



## Colombia to Extradite 5 Men for Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering

McNabb Associates, P.C. (U.S. Extradition Attorneys)

Submitted at 11:16 AM October 4, 2011

The Colombian government will extradite five Colombian citizens to the U.S and Spain to face trial for drug trafficking and money laundering.

Anti-drugs police captured Heder Augusto Sarria Martinez, alias "Niño Malo" in May this year.

Sarria allegedly ran drug trafficking operations in Cali and the department of Norte del Valle on behalf of "Los Comba" brothers from the "Rastrojos" gang.

He will be extradited to the US on drug charges, while in Colombia he was also accused of forcing people of their land, extortion, aggravated assault, use of false documents and weapons offences.

George Richard Baquero Estrada is wanted by the New York district court for drug trafficking and extortion.

Following his arrest in Medellin in January, authorities accused Baquero, alias "El Pollo," of managing the finances of the Rastrojos.

Adolfo Erazo Rosero, alias "Chigüiro", was arrested in May in a joint operation between Colombian Prosecutors and the U.S Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Authorities accuse him of smuggling drug profits from the U.S through Mexico and Central America and into Colombia for laundering.

Luis Eduardo Pinzón Mahecha will be extradited to Puerto Rico to face trial on drug and money laundering charges. He was arrested in February this year for allegedly running a money

laundering operation for the now defunct Norte del Valle cartel.

DAS officers captured Jose Alexander Zapata Osorio in the city of Armenia in central Colombia.

In 2007, Spanish courts tried Zapata in his absence, sentencing him to six years for smuggling several shipments of cocaine into the country.

This article was written by James Bargent and published by the Colombia Reports on Monday, 03 October 2011.

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## Jamaican PM Explains Resignation

McNabb Associates, P.C. (U.S. Extradition Attorneys)

Submitted at 11:22 AM October 4, 2011

Jamaica's outgoing leader said Sunday that public perceptions about his handling of a U.S. extradition request for a notorious drug gang leader contributed to his recent decision to step down.

Prime Minister Bruce Golding said in a nationally televised

address that questions about the role he played in the extradition of Christopher "Dudus" Coke had affected him deeply.

Sunday's address was the first time since Golding's unexpected announcement last week about stepping down that he has given a specific reason for the move.

The prime minister said his opposition to the U.S. extradition request for Coke was because the U.S. indictment relied on illegal wiretap evidence. Golding is reported to have engaged the services of a U.S.-based law firm to lobby Washington to drop the request.

Golding said the Coke extradition saga was "a breach" of Jamaica's Constitution. He said if the case had involved anyone other than Coke, the matter would probably not have evolved into the "cause celebre" that it became.

When the Jamaican government finally bowed to U.S. pressure to move against Coke in May 2010, more than 70 people were killed in gun battles pitting the police and military against Coke loyalists holed up in the Tivoli Gardens district of the capital.

Golding is to step down after the ruling Jamaica Labor party picks a new leader at its annual conference in November.

This article was published by Voice of American on October 3, 2011.

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## Police Arrest Canadian Child Molester in South Tahoe

McNabb Associates, P.C. (U.S. Extradition Attorneys)

Submitted at 11:34 AM October 4, 2011

Delays in securing the necessary warrant allowed a convicted child molester who was wanted by Canadian authorities to live in South Lake Tahoe for nearly a year before he was arrested this week.

South Lake Tahoe Police and U.S. Marshals arrested James William Robertson, 71, at his Lakeland Village home early Friday morning, hours after an international warrant was issued for his arrest, said Police Chief Brian Uhler.

Robertson was released from Canadian custody in 2010 after serving a five-year sentence for indecent assault, common assault and sexual assault, according to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The crimes involved children and took place between 1965 and 1988.

Canadian police issued a warrant for Robertson's arrest in April 2010 after he allegedly failed to meet reporting requirements. Robertson is considered violent, and Canadian police recommended against the public taking action to apprehend him.

He was in the custody of U.S. Marshals Friday and could not be reached for comment. It is unknown if he has an attorney.

South Lake Tahoe Police have been aware Robertson was living in the city since October 2010, but were unable to secure the necessary warrant for his arrest until late Thursday, Uhler said.

The warrant issued by Canadian police in 2010 was valid and extraditable for all of Canada, but not the U.S., Uhler said.

Robertson is a citizen of both Canada and the U.S. His dual citizenship complicated the extradition process, said Hans Uthe, El Dorado County assistant district attorney.

U.S. immigration officials were unable to deport Robertson because he is a citizen, and violations of California's sex offender registration requirements could not be pursued, Uthe said. The state's sex offender laws do not apply to people convicted of a sex crime in a foreign country, Uthe said.

"It became 100 percent clear that we could not get him into custody until we got a Canadian warrant," Uthe said.

South Lake Tahoe detectives were in regular contact with Canadian authorities in an attempt to get the necessary warrant for his arrest. Several requests for an international arrest warrant were rejected by Canadian officials, Uhler said.

The amount of time it took to bring Robertson into custody was "unacceptable," Uhler said.

"We were all very fed up with the delay," Uhler said.

Uthe was reluctant to criticize the extradition process Friday, but did say he thought it could have been done better. People who were aware of the situation were "very concerned about his presence in our community," Uthe said.

Requests for comment to representatives of the Canada Department of Justice were not immediately returned Friday afternoon.

The South Lake Tahoe Police Department, El Dorado County

District Attorney's Office, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, FBI, U.S. Marshals Service and U.S. Office of International Affairs each helped in expediting the extradition process, Uhler said.

Detective Doug Sentell and Special Agent Chris Campion were "instrumental in getting the warrant through the lengthy international warrant process," Uhler said.

Uthe said he expects to meet with El Dorado County District Attorney Vern Pierson in an effort to have California legislators require people who are convicted of a sex crime in a foreign country to comply with state's sex offender registration requirements.

Both Uthe and Uhler said they do not have evidence that Robertson broke any U.S. law while living in South Lake Tahoe.

Robertson is a licensed attorney in California. Uthe said he plans to provide information to the State Bar of California regarding his Canadian conviction. He said he expects Robertson to be disbarred.

This article was written by Adam Jensen and published by the Nevada Appeal on October 2, 2011.

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# Amanda Knox Conviction Overturned

McNabb Associates, P.C. (U.S. Extradition Attorneys)

Submitted at 11:47 AM October 4, 2011

American Amanda Knox and her Italian former boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito, won their appeals of their convictions in the killing of British exchange student Meredith Kercher. Here is a guide to the Italian appeal process.

On what grounds did Knox and Sollecito appeal their convictions for murder, sexual assault, possession of a weapon, interfering with a crime and theft?

The defense sought to discredit DNA evidence linking the two of them to the killing, in which British exchange student Meredith Kercher's throat was slashed. Her partially clothed body was found in the house she shared with Knox in Perugia, a central Italian university town.

Two experts argued that DNA evidence found on the knife used to kill Kercher and on her bra clasp was unreliable and contaminated by poor handling. Prosecutors in 2009 had said there were traces of Knox's genetic material on the handle and Kercher's in a tiny groove on the blade.

Knox and Sollecito's defense teams have suggested Rudy Guede, who is already serving a 16-year sentence for the murder, could have been the sole killer.

The case against Knox and Sollecito:

Who made the decision?

Eight jurors -- six members of the public and two judges -- decided the case. The judges take part and vote as part of the jury: their role is to guide but not to instruct the other jurors how to vote. The presiding judge, Claudio Pratillo Hellmann, who was also one of the jurors, read out the verdict.

What were the possible rulings in the appeal?

There were three possible outcomes for the defendants:

1. Verdict is upheld: In this case, Knox and Sollecito would have continued serving their respective 26- and 25-year jail sentences.

However, prosecutor Manuela Comodi had called for their sentences to be increased to life.

2. Verdict is overturned

3. Verdict is partially overturned, with a decrease in sentence (verdicts can be upheld on some counts but not others; this would result in a decrease in their sentences, which is what happened).

Does Monday's ruling mean the case is closed for good or could there be further appeals?

There will most likely be appeals by the prosecution. Both the defense and prosecution can take their case to Italy's highest court.

Both Knox and Sollecito returned to prison to complete paperwork and collect their belongings. But Knox was freed within an hour; Knox will leave the country Tuesday morning.

Knox, 24, need not remain in Italy pending a possible appeal by the prosecution. After the ruling, the judge has 90 days to write a report on why the court reached its conclusions. The parties then have 45 days to file an appeal to the High Court, which then must schedule it, according to Luiss University law professor Nicola Di Mario.

So there'll be at least four months between the verdict and any possible High Court appeal. A High Court hearing would be very short and dependent on key technical issues and arguments, not a review of the actual trial itself, according to Di Mario.

Where would an acquittal of just Knox and/or Sollecito have left the case of the other?

That was the big question. The co-defendants appealed together, and

while different verdicts could theoretically have been delivered for each of them, this was highly unlikely. A third person convicted of the murder, Rudy Guede, has already appealed to the High Court and had his sentence reduced to 16 years.

Can the defendants ever be tried again for the same crime?

After the case goes to Italy's highest court and assuming it does not overturn the appeals ruling, Knox cannot be tried again for the same crime under the "double jeopardy" rule.

What will happen if a possible appeal by the prosecution to Italy's highest court is successful after Knox has returned to the United States?

If Italy's highest court overturns the lower court's decision, it effectively revalidates the trial court's sentence, which means 26 years in prison for Knox.

Italy would then have to put in a request to U.S. authorities for extradition, and it would remain to be seen if that would be granted or not. Deputy State Department spokesman Mark Toner told CNN: "Questions regarding Italian law and process are not ones we can answer. They need to be addressed to Italian authorities."

"The United States and Italy do have a bilateral extradition treaty, which has been in force since 1984. Questions about possible return to the U.S., extradition request, etc. are too speculative for us to be able to comment."

Does Italian law allow for any civil action by the defendants or by Meredith Kercher's family following a criminal case?

Yes, a civil action for damages took place alongside the original criminal trial. The family of Kercher sought \$36 million in damages from the three co-defendants if they were convicted on the criminal charges. Their acquittal on the criminal charges frees them of civil liability as well.

Did the defendants face any other charges?

Knox also appealed an additional charge for which she was convicted: Defamation of Patrick Lumumba, the club owner whom Knox accused of killing Kercher. He was arrested but released after his alibi checked out. He later sued Knox for libel, winning 40,000 euros (\$54,000) in damages.

The appeals jury upheld that conviction and ordered Knox to pay Lumumba. It also sentenced her to three years in prison, but because she has already been held for four years, she was freed immediately.

This article was written by Peter Wilkinson and published by CNN on October 3, 2011.

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## Venezuela Urges Extradition of Accused Terrorist Posada Carriles from US

McNabb Associates, P.C. (U.S. Extradition Attorneys)

Submitted at 12:01 PM October 4, 2011

On Monday, the Venezuelan Ministry of Public Affairs issued an additional request for the capture of known terrorist Luis Posada Carriles. While Venezuelan authorities are still waiting for the United States to act on a 2005 extradition request to try Carriles for his involvement in the 1976 downing of a commercial airliner, killing all 73 people on board, this week's request comes after Venezuelan prosecutors uncovered his role in, "acts of torture, violation of international laws, illegal detention and physical abuse of prisoners" during his time at the now defunct Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP).

Posada Carriles, DISIP's Chief of Operations during one of the most violent periods of anti-communist repression, currently resides in Miami, Florida.

The new charges against Posada Carriles are the result of ongoing investigations into crimes that occurred during the 1960's, 70's, and 80's by so-called "democratic" governments that held power for 40 years. All close allies of Washington, the bi-party alliance of Democratic Action (AD) and Christian Democrats (COPEI) is said to have authored thousands of kidnappings, tortures, and disappearances of leftist activists in the decades preceding the electoral victory of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

### POSADA'S TERROR REIGN

In a press release issued Monday, Venezuela's Ministry of Public Affairs explained that investigators recently uncovered the case of two women – Brenda Hernandez Esquivel and Marlene del Valle Esquivel – who claim to have suffered "torture, abuse, and illegal detention" at the hands of "Commissioner Basilio", the known alias of Luis Posada Carriles while at DISIP.

According to the two women, on June 3, 1973 a group of state security agents disguised as "employees of the electricity company" arrived at their home in Maracay, state of Aragua. The agents knocked at the door until Jose Sanchez Romero, a friend of the two women, unknowingly opened the door to hostile security forces sent by Posada Carriles to search the home for "subversive elements".

After opening the door, Romero was shot and killed by the unidentified agents.

Fearing for their lives, the two women, three children, and three other men in the home – Luis Eduardo Cools, Francisco Hernandez Cruz and Jose Acosta Garcia – attempted to "turn themselves in peacefully" by waving a white bandana.

The DISIP forces responded by opening fire on the home.

After some time, the two women, three children and Jose Acosta Garcia walked out of the house with their hands in the air, at which time agents gunned down Acosta Garcia.

The women report that agents then threw the children on the floor and physically assaulted them before taking everyone to a clandestine detention center somewhere in the vicinity. Brenda, eight months pregnant at the time, was taken to a holding cell for common criminals while Marlene del Valle was held in a neighboring unit. The following day the women and children were released, at which point they returned to home and found the slain body of Luis Eduardo Cools.

A day later both women were again picked up by state security forces and formally taken to DISIP headquarters in Maracay for questioning. There they met Cuban-born terrorist Luis Posada Carriles, referred to by fellow officers as "Commissioner Basilio". Noticing Brenda was

pregnant, Posada Carriles is said to have told his officers, “the seed must be finished off”, authorizing his men to kick Hernandez repeatedly in the abdomen. After killing her unborn child, security forces made several unsuccessful attempts to drown and kill Brenda.

In the case of Marlene del Valle, Posada Carriles is said to have used a lit cigarette to burn her and her child (six months old at the time) in an attempt to extract information from del Valle on the whereabouts of “subversive elements”. After del Valle insisted she had no information, Carriles choked the infant, used a revolver to simulate shooting both del Valle and the young child, and pretended to pull the trigger suggesting he would soon kill both.

The two women claim they were then transferred to DISIP headquarters in Caracas where they suffered further torture, abuse, and interrogations before being released.

During recent investigations into the illegal conduct of state agencies before the democratic revolution led by President Chavez, both women told public prosecutors that they had withheld this information until now for “fear of reprisals against themselves and their loved ones.”

In an interview this week with Ciudad CCS, Brenda Hernandez Esquivel said that she and Marlene del Valle, “hold no expectations” as to the possible extradition to Venezuela of Posada Carriles. However, she said, the Public Ministry’s request serves to call attention to “the type of murderer the (US) Empire protects”.

#### THE TERRORIST

Cuban-born terrorist Luis Posada Carriles (1928 - ) began his use of torture and violence as a member of Cuba’s security forces during the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista (1952-1958). After Fidel Castro’s revolutionary army overthrew Batista on January 1, 1959, Carriles

and others fled to the United States where they received direct support to try to prevent the revolutionary government from consolidating political, social, and economic reforms on the island.

From 1967 to 1974 Posada Carriles served as Chief of Operations at the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP), a shady security agency feared for its use of violent tactics in supposed “anti-communist” operations against progressive and leftist Venezuelans inspired by the Cuban Revolution.

In 1976, frustrated by Cuba’s increasingly successful social transformations, Posada Carriles and admitted terrorist Orlando Bosch (1926-2011) orchestrated the bombing of Cubana de Aviacion Flight 455. On October 6, the plane was blown up in midair, killing all 73 people on board.

A week later, Posada Carriles, Orlando Bosch, and two others were detained for their involvement in the bombing. In 1983, after eight years in prison, Carriles escaped and fled the country soon after.

After participating in a series of other international incidents, including a failed attempt to assassinate Fidel Castro in Panama, Carriles snuck into the United States in 2005 at which time the Venezuelan government formally requested his detention and extradition so that he finally stand trial for the 1976 bombing.

Instead of acting on the Venezuelan request, US authorities detained Carriles on immigration and perjury charges, ignoring his links to international terrorism. After a Texas court found him innocent of said charges, he was allowed to return home to Miami, Florida.

Last year Francisco Chavez Abarca, a Salvadorian terrorist responsible for a series of hotel bombings in Cuba during the 1990’s, was caught trying to enter Venezuela. Abarca admitted to

having orders to disrupt the country’s National Assembly elections and that Luis Posada Carriles was behind the operation. Apart from “provoking riots” and “political assassination” to disrupt elections, Abarca said plans had been developed to bomb oil tankers traveling between Venezuela and Cuba.

This article was written by Correo del Orinoco and published by the Venezuela Analysis on September 30, 2011.

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## Deaths in 1997 Bring Term of 15 years After Lengthy Extradition Battle

McNabb Associates, P.C. (U.S. Extradition Attorneys)

Submitted at 12:17 PM October 4, 2011

A case that began in 1997 with the killing of two people in Kansas City and prompted a lengthy international extradition fight ended this week with a 15-year prison sentence.

Ralston Wellington pleaded guilty in Jackson County Circuit Court to two counts of voluntary

manslaughter for the Feb. 13, 1997, shooting deaths of John E. Bonner and LaKesha LaMaster. He also pleaded guilty to assault for wounding another person.

He was then sentenced to a 15-year prison term as part of a plea agreement that dismissed the original first-degree murder charges.

Wellington's attorney, Dan Ross, said the plea agreement was a great outcome for his client.

According to court documents, Bonner and LaMaster were innocent victims killed by gunmen who forced their way into a house looking for someone who had stolen \$70,000 from a drug house.

Wellington, 38, was on the run for about six years before he was arrested by authorities in England. He fought extradition for about seven years before dropping the action and agreeing to return to the United States last year.

A co-defendant, Warren Price, also pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter last year and was sentenced to 12 years in prison.

This article was written by Tony Rizzo and published by the Kansas City Star on September 30, 2011.

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