

## **Puget Sound Chapter Coalition of Black Trade Unionists**

PO Box 18847, Seattle, Washington 98118

### **Support for the Campaign to Free Nestora Salgado**

May 29, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Puget Sound Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) is proud to have been one of the first labor organizations to endorse the Freedom for Nestora campaign and to have played a key role in obtaining the support of the Washington State Labor Council and of CBTU's National Executive Board.

A number of CBTU leaders were delegates to the 2014 International Convention of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. They helped convince that 1.6 million-member organization to go on record expressing its alarm over "the abuse of Ms. Salgado's human rights and due process rights" by Mexican authorities and urging "the U.S. State Department to take immediate and rigorous action to secure Ms. Salgado's release."

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists was founded in 1972 to promote the interests and leadership of Black workers within the U.S. labor movement. It consists of members from more than 50 international and national unions with 50 chapters across the country.

As elected coordinator of the Olinalá Community Police Force, Ms. Salgado was fighting to eradicate political corruption in her home town in Mexico. She represents the best values of community service and deserves to be rewarded, not punished, for her good deeds and personal sacrifice.

It is imperative that the U.S. Secretary of State intervene now to free Ms. Salgado, a U.S. citizen, before she pays the ultimate price for exercising her right to advocate for the poor and working people of her community.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Thomas", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ted Thomas, President  
Puget Sound Chapter  
Coalition of Black Trade Unionists