

Colombian high court denies habeas corpus to FARC leader Jesus Santrich



Bogota, April 16 (RHC)--The Superior Court of Bogotá denied on Sunday an appeal for Habeas Corpus filed by the defense of the leader of the Common Alternative Revolutionary Force (FARC), Jesús Santrich, which would lead to his immediate release.

The court also dismissed the request to refer the case to the Special Jurisdiction of Peace, after claiming that no procedure has been initiated on a possible extradition of Santrich to the United States, reported Telesur.

The Habeas Corpus was filed last Friday by Gustavo Gallardo, Santrich's lawyer, who has been detained for a week in the prosecution's bunker at the request of the Washington embassy in Bogotá.

For Gallardo, his client has been the victim of an 'undue prolongation of the effective restriction of freedom.'

According to the leadership of the FARC party, the arrest of Santrich, who is accused of drug trafficking, responds to a fabrication of US justice system with the consent of the Colombian prosecutor's office.

'Until now there is the presumption of a crime, but there is no proof of any,' said FARC leader Pablo Catatumbo, who emphasized that Santrich's detention is illegal.

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