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Guainía Taíno Tribe of the US Virgin Islands

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Presencia Taína TV

Kasibahagua Taíno Cultural Society

Opia Taíno, St. Thomas



# **United Confederation of Taino People**

Borikén (Puerto Rico) • Haiti / Kiskeia (Dominican Republic) • Barbados
 • Bimini (United States) • Virgin Islands • Kuba • Guadeloupe

April 29, 2023

Taigüei (Greetings):

It is has come to our attention that a serious criminal accusation involving a minor was recently filed against a member of the "Jibaro Can community," Rafael Báez Adorno, also known as "Cacique Hurakán."

As we understand from public news reports, there is a warrant issued for his arrest and he has not turned himself over to the Puerto Rican authorities.

It is the position of the United Confederation of Taíno People (UCTP) that accused persons are innocent until proven guilty and while we understand the current justice system is flawed, we call on those close to Mr. Báez Adorno to urge him rethink his situation and turn himself over to the authorities immediately.

The United Confederation of Taíno People condemns violence of any form against women and minors. These are criminal actions that also violate the cultural norms of the Taíno Peoples.

We trust the judicial process will prevail in this case and all those adversely affected will move toward healing and find closure.

Respectfully submitted,

## R. Múkaro Agüeibana Borrero

R. Múkaro Agüeibaná Borrero, President, UCTP; Kasike, Guainía Taíno Tribe, Borikén & the Virgin Islands

## 7ai Anayuisa Pelli

Tai Ana Yuisa Pelli International Relations and Human Rights Officer, UCTP; Nitiano and Vice-Chair, Guainía Taíno Tribe, Borikén

CC: UCTP Governing Board