

**AFTER 99 DAYS OF POPULAR PROTEST IN THE STREETS OF VENEZUELA
AND INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE, LEOPOLDO LÓPEZ HAS BEEN
TRANSFERRED TO HOUSE ARREST**

CARACAS – 99 days of uninterrupted peaceful protest in the streets of Venezuela, paired with intense pressure from the international community against the Venezuelan regime, have resulted in the transfer of Venezuelan opposition leader and prisoner of conscience Leopoldo López to house arrest. After 3 years and 5 months of unjust imprisonment in the Ramo Verde Military Prison, López was transferred in the early hours of Saturday.

During his time in prison, López has been subjected to consistent violations of his fundamental human rights, as evidenced by his inability to communicate with and severe isolation from his lawyers and family members; the cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment, including psychological torture, he experienced; and the stealing of his trial defense materials - all designed to break his will to protest against the current regime.

On the contrary, the leader of Voluntad Popular, who still must serve an unjust sentence of almost 14 years in prison for labeling in 2014 the Maduro regime as a dictatorship and calling for the Venezuelan people to reclaim their democracy, has maintained, even from prison, his call for the Venezuelan people to peacefully protest in a lawful and organized manner in the streets throughout Venezuela until a peaceful, constitutional, and democratic change is achieved.

Public Ombudsman Tarek William Saab, in tweets published on his personal account on June 8th, confirmed that the measure of house arrest was a unilateral decision of the Venezuelan state with no discussion or negotiation with López, his family, or his lawyers.

At the time he was transferred to his home, López had gone more than 90 days without seeing his lawyers, and 32 days under conditions of severe isolation in a tower of Ramo Verde Military Prison.

During López's 41 months of unjust imprisonment and other violations of his fundamental rights, international organizations such as the OAS, the UN, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the European Parliament, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Mercosur, and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, as well as personalities such as Pope Francis, US Presidents Donald Trump and Barack Obama, Presidents Mauricio Macri (Argentina), Pedro Pablo Kuczynski (Peru), Enrique Peña Nieto (Mexico), Juan Manuel Santos (Colombia), Justin Trudeau (Canada), Mariano Rajoy (Spain), Michel Temer (Brazil), Horacio Cartés (Paraguay), Luis Guillermo Solís (Costa Rica), and the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, among many others, have called for his immediate release.

Rica), and former Presidents around the world all tirelessly denounced the irregularities and arbitrariness of López's case.

Contact:

Juan Carlos Gutierrez (Spanish)
juangutierrez@delgadogutierrez.com
+58 412 33 217 44

Jared Genser (English)
jgenser@perseus-strategies.com
+1 202 320 4135