CubaNet journalist Roberto Quiñones has been in prison for seven months

*The independent, Cuba-based organization Association for Freedom of the Press -Asociación Pro Libertad de Prensa (APLP)- has issued a press release demanding his freedom.*

Miami, United States. – On Saturday, April 11th, it will be seven months since lawyer and CubaNet journalist Roberto Quiñones Haces has been in prison after being sentenced to a one-year jail term and brought to the Guantanamo provincial prison on September 11, 2019.

The Association for Freedom of the Press –*Asociación Pro Libertad de Prensa*, APLP, an independent, Cuba-based independent organization made public its demand for the immediate release of Quiñones:

**The Cuban government must allow him to return to his family**

*On August 5th, 2019, Quiñones Haces was brought to trial before the municipal court in the City of Guantanamo for the alleged crimes of “disobedience” and “resisting arrest”.*

*Quiñones Haces was arrested on April 22, at which time he was beaten by one of the arresting police officers inside a government vehicle. He suffered lesions that were undeniable at that moment. Because the trial offered no legal guarantees and due to the partiality of the court, Quiñones described the trial as “shameful”.*

*Although it is always despicable that a human being be imprisoned for his beliefs, regardless of the justifications the authorities argue, in the present circumstances, when the country is going through the Covid-19 pandemic, and after Prime Minister, Manuel Marrero, made a call for national unity without attention to ideological differences, it is a total error lacking in common sense and political prudence to keep a man incarcerated who honestly no one believes is imprisoned due to actual tenets of justice.*

*The most reasonable action the Cuban government can take is to order the immediate release of Quiñones Haces, and allow him to return to his family, the very place from where he should have never been forcibly separated.*

*The Association for Freedom of the Press hereby asks everyone to do his or her part, in any way possible, to bring the governmental authorities of Cuba to make the right decision in favor of the release of journalist Quiñones Haces.*

Association for Freedom of the Press –*Asociación Pro Libertad de Prensa*, APLP