

LA EXPLOSIÓN

LA VOZ DE NUESTRA COMUNIDAD - THE VOICE OF OUR COMMUNITY

SIRVIENDO AL SUR DE GEORGIA Y NORTE DE LA FLORIDA - SERVING SOUTH GEORGIA AND NORTH FLORIDA

JULIO 31, 2005

LA EXPLOSIÓN - LA VOZ DE NUESTRA COMUNIDAD

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ENGLISH SECTION

Website Launched to Free Wrongly-Convicted Immigrants

A new Website has been established to distribute information about the ongoing efforts to free two Mexican nationals wrongly convicted of murder in the Texas Panhandle town of Littlefield.

[Http://www.InnocentInTexas.com](http://www.InnocentInTexas.com) is being launched in advance of an Aug. 2 hearing scheduled to examine new evidence exonerating defendants **Alberto Sifuentes** and **Jesus Ramirez**. The two men have been serving life sentences for the **Aug. 6, 1996 killing of convenience store clerk Evangelina Cruz** at the Jolly Roger store just off Texas Highway 84.

The criminal proceedings took place only miles from Tulia, TX, where dozens of black people were wrongfully convicted of drug charges in a racially biased criminal prosecution.

Mr. Sifuentes and Mr. Ramirez were convicted based on no physical evidence tying them to the violent robbery-murder of Ms. Cruz, a mother of four who was shot nine times, including once in the face.

In the 2 1/2 years since entering the case at the request of the Mexican government, we have found:

- * That two prison informants lied at the trial that a key prosecution
- * Witness from the scene of crime was not even there at the time of the murder.
- * A witness who could testify about the men's whereabouts that night was not interviewed by either police nor members of the men's court appointed defense team.
- * Store security surveillance footage of the key prosecution eyewitness clearly places her at another location at the time and place of themurder. That evidence was never disclosed at one man's trial and misrepresented and not properly challenged in the other.

[Http://www.InnocentInTexas.com](http://www.InnocentInTexas.com) provides resources for the growing number of press and community groups interested in the efforts to press the Texas Attorney General's office to admit error in the cases. Doing so could free Mr. Sifuentes and Mr. Ramirez after almost 10 years of imprisonment.

Contents of the site include:

- * Downloadable copies of the habeas corpus filings.
- * Instructions and sample letters for grass roots organizations eager to express support for the defense efforts.
- * A step-by-step summary of the state's case and the evidence that proves it wrong.
- * Sworn affidavits submitted by witnesses never interviewed or investigated by either defense or prosecution teams.
- * Press reports that explore the case discrepancies.

For more information, contact:


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It's wrong


It takes a big state to admit when it's wrong. And Texas was clearly wrong in convicting Alberto Sifuentes and Jesus Ramirez for a brutal 1996 robbery-murder near Lubbock. Now -- after eight years and the emergence of vital evidence that should have been presented at trial -- it's time for Texas to prove it is truly a big state -- big enough to accept that its law enforcement and legal system have committed a monumental blunder. Alberto and Jesus, indigent Mexican nationals, have been serving life sentences for convictions based on absolutely no physical evidence. Their trials were a litany of shoddy police procedure, underfunded and overwhelmed defense work, and prosecution based on the flimsiest testimony imaginable.

Innocent in Texas

The truth about Alberto Sifuentes and Jesus Ramirez... and their wrongful conviction of murder.



Alberto Sifuentes



Jesus Ramirez

View a PowerPoint production that shows the raw documentation proving Sifuentes and Ramirez could not have killed Evangelina Cruz, clerk at the Jolly Roger convenience store in Littlefield, TX, on Aug. 6, 1996.

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Key Documents

- Pauline Bobles
- Mary Wood
- Oscar Balderas
- Mary Ann Enriquez
- Lora Casas
- Adam Casas
- Sophia Madrano
- Grea Parrott

Download Habeas Applications

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*** LATEST NEWS**

Channel 11 News airs special report on the case. [More...](#)

*** GET THE FACTS**

[Letter to Texas Tech describes the case](#) (PDF)

[Dallas Mexican Consul protests convictions](#) (PDF)

[Affidavit from bar banker on](#)