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## Family of Víctor Jara Seeks Truth for 1973 Killing Under Pinochet

The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) filed a brief yesterday in our historic case <u>Jara v.</u>
<u>Barrientos</u>, accepting the defendant's motion to set aside a default judgment and agreeing not to oppose the removal of the default judgment against <u>former Pinochet Lieutenant Pedro Pablo Barrientos Nuñez</u>, accused of torturing and killing Chilean folksinger and activist <u>Víctor Jara</u>. The default judgment was made on November 20, 2014, when the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida had found Barrientos liable for torture, extrajudicial killing and crimes against humanity in connection with Mr. Jara's death after CJA and Chadbourne & Parke, LLP filed a case against him in September 2013 and Barrientos failed to appear before the court. The court has now suspended the damages trial scheduled for February 23, 2015, pending the petition from Barrientos to remove the default judgment.

The family of Mr. Jara welcomes Barrientos's motion, which, if granted, would allow the case to proceed to a full trial and bring to light the events that transpired surrounding their loved one's death. Víctor Jara was detained, tortured, and killed at the infamous Chile Stadium during General Augusto Pinochet's coup in 1973. CJA Legal Director Kathy Roberts said: "With this case, we hope to shed light on what happened at Chile Stadium in the first days of Pinochet's coup, as these events have remained shrouded in mystery for over 40 years. CJA's case, along with the work of Chilean prosecutors who have indicted Barrientos, will finally provide judicial acknowledgement to the victims of Chile Stadium."

On behalf of the Jara family, CJA and co-counsel Chadbourne & Parke, LLP filed a civil suit against Barrientos on September 4, 2013. The complaint alleges that Barrientos, who currently lives in Deltona, Florida, tortured and executed Mr. Jara during the mass detention of thousands of intellectuals, political leaders and perceived political supporters of the Allende government at Chile Stadium immediately after Pinochet's coup. The district court will likely schedule a full trial against Barrientos for later this year.

## About the Center for Justice and Accountability

CJA is a San Francisco-based human rights organization dedicated to deterring torture and other severe human rights abuses around the world and advancing the rights of survivors to seek truth, justice and redress. CJA uses litigation to hold perpetrators individually accountable for human rights abuses, develop human rights law, and advance the rule of law in countries transitioning from periods of abuse. <a href="https://www.cja.org">www.cja.org</a>

## **About Chadbourne & Parke**

Chadbourne & Parke is an award-winning international law firm, which includes a globally recognized team of Public International Law & International Dispute Resolution lawyers who have extensive experience in advising and litigating in relation to all aspects of public international law and related domestic court proceedings, including international commercial arbitration, international investment arbitration, international human rights claims, the law of the sea, and international humanitarian law. For additional information on Chadbourne & Parke, please visit <a href="http://www.chadbourne.com/pil/">http://www.chadbourne.com/pil/</a>