

National Press Club Newsmaker Program
Media Advisory

Wife of Imprisoned Venezuelan Opposition Leader Leopoldo López Speaks at National Press Club on Eve of His Trial

Washington, DC - Lilian Tintori, wife of imprisoned Venezuelan political activist Leopoldo López, former mayor of the Chacao district of Caracas and the leader of the Popular Will opposition party, will speak at a National Press Club Newsmakers news conference on **Monday, July 21** - two days before Lopez is scheduled to go on trial in Caracas - and release a major report examining the charges against her husband and placing them in the context of the domestic political situation in Venezuela.

A popular political figure, López was outpolling President Hugo Chavez before Chavez's death last year - and López was barred from holding public office. He was one of the leaders of protests in Caracas earlier this year, where security forces abused the rights of protestors and imprisoned thousands. He was arrested on February 18 on what Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and other international human rights groups have condemned as politically motivated, bogus charges. He will be tried on charges of public incitement, damage to property, fire damage and "association for conspiracy."

Tintori, along with her international lawyer Jared Genser, will discuss the case and release a major report examining it in substantial detail. Although López repeatedly called for non-violent protests, Venezuela's government is arguing in court that he subliminally encouraged protestors to engage in violence. He faces 10 years imprisonment.

When:

Monday, July 21 at 10 a.m.

Where:

The National Press Club's First Amendment Lounge, on the 13th Floor of the National Press Building, 529 14th St. NW, Washington DC 20045.

Who:

Like all Newsmaker events, this news conference is open to credentialed press and NPC club members, free of charge. No advance registration is required.

Contact:

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