



# HRSP NEWSLETTER

*U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section*

September 2013

## Former Salvadoran Military Officer Sentenced for Perjury and Concealing Information from U.S. Government

A Salvadoran man residing in Everett, Massachusetts who faces charges of crimes against humanity and state terror in Spain was sentenced on August 27 for immigration fraud and perjury in connection with false statements he made on immigration forms in order to remain in the United States.

Inocente Orlando Montano, 71, was sentenced to 21 months in prison followed by one year of supervised release by U.S. District Court Judge Douglas P. Woodlock. In September 2012, Montano plead guilty to three counts of immigration fraud and three counts of perjury and agreed to be deported to El Salvador upon completion of his prison term. Montano's false statements were made to obtain Temporary Protective Status (TPS), a benefit available to foreign nationals, permitting them to remain in the United States under certain limited conditions.

Montano, a citizen of El Salvador, served in the Salvadoran military for nearly 30 years, rising to the rank of colonel. From 1989 to 1992, the final years of a decade-long civil war, he served as the vice minister for public security. The U.N. Truth Commission on El Salvador found substantial evidence that Montano was part of the small group of officers responsible for the 1989 murder of six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper, and the housekeeper's daughter. Those murders, commonly referred to as the Jesuit massacre, constitute one of the most notorious human rights crimes in El Salvador's history.

The case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Boston with assistance from ICE's Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Center. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John A. Capin of the U.S. Attorney's Office District of Massachusetts Antiterrorism and National Security Unit.

People with information about former human rights violators in the United States are urged to contact U.S. law enforcement: Human Rights and Special Prosecutions, 1-800-813-5863; Immigration and Customs Enforcement, tip line at 1-866-DHS-2-ICE, tip form at [www.ice.gov/exec/forms/hsi-tips/tips.asp](http://www.ice.gov/exec/forms/hsi-tips/tips.asp).