



## INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END IMPUNITY 2014

### MEXICO: 39 print and citizen journalists and writers killed since 2010

(updated 31 October 2014)

#### 2010 (9 killings)

##### 7-8 January 2010



[Valentín Valdés Espinosa](#), co-founder of and journalist for the daily newspaper *Zócalo de Saltillo*. He was abducted on 7 January 2010 and was found dead the following day in Saltillo, Coahuila state. On the night of his murder he reportedly left the newspaper offices with two colleagues. In the centre of town, their car was intercepted by a group of men who forced Valdés and another, unnamed *Zócalo* reporter into a vehicle which then drove away. According to the Coahuila state attorney general's office, Valdés was found dead in front of a hotel in Saltillo early on the morning of 8 January. He had reportedly been tortured and shot several times. A message

was found on his corpse: "This is going to happen to those who don't understand. The message is for everyone." The attorney general's office stated that the murder was carried out by organised crime. Valdés covered local news, including crime.

##### 29 January 2010



[Jorge Alberto Ochoa Martínez](#), editor and publisher of local Guerrero State newspapers, *El Oportuno* and *El Sol de la Costa*. He was killed on 29 January 2010, after being shot several times in the face when leaving a birthday party for a local politician at a restaurant in Ayutla de los Libres. Ochoa, 55, had not reported receiving any threats. According to a colleague, his newspapers rarely covered in depth sensitive stories about drug trafficking or corruption, due to the poor security situation in Guerrero for journalists. However, his family believes it possible that his murder was connected to his work.

## 2 March 2010

[Jorge Rábago Valdez](#), journalist for the daily newspaper *La Prensa* and two radio stations, died in unclear circumstances on 2 March 2010. The state prosecutor's office said that Rábago (49) died of natural causes after suffering an embolism (obstruction of a blood vessel) and falling into a diabetic coma. However, according to some local reporters, Rábago had been stopped by police and badly beaten prior to being admitted to hospital. The state prosecutor has reportedly denied that the reporter was assaulted.  
**Location of murder:** Reynosa, Tamaulipas state

## 12 March 2010

[Evaristo Pacheco Solís](#), reporter for the weekly newspaper *Visión Informativa*, was found dead in Guerrero state on 12 March 2010. Pacheco (33) had been shot several times and his body left by the side of a road near the state capital Chilpancingo.  
**Location of murder:** Chilpancingo, Guerrero state

## 5-10 April 2010

[Enrique Villicaña Palomares](#), columnist for the daily newspaper *La Voz de Michoacán*, as well as a teacher, was kidnapped on 5 April 2010 and found dead in Morelia, Michoacán state, five days later, on 10 April. His throat had been slit. According to reports, Villicaña had reported receiving threats to Michoacán state justice department in late March but the authorities had failed to take any action to protect him.  
**Location of murder:** Morelia, Michoacán state

## 28 June 2010

[Juan Francisco Rodríguez Ríos and María Elvira Hernández Galena](#), husband-and-wife, both journalists, were shot dead in the internet café they owned near their home in Coyuca de Benítez, Guerrero state, on 28 June 2010. They were reportedly shot at close range by two unidentified gunmen who drove up to the café. A few days before the shooting, Rodríguez reportedly took part in an annual convention for Guerrero state journalists in Coyuca de Benítez, during which concern was voiced about growing violence against journalists in Mexico.  
**Location of murders:** Coyuca de Benítez, Guerrero state

## 5-6 July 2010

[Hugo Alfredo Olivera Cartas](#), owner and editor of the Apatzingán-based local daily newspaper *El Día de Michoacán*, went missing on the evening of 5 July 2010 after receiving a phone call and setting off from the newspaper office to cover a story. He reportedly called his wife shortly after leaving and told her to take care of the children. His body was found in the early hours of the next morning in his vehicle in a rural area near Apatzingán; he had been shot three times in the head. The same morning, unidentified individuals reportedly entered the offices of *El Día de Michoacán* and stole computer hard disks and memory storage devices.  
**Location of murder:** Apatzingán, Michoacán state

## 5 November 2010

**Carlos Alberto Guajardo Romero**, reporter with *Expreso* newspaper, was reportedly killed during crossfire between military forces and drug traffickers in the border city of Matamoros. His pickup was reportedly shot at least 20 times as he was heading for the Secretariat of Homeland Security to gather more information. National news outlets said army officers had fired at the journalist's unmarked truck because they mistook him for one of the gunmen involved in the shooting.

**Location of murder:** Matamoros, Tamaulipas

## 2011 (10 killings)

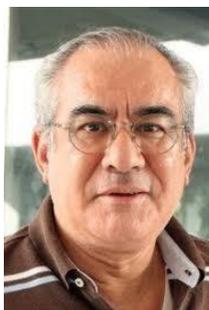
### 1-6 January 2011



**Susana Chávez Castillo**, a 37-year old prominent poet and activist, who led protests against the unsolved murders of women in Ciudad Juárez since the early 1990s. She was active in organisations supporting the families and friends of the deceased women, and took part in poetry readings that she dedicated to the victims. Chávez was found strangled, with a bag over her head, and her left hand cut off, in the city centre of Ciudad Juárez on 6 January 2011. She was identified only five days later. The authorities denied that her murder was related in any way to her activism and poetry, or to organised crime, despite the recent murder and harassment of numerous other local rights defenders. A court in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua State, sentenced Sergio Ruben Cárdenas, Aarón Roberto Acevedo Martínez and Carlos Gibrán Ramírez

Muñoz to 15 years in prison each for Chávez's murder on 3 April 2013. The teenagers allegedly invited her to Cárdenas's house and murdered her while they were drunk and high on drugs, cutting off her hand to try to make the murder look as if it was connected to organised crime. A trail of blood leading investigators to the scene of the crime. Acevedo Martínez was acquitted on appeal of his part in Chávez's murder on 22 July 2013 after the judge ruled that there was insufficient evidence that Acevedo was directly involved in Chávez's murder.

### 8 March 2011 – 1 June 2011



**Noel López Olguin**, columnist for *La Verdad de Jáltipan* newspaper, was abducted in Jáltipan, Veracruz State, by armed men on 8 March 2011. His body was found buried in a shallow grave on 1 June, after an arrested drug gang leader - who was found in possession of López's camera - confessed to killing the journalist. No motive was given for the killing, but it seems likely that it might have been linked to López's journalism. He was sharply critical of local corruption in his articles, and had appealed to the public to report abuses carried out by the authorities and organised crime groups.

### 13 June 2011

[Pablo Ruelas Barraza](#), journalist for the regional daily newspapers *Diario del Yaqui* in Huatabampo and *El Regional de Sonora* in Hermosillo, both in Sonora state was gunned down in Sonora state on 13 June 2011. Ruelas (38), who covered general matters for the two papers, had received death threats from both politicians from both Sonora and criminal groups, according to local media reports.

**Location of murder:** Huatabampo, Sonora state

### 20 June 2011

[Miguel Ángel López Velasco](#), columnist and former editor for the daily newspaper *Notiver*, was shot dead along with his wife and son in their home in Veracruz state on 20 June 2011. López Velasco was a well-known journalist whose column for the daily, *Ma de Nue+*, written under the pseudonym Milo Vela, dealt with politics and security issues; he also wrote about politics and police. Local journalists have suggested that the killings could be in retaliation for a recent column about drug trafficking in the region.

**Location of murder:** Veracruz, Veracruz State

### 3 July 2011

[Angel Castillo Corona](#), press officer for the municipality of Ocuilan and journalist, writing about regional politics for the daily newspapers *Portal* and *Diario de México*, was killed along with his 16-year-old son in Mexico State on 3 July 2011. According to police reports, Castillo and his son, Ángel Castillo Téllez, were driving on the highway between Ocuilan and nearby Tiaguistenco in Mexico State in the early hours of 3 July 2011 when they were attacked by unidentified men in another car. Castillo's son was run over and died immediately, while Castillo passed away in a local hospital after being severely beaten. On 22 August 2011, five men were arrested in connection with their murder; two of whom were sentenced in a juvenile court for the murder of Castillo's son. In May 2013, a 20-year-old man was arrested for Castillo's murder; he was sentenced to 62 years and six months in prison for the aggravated robbery leading to the death of both Castillo and his son in September 2014.

**Location of murder:** Ocuilan, Mexico State

### 24-26 July 2011



[Yolanda Ordaz de la Cruz](#), crime reporter and columnist for the regional daily newspaper *Notiver*, was abducted by gunmen as she left her house on 24 July 2011. Her decapitated body was found two days later, near the building of the newspaper *Imagen*. A note found with the body seemed to connect her murder with that of another *Notiver* columnist, Miguel Ángel López Velasco, who was shot dead along with his wife and son in their home in Veracruz state on 13 July. The note said: *'Friends can also betray you'* and was signed *'Carranza'*. A former traffic police officer named Juan Carlos Carranza Saavedra has reportedly been identified as the main suspect in López's murder. Ordaz, who had worked as a journalist for 20 years, covered the war on drugs and the police beat for *Notiver*. The state attorney general's office stated that investigators were working on the theory that the journalist's murder was

related to her alleged links to organized crime. *Notiver* has strongly denied these allegations and said that Ordaz was killed for her journalism, adding that the newspaper was itself under continuous threats.

#### **24 August 2011**

[Humberto Millán Salazar](#), editor of the online newspaper *A Discusión* and news presenter for Radio Fórmula, was abducted in Culiacán, Sinaloa state on 24 August 2011, and found dead the next day. He was reportedly on his way to present the news at Radio Fórmula when he was intercepted by masked armed men who forced him into a car. His brother was with him at the time but was released uninjured. Following a search operation by the Sinaloa state authorities, Millán's body was found in a field outside Culiacán on 25 August 2011, according to the state attorney general. He had been shot in the head. A lawyer colleague of Millán's, Bersahí Osuna, has said he believes that the journalist was abducted as a result of his criticism of local politicians, notably the current and former state governors.

**Location of murder:** Culiacán, Sinaloa State

#### **31 August-1 September 2011**

[Ana María Marcela Yarce Viveros](#), founder, reporter and head of public relations of the bimonthly political magazine *Contralinea*, was found dead near a cemetery in a park in a poor neighbourhood of the capital Mexico City on 1 September 2011, along with freelance journalist and former Televisa reporter Rocio González Trápaga. They were abducted as they left their office in the city centre the previous night and strangled. Their bodies were found naked with nooses around their necks and their hands tied behind their backs. Two men were arrested on 30 September and 1 October 2011 respectively, suspected of killing the journalists. A third man was arrested in June 2012, suspected of providing the weapons used during the attack; an unnamed youth has also been implicated in their murders. On 19 September 2012 one of the suspects was sentenced to 109 years in prison for their murders and ordered to pay one million pesos in damages along with 94,515 pesos in compensation. The trial of the other suspects is on-going.

**Location of murder:** Mexico City, Federal District

#### **24 September 2011**

[María Elizabeth Macías Castro](#), editor-in-chief of the daily newspaper *Primera Hora* and blogger, was found decapitated in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas state, on 24 September 2011. A note found next to her accused her of denouncing drug violence on social networks and websites such as Nuevo Laredo en Vivo or Nuevo Laredo Live, where members of the public can leave messages indicating to the security forces locations where gangs congregate and sell drugs. The state authorities said that the message had been left by a criminal gang. The note reportedly made reference to the pen name Macías used to blog, *La Nena de Nuevo Laredo* and was signed with the letter 'Z' usually associated with the Zetas cartel. A similar note was found near the bodies of two people discovered hanging from a bridge in Nuevo Laredo on 13 September 2011.

**Location of murder:** Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas state

## 9 November 2011

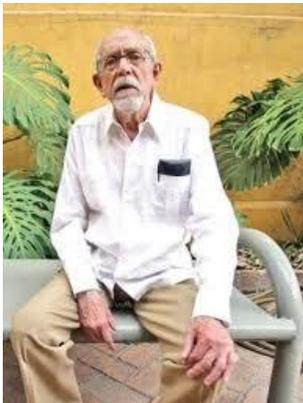
[RASCATRIPAS](#) (pen-name), web site moderator for a site that reporting on narco-related crimes., was found bound and decapitated on 9 November 2011 in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas state. A message was left with the corpse which said: "This happened to me because I didn't understand that I shouldn't report on the internet."  
**Location of murder:** Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas state

## 2012 (10 killings)

### 6 January 2012

[Raúl Régalo Garza Quirino](#), reporter for the weekly newspaper *La Última Palabra*, was gunned down on 6 January 2012 by a gang in Cadereyta, state of Nuevo León. He was shot dead by unidentified gunmen after a car chase near his home. Although he sought refuge in a garage owned by a relative, Garza was unable to escape, and his assailants shot him numerous times. At least sixteen shots were fired during the attack.  
**Location of murder:** Nuevo León State.

### 31 March 2012



[Guillermo Fernández García](#), 79-year old poet and translator, was found dead at his home in Toluca on 31 March 2012. His murderers had bound his feet and hands, and had taped his mouth before killing him with a blow to the head. Computers and other valuables had been left untouched, and the motive for the murder is unknown. He was a noted poet and had published twelve volumes of poetry, including *Visitaciones* (1964), *La palabra a solas* (1965), *La hora y el sitio* (1973), *El reino de los ojos* (1983) and *Imágenes para una piedad* (1991). He was also regarded as one of the Mexico's finest translators of Italian literature and had translated works by Italo Calvino, Antonio Tabucchi, Cesare Pavese and Giuseppe Tomasi de Lampedusa. Two and a half years after his murder, no progress has been made in the investigation.

### 20 April 2012

**Héctor Javier Salinas Aguirre and Javer Moya Muñoz**, respectively director of local news website Futuro.mx and press spokesman for the city of Chihuahua, were shot dead in a massacre at a bar in Chihuahua on 20 April 2012. The two were killed when gunmen burst into La Colorada bar, demanded to know the whereabouts of particular individuals, and then opened fire, killing 15 people. On 16 February 2013, three men were sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of the journalists and 14 others in the La Colorada bar. It is thought that Salinas and Moya were victims of circumstance.  
**Location of murder:** Chihuahua State

**28 April 2012**



[Regina Martínez](#) worked as a journalist for 30 years, ten of which she spent reporting for the investigative news magazine *Proceso*. She was known for her in-depth reporting on the drug cartels and on the links between organized crime and government officials. Police entered Martínez's home in Xalapa on the afternoon of 28 April 2012, following a call from a concerned neighbour. The attending officers found the journalist dead in her bathroom. She had been badly beaten around the face and ribs and had been strangled to death. The day before her murder, Martínez reported on municipal police officers arrested for alleged links to organized crime. The investigation into Martínez's murder has been marred by controversy. After identifying the murder as a crime of passion in late 2012, disregarding any possible link to her work as an

investigative journalist, the authorities charged Jorge Hernández Silva with her murder on 2 November 2012 based on a confession alleged to have been gained through torture. Hernández was convicted on 10 April 2013 and sentenced to 38 years and 60 days in prison; however, he was acquitted by the Veracruz State Supreme Court on 8 August 2013. The Veracruz state prosecutor subsequently announced in a May 2014 press conference that the investigation into Martínez's murder remained open, that the investigation would have to start again from the beginning, and that an arrest warrant had been issued for José Adrián Hernández Domínguez, who remained at large, as of May 2014. Mexican law allows *Proceso* and the special prosecutor for crimes against freedom of expression (FEADLE) to participate fully in the investigation alongside the state authorities; however, both reported being excluded in practice. Neither *Proceso's* appointed reporter nor FEADLE were party to the line of enquiry that led to Jorge Hernández Silva's arrest. Indeed, while the state authorities initially closed the case following Hernández's conviction, the federal authorities kept their own parallel investigation open.

**13 May 2012**



[René Orta Salgado](#), 43-year old former reporter for *El Sol de Cuernavaca* and political activist, was reported missing by his family and friends on 12 May 2012; he was last seen early Saturday morning at a bar in Cuernavaca, the capital of Morelos. His body was found in the trunk of his car on 13 May 2012. A scarf had been taped over his face using industrial adhesive tape. The body showed signs of having been beaten, most notably with blows to the abdomen and head. There were also markings from asphyxiation. Authorities said that no firearms had been used in the killing, nor had any blood been drawn, thus distinguishing this murder from most others. Orta was a vocal supporter of PRI (the Institutional Revolutionary

Party). In December 2011 he set up *Emprendedores Por la Nación* (EPN), a political group supporting Enrique Peña Nieto, the PRI candidate in the forthcoming presidential elections and now President. On 19 May 2012, it was reported that investigations by the Morelos State Attorney's Office were underway; however, PEN has not been able to ascertain whether there has been any progress in the case.

**18 May 2012**



[Marco Antonio Ávila García](#) reported for two regional newspapers, *Diario Sonora de la Tarde* and *El Regional de Sonora*. On 17 May 2012, while waiting at a car wash in Obregon, Ávila was approached by three armed men. According to witnesses, the men asked Ávila if he was a journalist. When Ávila replied that he was, they bundled him into a waiting truck and drove off. Less than 24 hours later, his body was discovered wrapped in a black plastic bag, beside a highway in the northern state of Sonora near the port city of Guaymas. A note signed by a drug cartel was found at the site. His case is thought to be under investigation by the attorney general of Sonora. PEN has not been able to ascertain whether there has been any progress in his case.

**14 June 2012**



[Víctor Manuel Báez Chino](#), crime reporter for the daily newspaper *Milenio El Portal de Veracruz* and editor of the website *reporterospoliciacos.mx*. He was kidnapped by a group of armed men as he was leaving his office late at night on 13 June 2012. The men forced him into a grey van and drove away. Báez Chino's body was later found dumped in a street near where the offices of the newspapers *Oye Veracruz*, *Gráfico de Xalapa* and *Diario de Xalapa* are located. Authorities said a note was attached to Baez Chino's corpse signed by the Zetas. "This is what happens to those who betray us and be clever, Sincerely the Zetas," the letter reportedly said. His murder followed a pattern often seen in attacks on journalists in Mexico. Local and federal authorities

have said they believe Báez Chino to be a victim of organised crime. On 15 August 2012, the Attorney General of Veracruz, Amadeo Flores Espinosa, announced that the authorities had solved the case. He stated that witnesses had identified two members of the Zetas cartel, who had been killed in a shootout with authorities in June, as responsible for the murder. Flores did not elaborate on the case or take any questions. Freedom of expression groups remain skeptical given the state's unwillingness to provide any details to support their announcement.

**14-15 October 2012**



[Ramón Abel López Aguilar](#) (53), director of the website *Tijuana Informativo* and photojournalist, was abducted by an armed group from his home in Tijuana, Baja California, on 14 October 2012. His body was found on a street in Tijuana the next morning; he died of a single gun shot to the head, according to the state attorney general's office. The state authorities are reportedly investigating the murder, including the possibility that the shooting was related to his journalistic work. On 19 October 2012 it was reported

that inconsistencies in information about the circumstances leading up to Lópezq

abduction and the discovery of his body have complicated the investigation. His son-in-law, who also worked for the news site, was under investigation.

### 14 November 2012



[Adrián Silva Moreno](#) (34), freelance journalist and crime reporter for local media outlets including the newspapers *Global México* and *Puntual Puebla*, was shot dead on 14 November 2012. Silva Moreno had been covering an army investigation into the theft of gasoline from a government petroleum company in Tehuacán, an area said to be controlled by organised criminal groups. He reportedly called another journalist to tell him he had witnessed an armed stand-off between soldiers and gunmen and that he had found something important at the scene of the theft

which he would explain later. However, his car was then apparently intercepted and he was shot dead; his body was found with multiple gunshot wounds. His passenger, former municipal policeman Misrael López González, was shot in the head after he fled from the car. Family members and colleagues of Silva Moreno reportedly received threats from unidentified individuals when visiting his body at the body. He is not known to have received threats from organised criminal groups prior to his death. By November 2012 investigators were pursuing organised crime as one of their main lines of enquiry and had found finger prints, suspected to belong to those responsible for the murder, on a truck left 150 metres from the scene. On 29 November 2012, the special prosecutor for crimes against freedom of expression (FEADLE) reportedly commented that Silva's case may be passed on to local authorities because he was not active as a journalist at the time of his murder. She also announced that the sheer number of avenues for investigation made it impractical for her office to investigate the case. No progress is thought to have been made in the case.

### 2013 (3 killings)

#### 3 March 2013



[Jaime Guadalupe González Domínguez](#) (38), editor and reporter for the news website [Ojinaga Noticias](#), was shot dead by a group of armed men in the centre of Ojinaga, Chihuahua state, on 3 March 2013. He was reportedly shot 18 times at close range with large-calibre firearms. Witnesses said that the only thing taken during the attack was González's camera, leading to speculation that he was targeted for photographs that he had taken. The camera is thought to have contained photos of a member

of a criminal gang. Theft has been ruled out as a possible motive for the murder and González's colleagues at Ojinaga Noticias believe that González was targeted for his

journalism. He had received threats previously while working for the local weekly newspaper *Contacto*. Prior to his murder, González had been working on articles about issues affecting people who work on the streets and had been due to publish a second article on the subject before he was killed. Reportedly among the last stories posted on the website were two about the arrest of racketeers and recent murders in Ojinaga.

### 25 June 2013

**Mario Ricardo Chávez Jorge**, founder, director and contributor to the news website *El Ciudadano*, was found dead in Ejido Santa Clara, Tamaulipas state, on 25 June 2013. Chávez's body was discovered partially buried alongside the decapitated corpse of an unidentified female victim not thought to be connected to him. Chávez was kidnapped by a group of armed men as he left a cinema in Ciudad Victoria with his family two weeks prior to the discovery of his body. His girlfriend, who reported him missing on 30 May, reportedly told police that she had received ransom demands over the telephone. According to federal officials, as of August state investigators had not conducted any forensic work at Chávez's home or at the site where his body was found. The federal attorney general's special prosecutor for crimes against freedom of expression (FEADLE), who is conducting a parallel investigation into the case, has stated that she has identified key witnesses but has not yet officially asserted jurisdiction over the case. An investigation carried out by the authorities determined that the motive of the killing was not related to Chávez's journalistic work and closed the case, according to *Diario 19* on 15 January 2014.

### 17 July 2013



**Alberto López Bello** (28), crime reporter for the daily newspaper *El Imparcial* and reporter for *Rádiorama* station's police news programme *Foro Político*, was murdered on 17 July 2013. His body was found on the outskirts of Oaxaca City, Oaxaca, next to that of Arturo Alejandro Franco, variously described as a police informant, police officer and city employee. Both bodies showed signs of gunshot wounds and blunt force trauma. López had recently written several stories about drug dealing in Oaxaca. A joint investigation between the state authorities and the federal attorney general's special prosecutor for crimes

against freedom of expression (FEADLE) concluded that López's journalism was not a possible motive, favouring the theory that an argument broke out between López and a gang associated with organised crime in the bar where he and Franco had been drinking. Four men, who reportedly confessed to the crime following their arrest during a separate murder enquiry, have been identified as the culprits. The authorities are thought to be seeking two other people in connection with López's murder.

## 2014 (7 killings)

23 January 2014



[Miguel Ángel Guzmán Garduño](#) (55), opinion columnist for the daily newspaper *Vértice* and primary school teacher, was found dead at his home in Chilpancingo, capital of Guerrero state, on 23 January 2014. His body, discovered in his bedroom, was reported to have been in an advanced state of decomposition. Statements made by the state authorities indicate that they believe that Guzmán was beaten to death in a suspected robbery, on the basis that a number of electrical items had been removed from his home and his car was also missing. On 24 January 2014 the chief of the National Commission of Human Rights (Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos - CNDH) called on the federal and state authorities to conduct a timely and thorough investigation into Guzmán's murder as an attack on freedom of expression, and launched its own parallel investigation into the killing.

6 February 2014



[Gregorio Jiménez De La Cruz \("Goyo"\)](#) (42), reporter covering the police beat for the newspaper *El Liberal del Sur* and the news agency NotiSur, was abducted by armed men from his home in Coatzacoalcos on 5 February 2014. His body was found in a clandestine grave in Las Choapas, Veracruz State, alongside the body of union leader Ernesto Ruiz Guillen and an unidentified taxi driver. The initial stages of the investigation into Jiménez's abduction were widely reported to be inadequate; however, the interrogation of a man arrested at Coatzacoalcos bus station by members of the Veracruz Investigation Agency (Agencia Veracruzana de Investigaciones - AVI) on 10 February led to the discovery of Jiménez's body and the apprehension of five other suspects, including Teresa de Jesús Hernández. Jiménez's neighbour and owner of a local bar, whom the detained identified as the intellectual author of the crime. In May 2014, the Veracruz state prosecutor announced that he had gathered new evidence against those held in connection with Jiménez's murder, linking them to the killing and other violent crimes. At a press conference, the state prosecutor indicated that the investigation was following three lines of inquiry: a personal dispute with a local bar owner, Jiménez's work as a journalist, and an additional theory where the two other lines of inquiry may be connected. A number of Jiménez's colleagues have questioned the investigation's conclusions, urging that his journalism not be ruled out as a possible motive given the fact that he had written two articles on the disappearance of union leader Ernesto Ruiz Guillen, alongside whom he was found buried.

29 May – 2 June 2014

[Jorge Torres Palacios](#), writer of political column *Nothing Personal* for weekly newspaper *El Dictamen de Guerrero*, correspondent for the newspaper *Novedades*,



former correspondent for Televisa, host of a nightly news programme on Radio y Televisión de Guerrero, and spokesman for the public health department of Acapulco. Torres was kidnapped on 29 May 2014 by 12 armed men driving three vehicles. His body, which reportedly bore marks of torture, was found inside a bag semi-buried in a clandestine grave on 2 June 2014. Early reports indicated the cause of death was asphyxia. The team are reported to be collecting evidence and witness statements. According to news reports, Torres often reported on the region's high level of violent crime. A recent article referred to public anger in Chilpancingo, the Guerrero state capital, and protests against the alleged involvement of public officials in crime, including arbitrary arrests, extortion and abduction. The case is thought to be being investigated by a specialised organised crime unit. Both Torres's father and brother were shot dead in January 2001.

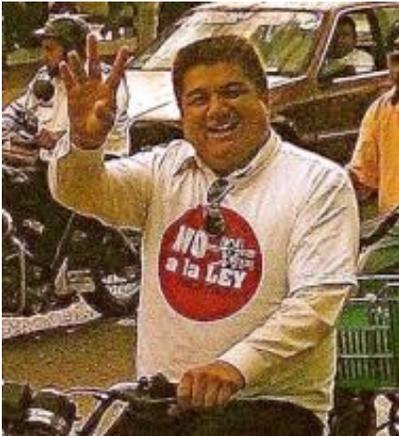
### 11 August 2014

**Octavio Rojas Hernández** (47), crime correspondent for newspaper *El Buen Tono*, based in Veracruz state, and municipal press officer for Cosolapa, Oaxaca state, was shot four times by an as yet unidentified assailant at his home in San Jose Cosolapa, Oaxaca, on 11 August 2014. Rojas had recently returned home from an event in the community of Palma Sola, Oaxaca, when a man knocked on his door to enquire about the sale of a car parked outside. The man fired four shots after Rojas went outside to discuss the sale, hitting him twice in the head and once in the chest and shoulder. According to a [statement](#) by the state attorney general, the State Investigations Agency (*Agencia Estatal de Investigaciones* – AEI) investigators sent to the crime scene recovered four bullet casings from the scene. The statement made no reference to Rojas's work as a correspondent for *El Buen Tono*, causing concern that the authorities will not pursue his journalism as a line of inquiry. His colleagues reportedly believe that his murder relates to his recent articles for the newspaper, including his last article in a series on 'chupaductos' – a cartel-linked gang that reportedly siphons off fuel and oil from illegally tapped pipelines for sale on the black market. In the article, Rojas reported on a military operation against the 'chupaductos' and implicated the Cosolapa chief of police as a member of the criminal gang. The police chief has reportedly since disappeared and is considered a fugitive from justice. Although his article did not include his by-line, Rojas was the only reporter in the Cosolapa area, making it possible to identify him as the author.

### 3 September 2014

**Víctor Pérez Pérez**, 40, journalist for crime magazine *Sucesos*, was shot dead at his home in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua State, after his assailants forced entry to his home on 3 September 2014. According to reports, municipal police had arrested one of his alleged killers by the end of the day. The other is thought to remain at large. No further information regarding the investigation has been released. Pérez's relative and former editor of *Sucesos*, **Candelario Pérez Pérez**, was also shot dead in 2008 (see January-June 2008 case list).

**10 October 2014**



**Jesús Antonio Gamboa Urías (“El Tony Gamboa”)**, editor of the magazine *Nueva Prensa* was found dead in Villa de Ahome, Sinaloa state, on 22 October 2014, 12 days after he disappeared. He was found semi-buried and had sustained multiple gunshots. The Sinaloa state attorney general has reportedly ruled out his journalism as a possible motive, indicating that the killing related to a confrontation with a barmaid, who has been arrested along with her partner. The police were able to locate them after one of the suspects used Gamboa’s credit card. According to reports, Gamboa had a disagreement with the barmaid, who immediately called her partner, who then went to the bar along with several men. Gamboa was reportedly dragged from the establishment and taken behind a local motel where he was shot multiple times. Four others are being sought in connection with his murder.

**15-16 October 2014**

**María del Rosario Fuentes Rubio**, doctor and citizen journalist who tweeted about violence and organised crime under the pseudonym Felina using the @Miut3 account. Fuentes had previously been a contributor to [Valor por Tamaulipas](#) (Courage for Tamaulipas), a website used by citizen journalists to report on criminal activity, and regularly posted to a related Facebook page named [Responsabilidad por Tamaulipas](#) (Responsibility for Tamaulipas). However, she felt forced to stop contributing in 2013 for safety reasons after an unidentified drug cartel offered a reward of US\$44,000 for the identities of Valor por Tamaulipas administrators. Fuentes was reportedly kidnapped by armed men as she left the Tierra Santa clinic in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, where she worked as a doctor, on 15 October 2014. One day later, tweets were sent from her account deterring people from risking their lives and informing about organised crime, and warning them that the cartels were closing in on them. Subsequent tweets exposed Fuentes’ identity and posted two images of her – the first alive, the second apparently dead. As her body has not yet been recovered, the case officially remains open as a kidnapping and is thought to be in the hands of an anti-kidnapping squad. According to a [press statement](#) by the Tamaulipas Attorney General, officials believe that Fuentes’ abduction and probable murder are linked to her work as a doctor. According to the statement, Fuentes had been previously abducted from Hospital Miravalle de Reynosa on 5 October 2014 and bundled into an ambulance where she was forced to treat an assumed gang-member for a gunshot wound. It is unclear precisely when she was released, however, Fuentes quit her job at the hospital three days later.