

## **METRO NEWS BRIEFS: NEW JERSEY;** **Former Mexican Official Still Pushing for Asylum**

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### **Body**

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A **former Mexican** deputy attorney general is pressing an **asylum** claim to avoid being sent back to his homeland, where he faces criminal charges of concealing evidence in his brother's murder.

Mario Ruiz Massieu, once a top narcotics prosecutor, maintains that he will be persecuted and possibly tortured if he is returned to Mexico, said his lawyer, Robert Frank.

The **Mexican** Government has accused Mr. Ruiz Massieu, who remains under house arrest at an undisclosed location in **New Jersey**, of obstructing the investigation into the 1994 assassination of his brother, Jose Francisco Ruiz Massieu, the No. 2 **official** of the ruling party.

On Monday, an immigration judge in Newark is to schedule further hearings in the four-year-old case, which has frustrated the **Mexican** and United States Governments, both of which have sought Mario Ruiz Massieu's extradition.

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