

GUATEMALA

Norma Cruz



DEATH THREATS FOR SUPPORTING FEMALE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Human rights defender Norma Cruz leads a women's rights organisation, Fundación Sobrevivientes (Survivors' Foundation), in Guatemala City. Since 2008, as a result of her work documenting cases of violence against women, she has repeatedly received death threats, many related to the foundation's provision of legal assistance in the case of a rape victim. The authorities have provided Norma, her family and her office staff with police protection. In 2011 a man was arrested and found guilty of making death threats in 2009. However, no progress has been made in an investigation into further threats made in 2010. Human rights defenders in Guatemala, in particular those working on violence against women, continue to face intimidation and danger.

+ www.amnesty.org.uk/norma



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'We are trying, little by little to move forward. We are trying to improve our country'.

Norma Cruz, November 2013

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Norma Cruz
Fundación Sobrevivientes
12 calle 11-63, Zona 1
Guatemala City
Guatemala



+ **Language:** Spanish or English

+ **Salutation:** Dear Norma / Dear Survivors' Foundation

+ **Suggested message:** 'Con admiración por el trabajo increíble que ustedes están haciendo a favor de tantas niñas y mujeres, y en solidaridad con todas las mujeres que acuden a la Fundación Sobrevivientes.' ('With admiration for the incredible work that you are all carrying out for so many girls and women, and in solidarity with all the women who arrive at the Survivors' Foundation.')

+ The Survivors' Foundation runs a crisis shelter for women and adolescent victims of violence. Materials for making handicrafts would be very useful at the shelter and in the reception area of the office so children waiting with their mothers have something to do. Materials such as crayons, coloured pens, tissue paper, glue, glitter, fabric, etc, would be most welcome.

+ **Date to remember:** 23 November, Norma's birthday

CAN I

- ☑ Send a religious card or message?
- ☑ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ☑ Include my name and address?

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Write to: President Otto Perez Molina
Presidente de la República
Casa Presidencial
6ª Avenida 4-41, Zona 1,
Puera del Centro
Ciudad de Guatemala
Guatemala

Fax: 00 502 2221 4423

Salutation: Dear President / Estimado Sr. Presidente

In your letter: Call on the authorities to ensure that the protection measures in place for Norma and the Fundación Sobrevivientes staff are maintained in line with the high level of risk they face. Remind the authorities that human rights defenders have a right to carry out their activities without any unfair restrictions or fear of reprisals, as set out in the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

Stress that violence against women and girls remains a widespread problem in Guatemala despite some progress in recent years. Call on the president to ensure investigations and prosecutions into these cases advance and result in an improvement in the conviction rate for such crimes. Ask the President to ensure more is done to prevent violence against women and girls, including public information campaigns and addressing the issue in the school curriculum.