

Release 028 of 2022



The SJP will hold in Ocaña the Acknowledgment Public Hearing of retired military members tried for ‘false positives’ in Catatumbo

- On April 26th and 27th will take place the Acknowledgment Public Hearing of ten public force members, including the retired general Paulino Coronado, four colonels and other five military officers, besides a civilian who worked as a recruiter, all accused by the SJP.
- In the Public Hearing will participate victims from the region and from Soacha.
- It will be broadcast live on the SJP’s website www.jep.gov.co

Bogotá, April 2nd of 2022. The SJP’s Acknowledgment Chamber scheduled for April 26th and 27th in Ocaña, Norte de Santander, the Acknowledgment of Truth and Responsibility Public Hearing of eleven accused in case 03, which investigates ‘false positives’ in Catatumbo.

The decision, adopted by request of the accredited victims in the case, is known after sixteen preparatory meetings on which the Special Jurisdiction has been working with victims, the appearing and the judicial representatives from both parties.

In these restorative meetings the victims requested that the hearing should take place in Catatumbo, an emblematic location in case 03, denominated Murders and enforced disappearances presented as combat casualties by State agents.

Ocaña “is the only place where [the victims] symbolically could feel that it takes meaning for them the holding of this hearing”, warns the Acknowledgment of Truth Chamber through its 036 ruling.

During the hearing, these ten public force members and the third party civilian, which were found most responsible, must pass from the written acknowledgment to a public acknowledgment in front of justice, the victims and the country of war crimes and crimes against humanity on which they were accused by the SJP.

Those appearing are: Brigadier General Paulino Coronado Gámez, former 30 Brigade commander; Colonels Santiago Herrera Fajardo and Rubén Darío Castro Gómez, former 15 Mobile Brigade's (BRIM15) commanders; Lieutenant Colonel Álvaro Diego Tamayo Hoyos, former Ocaña's Infantry Battalion Number 15 'General Francisco de Paula Santander' (BISAN) commander; Lieutenant Colonel Gabriel de Jesús Rincón Amado, former BRIM15's Operations Officer and Major Juan Carlos Chaparro Chaparro, former BISAN's commander.

The SJP also accused the following former Intelligence Center of Ocaña (CIOCA) Officials: Captain Daladier Rivera Jácome and Second Sargent Rafael Antonio Urbano Muñoz; as well as Second Sargent Sandro Mauricio Pérez Contreras, former BISAN's Intelligence Section chief; First Corporal Nestor Guillermo Gutiérrez Salazar, former BRIM15 squad's commander and the third party civilian Alexander Carretero Díaz, who worked as a collaborator of both military structures.

If there is acknowledgement and wholesome, detailed and exhaustive truth by those appearing, the Chamber must produce, after three months, at most, the respective resolution of conclusions before the Acknowledgment of Truth and Responsibility Section from the Tribunal for Peace.