

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 12 2007

The Honorable Alvaro Uribe  
President  
Republic of Colombia  
Palacio De Nariño  
Carrera 8, No 7-26  
Bogotá, Colombia

Dear President Uribe:

We are writing to express our grave concern about the recent forced entry into the house and office of the non-governmental organization, the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) in Bogotá. FOR is an international organization that has undertaken crucial human rights and accompaniment work in support of the rights of threatened communities and organizations. Like any human rights organization, FOR has sensitive information that, if it falls into the wrong hands, could endanger the lives of the people with whom FOR works.

The individuals who broke into FOR stole the organization's two central computers containing the organization's records, including information on the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó. The vandalism damaged electronic equipment, including part of a satellite phone, clothing and theft of petty cash. Interestingly, the thieves did not take other items of value that were in plain sight, including a credit card and the passport of a FOR team member. Additionally, this incident occurs in the context of threats against other human rights organizations working in Colombia, like the Liberty Legal Corporation (Corporation for Juridical Liberty CJL).

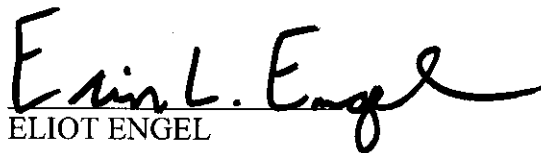
As strong supporters of a Colombia's vibrant civil society, we are concerned about maintaining a safe environment for non-governmental organizations to flourish and strengthen Colombian democracy. We are gravely concerned by this recent attack on FOR and for the security of the Colombian groups that FOR accompanies. We urge you to do all within your means to ensure that the National Police of Colombia and Prosecutor General's Office carry out a prompt and complete investigation of the violation and punish those responsible. We will be following with great interest the progress of the investigation, as well as the Colombian government's expressions of commitment to protect the work of human rights organizations in your country.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

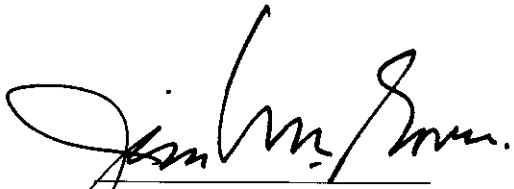
Sincerely,





SAM FARR  
Member of Congress





ELIOT ENGEL  
Member of Congress

  
JAMES MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

  
RAUL GRIJALVA  
Member of Congress

  
KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND  
Member of Congress

  
JAN SCHAKOWSKY  
Member of Congress

  
DENNIS MOORE  
Member of Congress

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