gracias, in the department of Lempira, to work the land and livestock, to enjoy his family and grandchildren. Contemplate the sunrises in his homeland and enjoy the beautiful things that God has created.

Sincerely,

Julia Garcia Carias

### Honduras, Centro América 24 de abril 2024

Honorable Juez Castell:

Distrito Sur de Nueva York

Soy Karla Hernández, originaria de Gracias, Lempira, Honduras Centro América, nacida en el mismo municipio que Juan Orlando Hernández, el mismo año que Juan Orlando, con dos meses de diferencia; hemos sido amigos, vecinos, compañeros de Kínder, compañeros de la escuela (hasta cierto grado); compañeros de juegos y aventuras desde niños, seguimos siendo amigos, aun teniendo el mismo apellido, no somos familia, pero si hemos tenido la oportunidad de convivir y compartir.

Conozco a Juan Orlando Hernández, desde la niñez, desde entonces, conozco su capacidad de solidarizarse con quien lo necesita, desde entonces conozco su entorno familiar, pues creciendo en un lugar pequeño todos nos conocíamos (las familias compartían), crecimos bajos los preceptos estrictos de disciplina, tal cual nuestros padres nos enseñaron, crecimos bajo el temor de DIOS, crecimos con principios, valores, amor a nuestro país, los cuales siguen arraigados en nosotros pues nuestros padres se encargaron de inculcarnos de manera positiva; mientras crecíamos, aprendíamos la oración a nuestra bandera nacional, y puedo asegurar que todavía él, al igual que yo podremos recitarla, pues amamos a Honduras.

Siendo niños, al salir de la escuela a las 4 de la tarde, corríamos a casa porque íbamos al lugar llamado el Rion, en donde el padre de Juan Orlando, tenia vacas, y le había asignado la tarea de arriar las vacas, de ordeñarlas, limpiar los establos, eso, a mi pequeño hermano y a mí nos encantaba, y nos íbamos a ayudarle a hacerlo, disfrutábamos de poder realizar esas tareas; Juan Orlando nunca fue un holgazán, siempre cumplía lo asignado, sea en la escuela y sobre todo en su entorno familiar; en la escuela secundaria, él, fue educado en un colegio militar en donde puedo asegurar que los principios y valores inculcados en su casa se arraigaron más; ha sido un padre cariñoso y protector de su hogar, ha sido un defensor de la justicia, un ciudadano con la convicción de ver al país siempre en lo alto.

Es por eso, Honorable señor juez Castell, que me es imposible asimilar, procesar y creer todos los adjetivos negativos con los cuales han descrito a Juan Orlando, y por los cuales siento que esta siendo injustamente juzgado; alguien como Juan Orlando, que ha hecho frente al crimen común, al crimen organizado, al narcotráfico, alguien que limpio las calles de maras y pandillas, que mantuvo a raya a los criminales, no podría darse con la piedra en los dientes, jamás podría ser responsable de traficar, de fraguar, de coludirse con quien lo hace, de permitir utilizar el suelo nacional para darle paso a la muerte (droga); entiendo que como ser humano ha cometido errores y muchos, y no ha sido perfecto, pero quien lo es?; una de sus debilidades o defectos, no sabría cómo calificarlo, es que confía muy rápido en la gente, es de su debilidades.

Mientras se transmitía el juicio, escuchaba que describían a un Juan Orlando que jamás conocí, a un Juan Orlando que nunca imaginé en el transcurso de mi vida, toda esta situación tuvo un impacto en el concepto que hemos tenido siempre de la acción de impartición de justicia que se aplica en Estados Unidos de Norteamérica, sin prejuicios, sin condiciones, sin ver sexo, credo, religión, raza o nacionalidad, afinidad política, estatus social, etc.

Estados Unidos de Norteamérica, la nación de la eterna democracia, nuestro aliado, nuestro amigo, la esperanza de quienes creemos en la democracia que se ostenta y se pregona alrededor del mundo, ¿cómo pudo ser posible que Juan Orlando este privado de su libertad? No termino de creerlo.

Con la acusación y encarcelación de Juan Orlando, se rompieron muchos corazones, el de una madre, el de una esposa, hijos, amigos, compatriotas, colegas, se rompió el corazón de gran parte de los habitantes de este gran país como lo es Honduras, ver encarcelado a quien ha defendido al país del flagelo del narcotráfico y del crimen organizado, ver encarcelado a quien el mismo Estados Unidos de Norteamérica condecoró por haber hecho frente y luchado contra esa peste del narcotráfico y crimen organizado, mantener privado de su libertad a un fiel aliado y colaborador de Estados Unidos en la lucha contra el Narcotráfico y crimen organizado, nos hace tambalear y titubear en nuestro concepto de su perfecta justicia.

Para concluir señor juez, no pretendo con esta carta hacer que usted santifique a Juan Orlando Hernández, no, nunca podría pedir eso, porque al igual que todos es un ser humano, pecador, comete errores y tiene fallas grandes, no es perfecto, no pretendo que usted señor Juez, quebrante las leyes que han mantenido a Estados Unidos como el país de la verdadera aplicabilidad de la ley; no, no pretendo eso, pretendo que conozca la parte que yo conozco de Juan Orlando, que pueda ver el ser humano que yo conozco, pues asumo que no ha tenido la oportunidad de conocer esa faceta de su vida, solo ha conocido los conceptos viciados y maguillados, yo le presento un Juan Orlando, así, sencillo, humano, al que ríe, al que llora, al que extraña a su madre, a su esposa, a sus hijos, su nieta, sus hermanos, sus amigos, sus colegas, al que presume de ser buen jinete, al que presume de un buen cultivo en el campo, al que puede ordeñar una vaca, al empresario, al abogado, al ciclista, al atleta, al recio defensor de nuestra seguridad, a ese Juan Orlando, Juez Castell, dese la oportunidad de conocer.

Reitero a usted, mi respeto

## KARLA SUYAPA HERNANDEZ CORTEZ

Honorable Judge Castell: Southern District of New York

I am Karla Hernández, originally from Gracias, Lempira, Honduras, Central America, born in the same municipality as Juan Orlando Hernández, in the same year as Juan Orlando, with a two-month difference; we have been friends, neighbors, kindergarten classmates, schoolmates (up to a certain grade); playmates and adventurers since childhood, we continue to be friends, even though we share the same last name, we are not family, but we have had the opportunity to live and share together.

I have known Juan Orlando Hernández since childhood, since then, I know his ability to empathize with those in need, since then I know his family environment, because growing up in a small place we all knew each other (families shared), we grew up under strict discipline, just as our parents taught us, we grew up in the fear of GOD, we grew up with principles, values, love for our country, which are still ingrained in us because our parents made sure to instill them positively; as we grew up, we learned the prayer to our national flag, and I can assure you that he, like me, can still recite it, because we love Honduras.

As children, when we finished school at 4 in the afternoon, we ran home because we were going to the place called el Rion, where Juan Orlando's father had cows, and he had assigned him the task of herding the cows, milking them, cleaning the stables, my little brother and I loved that, and we would go to help him do it, we enjoyed being able to do those tasks; Juan Orlando was never lazy, he always fulfilled what was assigned to him, whether at school and especially in his family environment; in high school, he was educated in a military school where I can assure you that the principles and values instilled at home became more deeply rooted; he has been a loving and protective father of his home, he has been a defender of justice, a citizen with the conviction to see the country always in a high regard.

That is why, Honorable Judge Castell, it is impossible for me to assimilate, process, and believe all the negative adjectives with which they have described Juan Orlando, and for which I feel he is being unjustly judged; someone like Juan Orlando, who has faced common crime, organized crime, drug trafficking, someone who cleaned the streets of gangs, who kept criminals in check, could not possibly be guilty of trafficking, of plotting, of colluding with those who do so, of allowing the national soil to be used to pave the way for death (drugs); I understand that as a human being he has made mistakes, and many, and he has not been perfect, but who is?; one of his weaknesses or flaws, I wouldn't know how to qualify it, is that he trusts people very quickly, it is one of his weaknesses.

While the trial was ongoing, I heard them describing a Juan Orlando that I never knew, a Juan Orlando that I never imagined in the course of my life, all this situation had an impact on the concept we have always had of the administration of justice that is applied in the United States of America, without prejudice, without conditions, without seeing sex, creed, religion, race, or nationality, political affiliation, social status, etc.

The United States of America, the nation of eternal democracy, our ally, our friend, the hope of those of us who believe in the democracy that is upheld and proclaimed around the world, how could it be possible for Juan Orlando to be deprived of his freedom? I can't believe it. With the accusation and imprisonment of Juan Orlando, many hearts were broken, that of a mother, that of a wife, children, friends, compatriots, colleagues, the hearts of a large part of the inhabitants of this great country like Honduras were broken, seeing imprisoned someone who has defended the country from the scourge of drug trafficking and organized crime, seeing imprisoned someone whom the United States of America itself decorated for having faced and fought against that scourge of drug trafficking and organized crime, keeping a faithful ally and collaborator of the United States in the fight against drug trafficking and organized crime, makes us waver and hesitate in our concept of its perfect justice.

In conclusion, Judge, I do not intend with this letter to make you sanctify Juan Orlando Hernández, no, I could never ask for that, because like everyone else he is a human being, a sinner, makes mistakes and has big flaws, he is not perfect, I do not intend for you, Judge, to break the laws that have kept the United States as the country of the true applicability of the law; no, I do not intend that, I intend for you to know the part that I know of Juan Orlando, that you can see the human being that I know, because I assume that you have not had the opportunity to know that facet of his life, you have only known the biased and embellished concepts, I present to you a Juan Orlando, like this, simple, human, the one who laughs, the one who cries, the one who misses his mother, his wife, his children, his granddaughter, his brothers, his friends, his colleagues, the one who boasts of being a good rider, the one who boasts of good crops in the field, the one who can milk a cow, the businessman, the lawyer, the cyclist, the athlete, the strong defender of our security, that Juan Orlando, Judge Castell, give yourself the opportunity to know.

I reiterate to you, my respect

## KARLA SUYAPA HERNANDEZ CORTEZ

Honorable Juez Kevin Castel Corte del Distrito Sur de New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY10007

Honorable Juez Castel.

Me presento ante usted con el debido respeto.

Mi nombre es Keith Michelen de nacionalidad hondureña, Abogado de los Tribunales de la Republica desde hace tres décadas.

Es un honor dirigirme a usted para expresar mi opinión y mi apoyo a la causa del expresidente Juan Orlando Hernández , expresando mi recomendación como persona y ex funcionario público.

Tuve el gusto de conocer al ex presidente Hernández desde la infancia y mantuvimos una amistad a pesar de que el vivía en otra ciudad y pude ver en el un excelente profesional con valor humano y liderazgo.

En nuestra etapa adulta pude observar su vocación al servicio público bienestar de los demás, al grado que cuando por voluntad popular le toco dirigir el país puedo decir con seguridad que el país tuvo tiempos de paz y seguridad ya que se comprometió con el país que en esos días era uno de los más peligrosos del mundo. También reconozco que cometió errores como cualquier servidor público pero fue más lo bueno que pude notar en sus actuaciones.

Por todo esto puedo opinar que el expresidente Juan Orlando Hernández es una persona a la que no dudaría en brindarle mi apoyo en esta pesada prueba.

De antemano doy gracias por su atención a esta carta y por considerar mi opinión sobre la persona del expresidente Hernández.

Con mucho respeto hacia su persona.

Muy atentamente

Abog. Keith Michelen

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007, USA

Honorable Judge Castel

I present myself to you with all due respect.

My name is Keith Michelen of Honduran nationality, Lawyer of the Courts of the Republic for three decades.

It is an honor to address you to express my opinion and my support to the cause of former President Juan Orlando Hernandez, expressing my recommendation as a person and former public official.

I had the pleasure of knowing former President Hernandez since childhood and we maintained a friendship even though he lived in another city and I could see in him an excellent professional with human value and leadership.

In our adult stage I could observe his vocation to public service and the welfare of others, to the extent that when by popular will it was his turn to lead the country I can safely say that the country had times of peace and security since he was committed to the country which in those days was one of the most dangerous in the world. I also recognize that he made mistakes like any public servant but it was more the good that I could notice in his actions.

For all this I can say that former President Juan Orlando Hernandez is a person to whom I would not hesitate to give my support in this heavy test.

I thank you in advance for your attention to this letter and for considering my opinion about the person of former President Hernandez.

With much respect for your person.

Yours sincerely.

Attorney Keith Michelen

Honorable Juez Kevin Castel Corte del Distrito Sur de Nueva York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007, USA

Honorable Juez Castel.

Me presento ante usted con la formalidad del caso, mi nombre es Lars Michelem, humilde ciudadano hondureño dedicado a la consultoría en proyectos de inversión, evaluación de proyectos y proyectos de asociaciones publico privadas, así mismo fui catedrático universitario en el área de finanzas, contabilidades, administración y matemáticas por muchos años, y director fundador de un campus universitario en la isla de Roatán de una de las más importantes y grandes universidades privadas en Honduras.

Es un honor dirigirme a usted para expresar mi humilde opinión y apoyar la causa del expresidente Juan Orlando Hernández. Me gustaría expresar mi más sincera recomendación para él como persona y como un excelente exfuncionario público.

Me siento privilegiado de conocer al Señor expresidente Juan O. Hernández desde hace más de cuatro décadas y durante todo este tiempo mantuvimos una sincera amistad arraigada en la moral, valores sólidos y principios morales, inculcados en nuestros hogares durante nuestra formación para ser personas adultas respetuosos de los demás y de las normas y reglas que rigen nuestra sociedad y que siempre estuvieron presentes en nuestra amistad.

Durante la etapa universitaria nuestras vidas fueron separadas por diferentes razones, diferentes carreras universitarias y capacidades económicas nos llevaron a estudiar no solo en diferentes centros educativos, sino que hasta el tuvo que mudarse a la capital para estudiar en una universidad estatal. Sin embargo, mantuvimos cierto nivel de contacto, lo que me permitió observar su dedicación al servicio público y su compromiso con el bienestar de Honduras y los hondureños, mismo al que un día orgullosamente juramos juntos defender cuando nos estábamos graduando de la secundaria y como oficiales de reserva del ejército.

El expresidente Hernández desde la adolescencia siempre demostrado poseer habilidades de liderazgo, cualidad que siguió creciendo en él y que sin lugar a duda lo llevo a ocupar la silla Presidencial, donde como todo un excelente estadista ya tenía una profunda comprensión de los desafíos a los que se enfrentaba nuestra patria cuando le tocó democráticamente y por voluntad del pueblo ser El Presidente de Honduras. Siempre mantuvo un enfoque arduo y decidido en la lucha contra la corrupción y el crimen organizado, lo que fue fundamental para avanzar en la estabilidad social, económica y en el progreso; testimonio que comparten decenas de miles de familias hondureñas como un hito registrado incluso en la historia de los que vivimos tiempos de paz y seguridad durante su gestión presidencial.

Expresado todo esto, puedo dar fe de su integridad y su disposición para afrontar los problemas y desafíos más apremiantes con determinación y responsabilidad. Su compromiso con la justicia y el imperio de la ley es innegable y, aunque como cualquier servidor público pudo equivocarse en

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algunas decisiones, pero la historia de Honduras registra una agenda dispuesta a garantizar la paz y la seguridad en un País calificado como uno de los más peligrosos del mundo, arriesgando no solo su vida, sino también la de su familia.

Por todas estas razones y basado en sus logros como hombre en su vida personal y como político en su haber al servicio público , no dudo en recomendar al expresidente Juan Orlando Hernández como una persona de la más alta integridad, no dudaríamos en brindarle nuestro apoyo espiritual y solidario si llegase a necesitarlo para pasar esta dura prueba.

De antemano Muchas Gracias por su atención a esta carta y por considerar mi testimonio sobre la calidad humana, solidaridad, respeto a Dios y a la ley que define la personalidad del expresidente Hernández.

De usted, atentamente.

Lars Michelem

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007, USA Honorable Judge Castel.

My name is Lars Michelem, a humble Honduran citizen dedicated to consulting in investment projects, project evaluation and public-private partnership projects. I was also a university professor in the area of finance, accounting, administration and mathematics for many years, and founding director of a university campus on the island of Roatan of one of the most important and largest private universities in Honduras.

It is an honor to address you to express my humble opinion and support the cause of former President Juan Orlando Hernandez. I would like to express my most sincere recommendation for him as a person and as an excellent former public official.

I feel privileged to know former President Juan O. Hernandez for more than four decades and during all this time we maintained a sincere friendship rooted in morals, solid values and moral principles, instilled in our homes during our formation to be adults respectful of others and of the norms and rules that govern our society and that were always present in our friendship.

During the university stage our lives were separated for different reasons, different university careers and economic capabilities led us to study not only in different educational centers, but even he had to move to the capital to study at a state university. However, we maintained a certain level of contact, which allowed me to observe his dedication to public service and his commitment to the welfare of Honduras and Hondurans, which one day we proudly swore together to defend when we were graduating from high school and as reserve officers in the army.

Since his adolescence, former President Hernandez always demonstrated leadership skills, a quality that continued to grow in him and that undoubtedly led him to occupy the Presidential chair, where as an excellent statesman, he already had a deep understanding of the challenges facing our country when he democratically and by the will of the people became the President of Honduras. He always maintained an arduous and determined focus on the fight against corruption and organized crime, which was fundamental to advance social and economic stability and progress; a testimony shared by tens of thousands of Honduran families as a milestone recorded even in the history of those of us who lived in times of peace and security during his presidential administration.

Having said all this, I can attest to his integrity and his willingness to face the most pressing problems and challenges with determination and responsibility. His commitment to justice and

the rule of law is undeniable and, although like any public servant he may have erred in some decisions, but the history of Honduras records an agenda willing to guarantee peace and security in a country considered one of the most dangerous in the world, risking not only his life, but also that of his family.

For all these reasons and based on his achievements as a man in his personal life and as a politician in his public service, I have no hesitation in recommending former President Juan Orlando Hernandez as a person of the highest integrity, we would not hesitate to give him our spiritual support and solidarity if he should need it to pass this ordeal.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this letter and for considering my testimony about the human quality, solidarity, respect for God and the law that defines the personality of former President Hernandez.

Sincerely yours.

Lars Michelem

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San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 24 de Abril del 2024.

Honorable Juez Kevin Castel Corte del Distrito Sur de Nueva York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007.

Honorable Juez Castel.

Me dirijo a usted respetuosamente, Mi nombre es Leonel Enrique Fonseca Peña, Ciudadano de la República de Honduras, Centro América, dedicado al ejerció de la profesión de Abogado por más de treinta años con buen suceso en el área civil y penal.

Es un Honor Dirigirme a su persona con el único objetivo de expresar mi más humilde opinión sobre la vida de mi colega el señor Ex Presidente Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado; Me gustaría expresar mi profunda admiración para con él, por la forma en la que condujo los destinos de esta gran Nación llamada Honduras, cuando dejó de ser el país más violento de mundo, con determinación y empeño por sus políticas, redujo la tasa de Homicidios a un grado nunca antes visto en Honduras, se incrementó la inversión y hubo desarrollo económico que fue palpable.

He tenido el privilegio de conocer al abogado Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado desde el colegio en donde recibimos formación no solo académica, sino formación en valores morales, disciplina y un profundo amor por esta patria que nos vio nacer, además de conocerlo en su carrera política que comenzó desde cero y que culminó en su ascensión al puesto político número uno como lo fue ser presidente de esta Nación, pudiendo observar de él una profunda convicción por solucionar los problemas que teníamos en esa época, logrando con buen suceso enorme desarrollo y bienestar para la seguridad y economía de Honduras, pudiendo dar fe de la disposición inquebrantable para abordar los problemas y darles solución, problemas que tuvimos heredados de gobiernos anteriores nefastos para nuestro país.

A usted Honorable señoría pido respetuosamente y ante la tarea difícil que ha tenido en este caso del señor Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado, tomar en consideración el enorme esfuerzo y la determinación de combatir la criminalidad y las políticas económicas que este tomo para que esta gran nación llamada Honduras fuera un mejor país, no sé si cometió o no cometió delito contra ustedes los ciudadanos de los Estados

Unidos de América conforme a sus leyes, lo que sí sé es que mi país estuvo en paz y desarrollo económico cuando él gobernó esta gran Nación llamada Honduras.

Dios lo Bendiga, bendiga su gran Nación y le de Sabiduría para tomar la mejor decisión de este caso.

Muy Respetuosamente.

Abg. LEONEL ENRIQUE FONSECA PEÑA.

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San Pedro Sula, Honduras, April 24, 2024.

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007.

Honorable Judge Castel.

My name is Leonel Enrique Fonseca Peña, a citizen of the Republic of Honduras, Central America, dedicated to the practice of law for over thirty years with good success in the civil and criminal area.

It is an honor to address you with the sole purpose of expressing my humble opinion about the life of my colleague, former President Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado; I would like to express my deep admiration for him, for the way he led the destiny of this great nation called Honduras, when from being the most violent country in the world, with determination and determination for his policies, he reduced the homicide rate to a degree never seen before in Honduras, increased investment and economic development was palpable.

I have had the privilege of knowing the lawyer Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado since college where we received not only academic training, but training in moral values, discipline and a deep love for this country where we were born, besides knowing him in his political career that began from scratch and culminated in his ascension to the number one political position as it was to be president of this nation, I could observe in him a deep conviction to solve the problems we had at that time, successfully achieving enormous development and welfare for the security and economy of Honduras, being able to attest to the unwavering willingness to address the problems and solve them, problems that we had inherited from previous disastrous governments for our country.

I respectfully ask you, your Honor, and in view of the difficult task you have had in this case of Mr. Juan Orlando Hernandez Alvarado, to take into consideration the enormous effort and determination to fight crime and the economic policies he adopted to make this great nation called Honduras a better country, I do not know if he did or did not commit a crime against you, the citizens of the United States of America, according to your laws.

What I do know is that my country was in peace and economic development when he governed this great nation called Honduras.

God Bless you, bless your great Nation and give you Wisdom to make the best decision in this case.

Respectfully yours.

Honorable Juez Kevin Castel Corte del Distrito Sur de Nueva York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007, USA Honorable Juez Castel.

Su señoría , soy Lesby Janeth Flores, de profesión pedagoga, madre, esposa, soy de la descendencia del señor Juan Hernandez Villanueva, un caballero ilustre con Don de buena gente, honrado que se preocupó por dar un buen ejemplo y transmitírselo a toda su generación, entre ellos mi hermano Juan Orlando de los hermanos menores, puedo decirle de él, que desde joven tuvo la visión de ser un político por lo que a lo largo de su juventud se enfocó en ser un hombre estudioso y formarse para lograr su objetivo, demostrando ser un hombre hasta la fecha que goza de mi respeto y admiración muy entregado a las causas justas, hombre dedicado a su familia llámese Madre, esposa, hijos hermanos, amigos, demostrando honradez en los actos de su vida, con respeto y amor a nuestro padre celestial, es por ello que yo le puedo decir que no es cierto todo lo que se dice de él, los que lo conocemos damos fe de su integridad y luchas, es por ello honorable Juez que con la investidura terrenal que posee, comparezco ante usted para solicitar clemencia señor Juez que se le otorgue la libertad a nuestro hermano, Juan Orlando, para que la justicia del hombre se manifieste.

Atte. Lesby Janeth Flores

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Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007, USA Honorable Judge Castel.

Your Honor, I am Lesby Janeth Flores, a teacher, mother, wife, I am the descendant of Mr. Juan Hernandez Villanueva, an illustrious gentleman with the gift of good character, honest, who cared to set a good example and transmit it to all his generation, including my brother Juan Orlando one of the younger siblings, I can tell you that since he was young he had the vision of being a politician so throughout his youth he focused on being a studious man and trained to achieve his goal, proving to be a man to date that enjoys my respect and admiration very dedicated to just causes, A man dedicated to his family, mother, wife, children, siblings, friends, demonstrating honesty in the acts of his life, with respect and love to our heavenly father, that is why I can tell you that it is not true everything that is said about him, those who know him attest to his integrity and fights, that is why honorable Judge that with the earthly investiture that you possess, I come before you to request clemency Mr. Judge to grant freedom to our brother, Juan Orlando, so that the justice of man is manifested.

Sincerely Lesby Janeth Flores Tegucigalpa, 19 de abril del 2024

Honorable Juez **P. KEVIN CASTEL** Distrito Sur de Nueva York, USA

Honorable Juez Castel:

Mi nombre es Lottie Eugenia Garcia Carias, soy abogada y chef, ciudadana americana y cuidadana hondureña, cuñada de Juan Orlando Hernández, a quien conozco desde hace aproximadamente 34 años cuando yo era una adolescente aun, Juan Orlando y mi hermana Ana se enamoraron y en el año 1990 se casaron, y desde entonces le conozco y se que cómo el es. Siempre preocupado por lo menos afortunados de nuestros países. Juan Orlando es un hombre de palabra, justo y preocupado por los menos afortunados. apasionado por la justicia, lo justo, lo honorable, lo correcto. Le contaré que Juan Orlando y yo no fuimos los mejores amigos al principio, pero al pasar los años y poder conocerle y ver el hombre de principios, moral, honestidad, y trabajador nos acerco.

En el 2014 en su primer gobierno cómo presidente de Honduras, trabaje en el gobierno en la Oficina de la primera dama de Honduras, mi herman Ana, así también junto a Juan Orlando pues ellos trabajaron juntos para y por Honduras, en el tema de seguridad, narcotrafico, salud, y tema social en Honduras, implementó programas sociales llamados Vida Mejor, mejores familias, crédito solidario, etc. Por citarme algunos, se del trabajo arduo, difícil que fue combatir el nacorctrafico en Honduras, las operaciones militares que realizo junto con el apoyo de Estado unidos, yo lo vi yo lo presencié, Honduras lo vio y lo sintió, Y hoy lo extrañamos cómo el mejor presidente de Honduras. Hoy Honduras lo extraña. nuestro país ahora realmente esta en manos del Narco trafico, delincencia, inseguridad, no hay trabajo. Dejaron sola a Honduras el mejor aliado que tenía Estados Unidos era y es JUAN ORLANDO HERNÁNDEZ ALVARADO. ¿Le invito como un hombre de Justicia y de ley que mire a Honduras antes de Juan Orlando, durante Juan Orlando y después de Juan Orlando? ¿Hoy como esta Honduras?

He tenido la oportunidad de visitar a Juan Orlando en el MDC, es impactante verlo ahí, pues se que el no merece ni pertenece a ese lugar, pero aún así el se mantiene firme y luchando por su vida y por que se haga justicia. Cómo me lo expreso un guardia de la MDC, el es un caballero, el no merece estar acá, pero lo estamos cuidado bien no tenga miedo. Y en esas ocasiones que he visitado a Juan Orlando, siempre hace las mismas preguntas, ¿cómo esta Ana y mis hijos? Los cuales no ve hace ya dos años. Pues les quitaron ese derecho de ir a visitarlo. ¿Luego pregunta como esta Honduras? ¿Cómo esta la gente? ¿Cómo esta la economía del país, la salud, seguridad, la violencia?, etc. Juan Orlando ciertamente no es perfecto nadie lo es solo Dios, pero si le puedo asegurar que el es inocente de los cargos que le acusan, mi testimonio también es valido, pues le conozco desde toda una vida, lo he visto y Honduras lo vivió y también lo sabe. Cómo abogada que soy no entiendo Cómo los testimonios de personas que odian y tienen

motivos para vengarse de Juan Orlando sean creíbles y admitidos ante la Justicia Americana.

Juan Orlando es un hombre determinado, justo, bromista, amoroso, algo testarudo, orgulloso, pero buen hombre, buen aliado de Estados Unidos, el es leal a sus amistades, pues en su vida hay temor de Dios. Este juicio, no solo afecta a nuestra familia si no que se ha visto afectada, todo un país, Honduras está siendo afectado actualmente. Y le invito a que usted lo compruebe con sus ojos.

No a sido nada facil todo esta que ha pasado, cómo cuidadana Norte americana que soy, siempre había creeido en la justicia de Estdos Unidos, pero hoy no puedo decir lo mismo, pues mi familia, mi cuñado Juan Orlando es victima de una injusticia, yo le pido a usted haga justicia en el nombre de Dios y de Estados Unidos, esto no es justo.

Juan Orlando y mi hermana tenían planeado retirarse a su casa de campo en Gracias, Lempira, el pueblo donde nació Juan, hoy eso no es posible, pero confiamos en Dios el hará la Justicia de su mano, para que ese sueño se haga realidad, y acá estaremos como familia para apoyarlo, ayudarlo a superar ese mal momento en su vida, de encarcelamiento injusto. Juan Orlando Hernández es inocente y HONDURAS y su familia lo sabemos. Las personas que conocemos a Juan Orlando sabemos eso cargos son falsos, sabemos que Juan Orlando por lo contrario lucho encontra del narcotrafico, contra la delincuencia, la inseguridad. Solo le pido usted como juez pueda ver la verdad sobre Juan Orlando, le repito el es INOCENTE y el mundo lo sabe.

Sinceramente

Lottie Garcia-Carias

Tegucigalpa, April 19, 2024

Honorable Judge **P. KEVIN CASTEL** New York South District

Honorable Judge Castel:

My name is Lottie Eugenia Garcia Carias. I am a lawyer, chef, American citizen, Honduran citizen, and sister-in-law of Juan Orlando Hernández, whom I have known for approximately 34 years since I was still a teenager. Juan Orlando and my sister Ana fell in love and got married in 1990. Since I have known him for so long, I know that he is always concerned about the less fortunate in our country. Juan Orlando is a man of his word who is fair and passionate about justice. I can tell you that Juan Orlando and I were not the best friends at first, but as the years passed and we were able to get to know him and see the man of principles, morals, honesty, and hard work, he brought us closer.

In 2014, during his first government as president of Honduras, I worked for the Office of the First Lady of Honduras, my sister Ana, as well as with Juan Orlando since they worked together for Honduras on the issues of security, drug trafficking, health, and social issues in Honduras. They implemented social programs called Better Life, Better Families, Solidarity Credit, etc. To name a few, I know the hard work it took to combat drug trafficking in Honduras and the military operations that it carried out with the support of the United States. I saw it, I witnessed it, Honduras saw it and felt it, and today we miss all the things my brother-in-law did for Honduras.

Today, Honduras misses him, and our country is now in the hands of drug traffickers, criminals, and danger. There is no longer any work. They left Honduras alone, and the best ally the United States had was and is Juan Orlando Hernandez ALVARADO. I implore you, as a man of justice, to look at Honduras before Juan Orlando, during Juan Orlando, and after Juan Orlando. How is Honduras today?

I had the opportunity to visit Juan Orlando at the MDC, and it was shocking to see him there because I know that he does not deserve or belong to that place. But still, he remains unshaken and is fighting for his life. As an MDC guard told me, he is a gentleman; he does not deserve to be here, but we are taking good care of him; he is not afraid. And on the occasions that I have visited Juan Orlando, he always asks the same question: How are Ana and my children? Which he hasn't been able to see for two years. They took his family's right to see him away. Then ask, How is Honduras? How are the people? How is the country's economy, health, security, and violence? Juan Orlando is certainly not perfect; no one is perfect, only God, but if I can assure you that he is innocent of the charges against him, my testimony is also valid because I have known him for a lifetime and I have seen him and Honduras. As a lawyer myself, I do not understand how the testimonies of people who hate and have reasons to take revenge on Juan Orlando are credible and admitted in an American court.

Juan Orlando is a determined man, fair, joyful, loving, somewhat stubborn, proud, and a good man. He is loyal to his friends because, in his life, there is fear of God. This trial has not only affected our family but has affected an entire country, Honduras. And I ask that you please see it with your eyes.

Everything that has happened has not been easy at all. As a North American citizen, I have always believed in the justice of the United States, but today I cannot say the same because my brother-in-law, Juan Orlando, is a victim of injustice. I ask you to do justice in the name of God and the United States; this is not fair.

Juan Orlando and my sister had planned to retire to their country house in Gracias, Lempira, the town where Juan was born. Today, that is not possible, but we trust in God that he will take justice into his hands so that that dream becomes a reality. and we will be here as a family to support him and help him overcome those bad memories of unjust imprisonment. Juan Orlando Hernández is innocent, and Honduras and his family know it. Those of us who know Juan Orlando know that the charges are false; we know that Juan Orlando, on the contrary, fought against drug trafficking, crime, and unsafeness. I only ask that you, as a judge, see the truth about Juan Orlando. I repeat, he is innocent, and the world knows it.

Sincerely,

Lottie Garcia-Carias

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Honorable Judge Castel,

Le saluda Luis F. Mata. Soy amigo personal del Sr. Juan O. Hernández Alvarado. Lo conozco desde el año 1983. Fuimos compañeros en el Liceo Militar del Norte. Un colegio militar con altos valores morales , éticos , académicos y religiosos. Siempre Juan Orlando se caracterizó por su liderazgo , hermandad y compañerismo.

Luego él siguió sus estudios universitarios y se graduó con altos honores de Abogado. Ahí dio inicio a su carrera Política , la cual inició en la universidad.

Tuve el honor de acompañarlo en su Gobierno como Presidente , y fue la persona que rescató mi país, Honduras. Un país que estaba sumergido en la violencia y narcotráfico. Su trayectoria fue siempre intachable y llena de orden, ejecución, desarrollo, transparencia, trabajo y seguridad.

Sigo sin entender cómo un grupo de narcos presos y extraditados por una ley que en todo momento fue promovida e impulsada por Juan Orlando , es ahora el la persona que sale más perjudicada.

Jamás visto. Esto lo sabemos TODOS los Hondureños.

Le agradecería que por favor tomará nota de una persona que confía y aún cree en la Justicia Norteamericana. Para que se revise toda la Injusticia practicada en el juicio de Juan Orlando y se le haga un nuevo juicio con todas las garantías, como bien se lo merece.

Saludos

Luis F. Mata

Honorable Judge Kevin Castel Southern District Court of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

Honorable Judge Castel,

My name is Luis F. Mata. I am a personal friend of Mr. Juan O. Hernández Alvarado. I have known him since 1983. We were classmates at the Liceo Militar del Norte. A military school with high moral, ethical, academic and religious values. Juan Orlando was always characterized by his leadership, brotherhood and companionship.

He then pursued his university studies and graduated with high honors as a lawyer. There he began his political career, which he started at the university.

I had the honor of accompanying him in his government as President, and he was the person who rescued my country, Honduras. A country that was submerged in violence and drug trafficking. His trajectory was always impeccable and full of order, execution, development, transparency, work and security.

I still do not understand how a group of drug traffickers imprisoned and extradited by a law that at all times was promoted and driven by Juan Orlando, is now the person who is the most damaged.

Never seen before. We ALL Hondurans know this.

I would be grateful if you would please take note of a person who trusts and still believes in American Justice. So that all the injustice practiced in the trial of Juan Orlando is reviewed and a new trial with all the guarantees, as he deserves.

Best regards

Luis F. Mata

Honorable Juez Castel

Distrito Sur de Nueva York

Honorable juez, mi nombre es Luis René Suazo, tengo 33 años, estudié Finanzas y Comunicación política, durante un tiempo fui Ministro de estrategia y comunicaciones del gobierno del Presidente Juan Orlando, tiempo que supongo fue el más difícil del gobierno, nos azotaba una Pandemia Mundial y dos tormentas tropicales que dejaron devastado al país.

Para ese entonces todos conocíamos que Juan Orlando Hernández era una templanza y espíritu de trabajo incomparable, prácticamente no dormía para estar pendiente de toda la emergencia de salud que representaba la pandemia de la COVID-19 en un país como el nuestro y la emergencia medioambiental de inundaciones en las principales ciudades del país, mi trabajo era uno solo, hacer una comunicación de gobierno efectiva que salvara vidas, el presidente tenía un solo objetivo salvar el mayor número de vidas frente a la emergencia sanitaria y climática, ahí pude conocer su lado más humano, el de un presidente que se preocupaba por su gente, por el bienestar de cada hondureño y no era discurso o mera estrategia de comunicación lo vi con mis propios ojos en tres momentos que quiero describir brevemente. El primero fue cuando llegaron las primeras vacunas contra la COVID -19 eran muy pocas para cubrir toda la demanda de la población, en la constitución y los protocolos de salud decía que los primeros que debían vacunarse eran los presidentes y directivos de los tres poderes del estado y personal de salud, y Juan Orlando en reunión de consejo de ministros nos informó que él renunciaría a ese privilegio y que donaría su vacuna a alguien más que estuviese luchando y nos pidió hacer lo mismo, a su vez nos pidió que todos trabajáramos en horario normal y sin descanso a pesar de no tener vacunas con la misión de salvar la mayor cantidad de vidas, lo que más me impresionó es que él estuvo siempre al frente arriesgando junto a todos los demás su vida, poniendo primero el bienestar de la nación antes que el de él y su familia. El segundo hecho sucedió en medio de las tormentas tropicales ETA e IOTA el valle de sula estaba totalmente inundado e incomunicado, las lluvias no cesaban y el aeropuerto Villeda morales estaba bajo toneladas de lodo a raíz de las tormentas, la recomendación de los altos mandos del ejército era que debía esperar unas semanas hasta poder ir a visitar la zona del desastre, el hizo caso omiso y visitó y acompañó a los afectados por las tormentas que lo habían perdido todo y ese mismo día lanzó la operación de reconstrucción más grande de la historia denominada "no están solos" donde prácticamente se reconstruyó todo lo que las lluvias destruyeron y se apoyó directamente a los afectados, de nuevo Juan Orlando con su ejemplo y liderazgo nos dio una lección de que la patria estaba por encima de cualquier cosa, incluso su propia integridad volando a través de tormentas y aterrizando en territorio completamente inundado.

La tercera fue cuando por no haberse vacunado y estar expuesto al contacto con personas infectadas el presidente Juan Orlando fue diagnosticado con COVID -19 y tuvo que ser rápidamente Hospitalizado pues esa variante era muy agresiva, yo recibía llamadas desde el hospital y era el mismo Juan Orlando con una voz muy afectada y una tos muy profunda que seguía preocupado por la emergencia, pidiendo que intensificaran las campañas de educación y prevención para evitar que más personas sufrieran lo que él estaba sufriendo, en una de esas llamadas me contó que el paciente

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que estaba a la par había muerto en la madrugada y que eso lo había hecho reflexionar mucho sobre lo dura que podía ser esa enfermedad, el presidente estuvo al borde de la muerte en esa ocasión según los informes oficiales, pero lo que yo recuerdo y que muy pocos saben es que no dejó de trabajar ni un tan solo día mientras estuvo hospitalizado, preocupado más por los hondureños que por su propio estado de salud.

El Juan Orlando que conocí es esa persona que tenía un alto espíritu patriótico y que estaba siempre del lado de los menos favorecidos, su verdadero interés era dejar un legado de paz en honduras, su lucha fue contra los malos los que nos tuvieron de rodillas por décadas, no puedo creer que las acusaciones sean ciertas, no creo que el con esas convicciones tan fuertes se haya aliado con los malos, contra los que él lucho, si creo que pudo cometer errores, es un ser humano imperfecto como todos, pero se también que sus intenciones siempre fueron hacer el bien.

Por eso señor juez con todo respeto le pido que considere lo bueno que él hizo, devolvió la esperanza y nos trajo paz y tranquilidad, necesitamos ver que los malos no siempre ganan y que aún hay esperanza en este país, ha sido duro ver a un presidente siendo juzgado en los Estados Unidos de América, este juicio ha cambiado la forma en que se ven las cosas, y sin duda marcará la historia, su decisión tendrá repercusiones enormes en este país, que Dios le dé la sabiduría necesaria.

Atentamente

LUIS RENÉ

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Honorable Judge Castel Southern District of New York

Honorable judge, my name is Luis René Suazo, I am 33 years old, I studied Finance and Political Communication, during a time I was Minister of Strategy and Communications in the government of President Juan Orlando, time that I suppose was the most difficult of the government, we were hit by a World Pandemic and two tropical storms that left the country devastated.

By that time we all knew that Juan Orlando Hernandez was an incomparable temperance and working spirit, he practically did not sleep to be aware of all the health emergency that represented the pandemic of COVID-19 in a country like ours and the environmental emergency of flooding in major cities of the country, my job was only one, to make an effective government communication that would save lives, the president had only one goal, to save as many lives as possible in the face of the health and climate emergency, there I got to know his most human side, that of a president who cared about his people, about the welfare of every Honduran and it was not a speech or mere communication strategy, I saw it with my own eyes in three moments that I want to describe briefly. The first one was when the first vaccines against COVID-19 arrived, they were too few to cover all the demand of the population, in the constitution and the health protocols it said that the first to be vaccinated were the presidents and directors of the three branches of the state and health personnel, and Juan Orlando in a meeting of the council of ministers informed us that he would renounce that privilege and that he would donate his vaccine to someone else who was fighting and asked us to do the same, in turn he asked us all to work normal hours and without rest despite not having vaccines with the mission to save as many lives as possible, what impressed me most is that he was always at the forefront risking his life along with everyone else, putting first the welfare of the nation before him and his family. The second event happened in the middle of the tropical storms ETA and IOTA, the Sula Valley was totally flooded and isolated, the rains did not stop and the Villeda Morales airport was under tons of mud as a result of the storms, the recommendation of the high command of the army was that he should wait a few weeks until he could go to visit the disaster area, he ignored and visited and accompanied those affected by the storms who had lost everything and that same day launched the largest reconstruction operation in history called "you are not alone" where practically everything that the rains destroyed was rebuilt and directly supported those affected, again Juan Orlando with his example and leadership gave us a lesson that the homeland was above anything, even his own integrity flying through storms and landing in completely flooded territory.

The third was when President Juan Orlando was diagnosed with COVID-19 because he had not been vaccinated and was exposed to contact with infected people and had to be quickly hospitalized because this variant was very aggressive, I received calls from the hospital and it was Juan Orlando himself with a very affected voice and a very deep cough who was still worried about the emergency, asking to intensify the education and prevention campaigns to prevent more people from suffering what he was suffering, in one of those calls he told me that the patient who was next to him had died in the early morning and that this had made him reflect a lot about how hard this disease could be, the president was on the verge of death on that occasion according to official reports, but what I remember and what very few know is that he did not stop working a single day while he was hospitalized, worried more about the Hondurans than about his own health condition.

The Juan Orlando I knew is that person who had a high patriotic spirit and was always on the side of the less favored, his true interest was to leave a legacy of peace in Honduras, his fight was against the bad guys who had us on our knees for decades, I can not believe that the accusations are true, I do not believe that he with such strong convictions, was allied with the bad guys, against whom he fought, yes I believe he could make mistakes, he is an imperfect human being like everyone, but I also know that his intentions were always to do good.

That is why Judge with all due respect I ask you to consider the good he did, he brought back hope and brought us peace and tranquility, we need to see that the bad guys do not always win and that there is still hope in this country, it has been hard to see a president being judged in the United States of America, this trial has changed the way things are seen, and without a doubt it will mark history, your decision will have huge repercussions in this country, may God give you the necessary wisdom.

Sincerely,

LUIS RENÉ SUAZO.