



# CUBAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cuba We Hear You, We Are Listening

The Cuban American Bar Association (CABA) stands with the brave men and women of Cuba crying out for liberty. For more than six decades, the Cuban people have struggled against the bonds of a repressive government that denies them fundamental rights such as the right of free speech and assembly. In these historic days, Cubans across the island have sprung free of these bonds—at great peril—to exercise these rights and peacefully demand freedom and the rest of their basic human rights that should be inalienable.

As the world bears witness to their bravery, we must also acknowledge the costs of their sacrifice. In the last 24 hours, peaceful protestors have faced a brutal response from the Cuban government, which has stopped at nothing to stifle the dissent of the Cuban people, in direct violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The regime has attempted to strip Cubans of their ability to disseminate and receive information not sanctioned by the government, it has cut off access to impartial media outlets, it has caused electrical and telephone outages to deny Cubans access to the internet and to means of communication, and it has confiscated and destroyed cellphones of Cuban citizens so that their messages cannot escape the confines of the island.

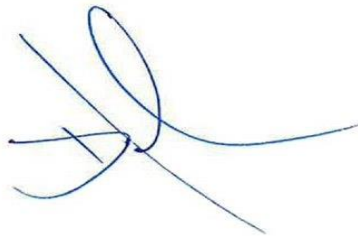
The Cuban government has resorted to violence. Peaceful demonstrators have been beaten and killed in the streets by Cuban law enforcement and military actors. The government has fired into crowds of the demonstrators, killing and wounding those who cry for freedom and denied the injured the benefit of medical treatment. Unarmed Cuban citizens have been detained, arrested, beaten and killed merely for expressing their discontent in the public arena. And yet... the Cuban people persist.

Today CABA calls upon the United States of America and the international community to hold Cuba's repressive regime accountable for its actions. It has denied international humanitarian aid to its people, delayed medical treatment and care to its citizens in the midst of a pandemic, devalued its currency, and failed to provide its people with access to adequate life-sustaining nourishment. Most egregiously of all, the Cuban regime has met the peaceful demonstrations of its discontented people with brutal and unrelenting force—declaring war against its own citizens.

We are heartened by President Biden’s recognition of the bravery of the Cuban people and their “clarion call” for freedom from the grip of a regime that has subjugated them for decades, denying them health, liberty, and safety. That is simply not enough; the call demands a response. Despite efforts to subdue them, the Cuban people have resolved to demand the same freedoms upon which our country was founded—what Samuel Adams called “our unalterable resolution to be free.” The United States must answer the clarion call of the Cuban people with unequivocal support for their resolve to be free.

The world is watching Cuba. As an organization, CABA will continue to amplify the voices of the Cuban people, providing them with a platform to disseminate their calls for liberty, freedom, and international assistance. Those who stand for liberty should not and do not stand alone. We join the voices of our Cuban brothers and sisters demanding freedom.

Cuba, we hear you, we are listening, and we will amplify your voices in the hopes that the world will hear us and that those that profess to love liberty will come to your aid.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Dax Bello', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

A. Dax Bello, Esq.  
President  
Cuban American Bar Association

