



CANCILLERÍA

Embajada de Colombia en Estados Unidos

S- 1939

Washington, December 10, 2018

Christopher J. Smith

Acting Associate Director
Office of International Affairs
Criminal Division
U.S. Department of Justice
1301 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Associate Director Smith:

The Government of Colombia has been closely following the case of Andres Arias, case No. 18-14328, who is currently incarcerated in the State of Florida.

The Government of Colombia requests the consideration of Mr. Arias' release on bail while his appeal is pending in this case. He does not pose a risk of flight and, thus, his incarceration is unnecessary. Moreover, his appeal raises substantial issues in his process, as also stated recently by the United Nations Human Rights Committee.

The Government of Colombia would appreciate the rapid implementation of the steps necessary to ensure Mr. Arias may be released on bond, so that he can spend time with his wife and young children, especially during this holiday season. Mr. Arias does not pose a flight risk and, solely based on humanitarian grounds, his immediate release will have a great impact on his family and children.

Sincerely,



Francisco Santos Calderon
Ambassador of Colombia