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Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison
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September 6, 2021

Señor
IVAN DUQUE MARQUEZ
President of the Republic of Colombia
Casa de Nariño
Bogotá D.C.
contacto@presidencia.gov.co

Dear President Iván Duque:

I am writing to you to express our deep concern for the life and safety of José Alberto Tejada Echeverry, and his team, in Cali, Colombia based on reporting from the Foundation for Press Freedom (FLIP), in addition to multiple Non-Governmental Organizations from Colombia and the United States.

I want to highlight how critical Mr. Tejada's role as a journalist and the director of Canal 2 in Cali, Colombia is.

Mr. Tejada's significant rise in profile since he, and his team, started to cover the protests and mobilizations in Colombia beginning on April 28, 2021, is well known.

Most concerning is because Mr. Tejada is a prominent journalist, he is receiving threats.

Recently, the safety and security for Mr. Tejada—as well as for his family—deteriorated dramatically. The threatening incidents that occurring at his residence on August 11, 12, 15 and September 1 and 2, 2021 make this clear.

Also concerning is—even though the National Protection Unit has been fully informed of these incidents—appropriate measures to protect the lives, safety, and right of freedom of expression for Mr. Tejada and his team are still not in place.

We request urgent measures to defend Mr. Tejada and his team by protecting their lives, safety, and ability to report on the protests in Colombia.

Sincerely,



Keith Ellison
Fiscal General de Minnesota, EU

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