

Former Mexico attorney general to face trial for his role in the Ayotzinapa case



Former Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam at a news conference in Mexico City in December 2014. AP Photo.

Mexico City, August 25 (RHC)- - A Mexican judge on Wednesday ordered a former attorney general to stand trial in the case of 43 students whose murky disappearance in 2014 traumatized the nation.

Jesus Murillo Karam will be tried on charges of forced disappearance, torture, and obstruction of justice, the Federal Judiciary Council said after a court hearing in Mexico City.

He's considered the architect of the so-called historical truth version of events -- presented in 2015 by the government of then president Enrique Pena Nieto -- that was widely rejected, including by relatives.

So far, the remains of just three students from the Ayotzinapa teachers' college in the southern state of Guerrero have been identified.

Murillo Karam is the most senior figure charged yet in connection with the case, which triggered international condemnation.

He was arrested on Friday at his home in an exclusive neighborhood of Mexico City and remanded in custody, with the judge ruling he will remain in pre-trial custody.

The judge also ordered a second, three-month complementary investigation into the case.

President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said on Wednesday that anybody involved in a cover-up must be held to account, including the person who "gave the order."

Arrest warrants were also issued last week for more than 80 other suspects, including military personnel, police officers, and cartel members, prosecutors announced.

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