

Governor of Carabobo state
Rafael Lacava
Calle Colombia c/c Montes De Oca, Casa Alvarado,
Capitolio de Valencia, Valencia, Carabobo
Venezuela

Noordwijk, the Netherlands, June 2022

Dear governor Rafael Lacava,

I write to you to raise my voice in support of human rights defenders Marino Alvarado and Alfredo Infante. A lawsuit was filed against them for exposing and condemning potential extrajudicial executions by members of your state's police force and demanding chain of command accountability. To target human rights defenders with criminal action for exercising their right to defend human rights is against international human rights law, as well as repeated recommendations by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN special procedures, and other human rights bodies.

I therefore call on you to drop the lawsuit against Marino Alvarado and Alfredo Infante. I urge you to refrain from blocking efforts to achieve chain of command accountability for grave human rights violations committed in your state and protect human rights defenders.

Thank you for your attention. I am looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,