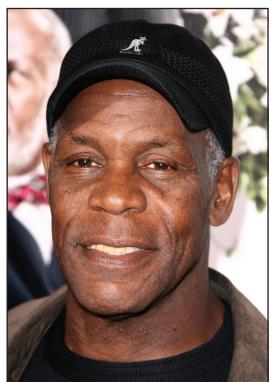
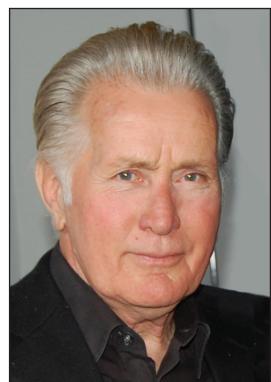


## Martin Sheen, Alice Walker, Danny Glover, Cindy Sheehan, more personalities record video messages calling on President Obama to free the Cuban Five



Working with the Italy-Cuba National Friendship Association, the National Committee recorded important video messages of prominent individuals, including Martin Sheen, Alice Walker, Cindy Sheehan and former Colombian Senator Piedad Córdoba, who called on President Obama to free the Cuban Five without delay. The Italy-Cuba Association worked arduously to video and collect a total of 55 videos of U.S., Italian, Cuban and other well-known international figures. The videos were launched on Nov. 16, 2013 at the 9th Colloquium in Holguín, Cuba. Videos of the personalities pictured above are available on our Website in English, and all 55 videos can be downloaded in English, Spanish and Italian at: [www.vitadura.it](http://www.vitadura.it)

### Get Involved with Us Today! The Cuban Five need all our Support!

There are so many things that you can do to help, just call or write us, to let us know what you would like to do to help, whether helping organize an event, volunteering with us, calling your friends and holding a house meeting, contacting your Congressperson, assisting us in research, making a much-needed donation of any amount. The efforts of thousands of individuals across the United States and around the world have created much more awareness of the Cuban Five and helped build active opposition to their unjust imprisonment.

#### Some of our upcoming projects in 2014

- **Organizing Law School** and University forums in the U.S.
- **Recruiting Youth** as Summer Interns
- **Ongoing research** to expose the Government's illegal payments to Miami journalists
- **Publishing a book in the U.S. of Gerardo Hernández's cartoons, "Humor from my Pen"** in collaboration with the Ukrainian Free the Five Committee
- **Organizing more exhibitions of Antonio Guerrero's paintings**
- **Press conferences** and extensive media work as political and legal developments occur
- **Personal support** to the Five, through daily New York Times subscriptions, books and other materials, emergency alerts, etc.
- **Mobilizations**, rallies, art exhibit expositions, supporting the London Commission of Inquiry, Five Days for the Five, and the International Conference in Solidarity with Cuba



### Please make a donation today!

All our work is made possible by the donations of supporters; all our work is volunteer. Please make a generous donation today. You can mail a check to the National Committee at the address below, or make a tax-deductible donation (\$50 and over) to Progress Unity Fund at the same address.

National Committee to Free the Cuban Five • 2969 Mission St., San Francisco CA 94110  
415-821-6545 • [www.freethefive.org](http://www.freethefive.org) Facebook/FreethetheFive freethefive\_us

## National Committee to Free the Cuban Five



Heroes of the People — Free Them All Now!



Olga Salanueva and René González in Holguín during the 9th International Colloquium for the Cuban Five.

### In February 2014, Fernando González will be released from U.S. prison!

Fernando González is due for release in late February from the federal minimum security prison in Safford, Arizona, after completing his unjust sentence of 19 years. He is anxious to return home to Cuba, to his wife Rosa Aurora, his mother Magali and all his family, so he has abandoned the appeals which the remaining three of the Cuban Five have pending. Hopefully then, Fernando can return home immediately and not be detained any longer by U.S. authorities. Fernando looks forward to joining René, to speak out, mobilize and continue fighting for the freedom of Gerardo Hernández (double life sentence), Ramón Labañino (30 years) and Antonio Guerrero (21 years, 10 months). This means we must all work with even more resolve to demand that all Five be freed immediately. Every day the U.S. government holds them prisoner is an absolute violation of their rights. Now more than ever: Obama, Free All Five Now!



### René González calls for united and determined struggle for the Five

Holguín, Cuba, Nov. 15, 2013 — It was a long road to freedom for Cuban Five hero René González, who endured 13 years in U.S. prison and almost two years of forced probation in the United States, for the “crime” of protecting his people of Cuba from U.S.-sponsored terrorism.

Yet, he retains that exceptional spirit and optimism that was never dampened while imprisoned.

That was evident to the 278 activists from 51 countries who heard him speak today at the ninth “International Colloquium for the Cuban Five” here in the eastern Cuban city of Holguín.

René’s return home to Cuba has given a major morale boost to the Cuban people and the Five’s supporters worldwide, for the ongoing freedom campaign for all the Cuban Five.

René recalled his time in prison to urge all to fight the injustice of his four brothers’ imprisonment.

“I was 13 years in prison. I believe that one uses certain mechanisms to confront that situation, mechanisms to grow with, even in the worst circumstances — as I have always said — to leave prison better than when I entered. And one mechanism that I always used was not to count the time.

“That is what is happening to my four brothers. They are strong men, with a high morale that has been tested time and again. They will always rise above their accusers, all those corrupt judges. They persevere in a way that their accusers can never understand.

“But they don’t deserve to be in prison counting time, and we need to get them out.”

Many proposed actions were discussed and adopted for the coming year, including university and Law school forums to reach out to young audiences; an important International Commission of Inquiry into the Case of the Cuban Five, in London, March 7-8; the third Five Days for the Five, Washington DC, June 4-11, and the third International Conference in Solidarity with Cuba, Havana, Oct. 27-31, to bring together thousands of people from around the world. If the Cuban Five are not all home in Cuba by then, they will of course be a major focus of that major event, sponsored by the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples, ICAP.

# Our Freedom of Information Act research yields vital information for Five's appeals

For five years now, the National Committee to Free the Cuban Five has worked with The Partnership for Civil Justice Fund — a progressive legal foundation in Washington — to expose and document the massive U.S. government misconduct in the Cuban Five's trial by its illegal payments to Miami journalists.

In January 2009, the National Committee filed its first Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) petition demanding that the Broadcasting Board of Governors and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting reveal the names and contracts of Miami reporters who were receiving secret pay from the U.S. government while they covered the Cuban Five trial in a highly prejudicial manner.

Although they posed as "independent" reporters, dozens of Miami journalists were in effect acting as U.S. government agents. This was critical information unknown to the Cuban Five's defense team and the trial judge. The due process rights of Gerardo Hernández, Ramón Labañino, Antonio Guerrero, Fernando González and René González, were violated, their fundamental right to a fair trial denied.

This constitutional violation is a key component of the Five's Habeas Corpus appeals. As attorney Martin Garbus states in his Memorandum for Gerardo Hernández,

"... the Government's misrepresented and clandestine-paid journalists were fundamentally committed to do whatever they could to secure the conviction of [the Five].... The Government paid these propagandists large sums of money, day after day, year after year, because the Government believed monies were being successfully used to convince the jury to convict. The five-year propaganda effort, with far more than a thousand articles, television, and radio shows, was relentless."

Every step of the way, the PCJF has filed numerous appeals and lawsuits to help the National Committee wrest vital information from Washington, in order to prove the Cuban Five were irreparably harmed by government misconduct.



"The National Committee to Free the Cuban Five and the Partnership for Civil Justice Fund are critically important to our legal efforts, in their relentless search for information proving a gross and unprecedented violation of the Cuban Five's right to a fair trial."

— Martin Garbus, Cuban Five attorney



As one of the original trial attorneys for the Five, I am deeply saddened that they remain incarcerated, separated from the families they love and the homeland they cherish. The efforts made by the National Committee to Free the Cuban Five to make people aware of this injustice is essential to achieving their release, allowing them to return to their home and families.

— Bill Norris, Cuban Five attorney



It is impossible to overstate the work of the National Committee team in uncovering one of the greatest travesties of government interference with the right of defendants to a fair trial in an unprejudiced venue. Without their tireless efforts we would not be in a position to show the terrible injustice that was promoted through the extraordinary secret payments to journalists. It shows just how dirty the government's hands can get to obtain an unjust conviction of men who are innocent of the serious charges brought against them.

— Richard Klugh, Cuban Five attorney



When the BBG and OCB persisted in refusing to release the contracts, *Liberation* newspaper filed a supporting FOIA. As a result, more than 2,000 pages of contracts were released to *Liberation*. These revealing files can be viewed on [ReportersforHire.org](http://ReportersforHire.org).

The information we have gathered has been extremely valuable to the Five's attorneys, who have incorporated our findings into the Habeas Corpus appeal briefs.

In September 2013, the U.S. State Department was ordered by the Federal District Court in Washington to release to *Liberation* more requested documents.

As of November 2013 the National Committee has filed a new Freedom of Information Act petition with



Mara Verheyden-Hilliard, executive director, explains the PCJF's successful lawsuit against the U.S. Department of State to the UDC Law School student body.

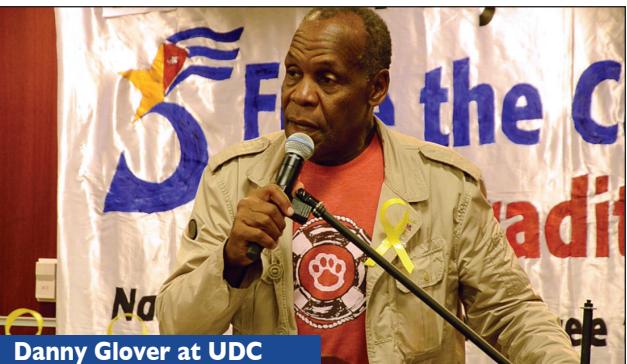
the assistance of PCJF.

Our investigative efforts will continue as long as necessary. We hope to count on your support in the coming weeks and months!

## 2014: Focus on Universities, Law Schools

A major priority for 2014 in our campaign for the Cuban Five's freedom is to continue building awareness and support among students and youth, in Universities, Law Schools, and High Schools. It is vital that more and more people in the United States learn of the Cuban Five: their mission to protect people against terrorism and their unjust prosecution and imprisonment by Washington.

The year 2013 was a great step forward, with our organizing in several states, from Washington DC to North Carolina to Texas to Pennsylvania to New York State. Many hundreds of students and faculty learned about the Cuban Five. If you are in school and wish to organize an event, or have University contacts and wish to help, call us! Our website [FreetheFive.org](http://FreetheFive.org) has videos of some of the events, and a wealth of information on the case.



Danny Glover at UDC



Institute for the Study of the Americas



UDC Law School audience



UDC Student Organizers



Texas Tech organizers



Sarah Lawrence students

**Washington, DC — Sept. 13, 2013:** The University of the District of Columbia Law School hosts a forum of over 200 students and faculty, featuring attorney Richard Klugh and Danny Glover. The Black Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Latino/a Law Student Association, Black Men's Law Society, the UDC Criminal Justice Society and youth from the National Committee and ANSWER Coalition worked together to make the event a big success.

**Lubbock, TX — Apr. 12, 2013:** Texas Tech University Political Science Department and "TTU Student Democrats" host a forum on the Cuban Five, with National Committee coordinator Gloria La Riva as keynote speaker; the first-ever Cuban Five event in that region of Texas. At right: the student organizers, with Professor Alejandro Tirado, third from right.

**Chapel Hill, NC — Oct. 24, 2013:** The University of North Carolina Law School and The Institute for the Study of the Americas host an evening forum and noon lecture, the first time a Cuban Five event is held in North Carolina. Left to right, ISA director and renowned Cuba historian Louis Pérez, Jr.; UNC Law Professor Deborah Weissman; U. of Minnesota Law Professor Jane Kirtley; Cuban Five attorney Bill Norris; Gloria La Riva, National Committee.

**Philadelphia, PA — Oct. 28, 2013:** Temple University Journalism Dept. Professor Linn Washington hosts a Cuban Five forum, with Five attorney Richard Klugh and ANSWER activist Eugene Puryear.

**Havana, Cuba — Nov. 11, 2013:** Meeting with U.S. exchange students of Sarah Lawrence College about the Cuban Five's freedom struggle.