

# Free the Cuban Five!

*Please take the opportunity to read this leaflet and learn about five men who were on a mission to stop terrorism and save lives. We hope you will support the campaign to free them.*

## **Protest Rally: 5:00 pm, Mon., Sept. 13 Powell & Market St., San Francisco**

September 2010 marks 12 years of unjust imprisonment of five men known as the “Cuban Five,” after their frame-up on federal charges in Miami, Florida.

Gerardo Hernández, Ramón Labañino, Antonio Guerrero, Fernando González, and René González are five Cuban men who were arrested by the FBI on Sept. 12, 1998. They were charged with conspiracy to commit espionage on the United States government, and were tried in the highly-charged anti-Cuba atmosphere of Miami. They were convicted on June 8, 2001.

The Cuban Five never committed espionage nor did they conspire to do so. Their actions were not directed against the U.S. government. Instead, their mission was fighting terrorism. The Cuban Five infiltrated Cuban-exile terrorist organizations in Miami, which have carried out attacks on Cuba for decades.

By monitoring the terrorists and exposing their plots, the Cuban Five saved the lives of many people who would have been targeted by the terrorists.

### **Background History**

It is important for the American people to know the role that the U.S. government has played in supporting anti-Cuba terrorists, in trying to destabilize Cuban society.

In 1959, after U.S.-backed Cuban dictator Fulgencio Batista was overthrown, Miami became a base of C.I.A. operations against Cuba and its revolution.

Many of Batista’s repressive police and army torturers took refuge in Miami. The C.I.A. recruited and trained 4,000 Cuban rightwing exiles to carry out sabotage and terrorism against the people of Cuba.

These attacks have devastated many Cubans’ lives; 3,478 Cuban people have been killed by bombings, assassinations and biological warfare. Most of the attacks have been waged from Miami.

Cuba’s numerous appeals to Washington to cooperate in stopping the terrorists were ignored.



This is why the Cuban Five came to Miami: to do what the U.S. government refused to do, prevent terrorist crime.

After their arrest, the Five were subjected to massive prejudicial news coverage in Miami; they were illegally held in solitary confinement for 17 months before trial, and the judge denied their requests to move the trial out of Miami. The Cuban Five were convicted on June 8, 2001 and sentenced from 15 years to double life.

### **Freedom Campaign for the Cuban Five**

There is a national and international campaign for the Cuban Five’s freedom. Hundreds of union, community and legal organizations, and Latin American and European parliament members, are actively calling for their freedom. We believe that public awareness and support of their case will ultimately free them.

**The National Committee to Free the Cuban Five** was begun in 2001. We have organized many actions — forums, protests, billboards, lobbying efforts, media work — as well as important legal research that is now part of the Five’s current court appeals.

Our Freedom of Information Act petitions have revealed that prominent Miami journalists who were covering the Cuban Five trial — in an extremely biased way — were receiving secret U.S. government payments, via the propaganda stations Radio and TV Martí. This illegal government influence contributed significantly to deny the Cuban Five their right to a fair trial.

### **What You Can Do to Help**

- Learn more about the Cuban Five: [freethethefive.org](http://freethethefive.org)
- **Join the protest on Sept. 13!** • **Make a donation**
- **Volunteer today!** Call us at **415-821-6545**