



Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti *Bureau des Avocats Internationaux*



BAI & IJDH Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2013

Who We Are

Your Generosity Keeps Us Fighting for Justice

The Bureau des Avocats Internationaux (BAI), the largest and most successful public interest law firm in Haiti, and the Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti (IJDH), a Boston-based human rights nonprofit, work with the people of Haiti in their non-violent struggle for the consolidation of constitutional democracy, justice, and human rights by pursuing legal cases, distributing information on human rights conditions in Haiti, and cooperating with human rights and solidarity groups in Haiti and abroad.

Follow [@BAIhaiti](#) and [@IJDH](#) on Twitter and Like and Share our [Facebook](#) page.

Duvalier Prosecution

Jean-Claude Duvalier must not be allowed to evade justice in Haiti

Former Haitian dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier's case for crimes against humanity is currently up for appeal. BAI and IJDH lawyers are working hard to help a group of survivors and families of victims of torture, illegal executions and enforced disappearances during Duvalier's time in power (1971–1986) request that the Court overturn a previous decision not to investigate the former leader's alleged responsibility for the crimes due to expiration of statute of limitations. IJDH live tweeted from the court last week

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Recent Articles and Reports

[A Legal Solution for Haiti](#) MA Lawyers Weekly Highlight on IJDH Director Brian Concannon

[How Human Rights Can Save Haiti](#) By Fran Quigley, JD, Indiana University

[Justice Undone](#) By Alok Pokharel, IJDH Legal Intern

[A System Put to the Test](#) By Brian Concannon, IJDH Director

[Conveyors Recognizes Third Anniversary of Devastating Haitian Earthquake](#) Press Release

and the New York Times quotes us.

“Inter-national human rights standards are very clear in cases such as this. Crimes including torture, executions, arbitrary detention and enforced disappearances are not subject to a statute of limitations and the alleged perpetrators cannot benefit from pardons nor amnesties,” said Javier Zúñiga, Special Advisor at Amnesty International, “With the case of Jean Claude Duvalier, it is the whole credibility of the Haitian justice system which is at stake. Only by respecting the procedures in the appeal case . . . will the Court be able to demonstrate the professionalism and independence of the Haitian justice system.”

Jean-Claude Duvalier returned to Haiti from 25 years exile in France in January 2011. He was then indicted by the Haitian authorities for embezzlement, theft of public funds, and crimes against humanity – including torture, executions, arbitrary detention and enforced disappearances – carried out between 1971 and 1986.

To learn more about the Duvalier Prosecution, [click HERE.](#)

Cholera

A Step in the Right Direction

Since October 2010, over 8,000 Haitians have been killed by the deadly cholera epidemic that was brought to Haiti by UN troops. With your help, IJDH and BAI are getting justice for the cholera victims.

You and over 28,000 individuals (and counting!) signed a [petition](#) launched by Oliver Stone calling on UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon to respond justly to the UN’s responsibility for the cholera. Our fight for justice was endorsed by the [Boston Globe](#), and recently covered by [NPR](#) and the [BBC](#).

Thanks to you, all this pressure is working. On December 11, 2012 Secretary-General Ban announced that the UN would join the \$2.2 billion Cholera Free Hispaniola Initiative, which aims to eliminate cholera through investments in healthcare, public education, and clean water and sanitation infrastructure. The announcement is an important step- if implemented, it will save 4,000 lives per year. But it is only 10% funded. We need to keep applying pressure until poor Haitians are drinking clean water.

To learn more about Cholera Accountability Project , [click HERE.](#)

Immigration

Forty-Eight Civil Society Groups Appeal to UN Secretary-General for Response to Haiti Cholera Claims

Press Release

Organizational Updates

We are proud to announce that the Boston Network for International Development has chosen IJDH as its [featured organization](#) for the month of February! BNID connects organizations in the Greater Boston area through events, mailing lists, social media, and job and internship opportunities to discuss and promote international development. We are very grateful of the support we have received from BNID and encourage our supporters to check them out. For more information on this wonderful organization: <http://bnid.org>.

New Website Launch

Both IJDH and the wonderful design team from New York City College of Technology, CUNY led by Professor Dan Wong have been working diligently to create a brand new website experience.

We are working on the final touches of the newly designed website, and are planning to debut the site this spring. Keep checking Facebook and Twitter for the latest updates.



Get Involved

Looking for a way to become involved with IJDH? Now’s your chance to host your very own screening of [Baseball in the Time of Cholera!](#) Invite friends, family and coworkers to watch this award-winning film and discuss the cholera epidemic that is still running rampant in Haiti. Interested? [Click HERE](#) or contact amy@ijdh.org for more information.

Immigration Advocacy

On October 1, 2012, the DHS extended Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians in the US to July 22, 2014, protecting Haitian nationals who came to the US in the wake of January 2010's devastating earthquake from deportation. Haitians with TPS had two months to re-register, but Hurricane Sandy, which struck in late October, shut down the administrative infrastructure of regions where many Haitians in America reside. Thanks to the collective work of IJDH and a broad range of advocates, US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced on December 27, 2012 that they would extend the re-registration period to January 29, 2013. This extension helped many Haitians follow the procedures that allow them to live and work in the United States.

To learn more about our Immigration Advocacy, [click HERE.](#)

RYOT Matching Gifts

Help us raise \$5,000 by tomorrow!

RYOT News is matching all donations made to IJDH through their site from now through Friday 2/15 at 3:00pm EST. This is the perfect opportunity to make your gift of \$10 become \$20... \$25 become \$50... and \$100 become \$200. It all adds up--supporters like you donated \$1270 so far, which doubles to \$2,540! Please help us raise \$5,000 by tomorrow at 3pm EST! Donate here:

<http://www.ryot.org/partners/institute-for-justice-democracy-in-haiti>

Thank you for supporting the fight for justice!

Quick Links

[Our Website](#) [Donate Now](#) [Subscribe](#) [Volunteer](#) [Events](#)

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FILM SCREENING

Baseball in the Time of Cholera



- **Where:** *Anywhere you want!*
Your living room, theater, church basement, etc.
- **When:** *December, January, or February*
- **WHY?**
To raise money to help people in Haiti get clean water, justice and compensation, and an apology to restore their dignity
To keep the Bureau des Avocats Internationaux and Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti legal team fighting on the front lines to stop Haiti's cholera epidemic.
- **How?**
To join this fight and host a screening, please E-mail : Amy@ijdh.org



BE AN ADVOCATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.
HOST A SCREENING TODAY.

Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti
www.ijdh.org