

25 years for Noguera for placing the DAS at the service of the “paras”.

Por: [REDACCIÓN JUSTICIA](#) | 10:01 p.m. | 14 de Septiembre del 2011

This is the highest sentence imposed upon an ex very important state functionary.

The 25 years jail that the Supreme Court imposed upon the ex DAS director Jorge Noguera this Wednesday mark a milestone: not only does it represent one of the highest sentences imposed due to the “parapolitical” scandal, but also the most severe against a high functionary in the recent history of the country.

After a bumpy case which lasted 4 years, Noguera – who was campaign chief for Alvaro Uribe in Magdalena for the 2002 presidential elections and then the first intelligence “zar” of the past government – was sentenced for “placing the DAS at the service” of the paramilitaries and for homicide. It is the case of the Magdalena University professor Alfredo Correa de Andreis, killed by the “paras” in 2004.

Using his discretionary power – says the sentence – Noguera helped the Bloque Norte of the Self Defense Forces, supplying them with information that the organism gathered by virtue of the functions he occupied; naming persons associated to the organization, and transferring or declaring unfit the employees that directed their activities towards them.

The ex DAS director was not just sunk by Rafael Garcia’s testimony, the friend whom he brought to the DAS despite he did not pass the internal security screenings. According to the case file, Garcia became his strong man, despite him occupying a mid level position: head of IT. The magistrates also took into account the testimonies of detectives that were released or transferred because their investigations affected the “paras” interests. (The social networks reacted to the sentence).

On Wednesday, through his twitter account, the ex president Alvaro Uribe “offered apologies to the citizenry” for naming Noguera. His sentence is the first that touches the closest circle of functionaries of that government, which has an ex minister imprisoned and other high level ex functionaries called for trial because of the Agro Ingreso Seguro scandal, the DAS intercepts and the “Yidispolitics”.

[Named key persons of the “paras”](#)

In the case file appears the name of Sigifredo Puentes, who directed the “Ciclon” operation against the para chief Hernan Giraldo and who was suddenly sent to Saravena (Arauca), to a posting known to be of high risk. The Court considers this to be a punishment because that functionary attacked the interests of one of the “honchos” of the AUC that had a direct line with Jorge Noguera.

By contrast, the ex DAS director promoted the detective that participated in the set up against Correa de Andreis. Javier Anaya, who years later recognized his ties to the “paras”, was named sub director in Magdalena. According to the Court, Noguera assigned people that “simply show his interest to be accompanied by people related to the self defense forces”.

Further to having taken Rafael Garcia, Noguera reenlisted two sectional ex directors in the DAS that had been released years before and who have been tainted by declarations of the “paras”: Emilio Vence, in Atlantico, and Romulo Betaqancourt, in Magdalena, who came from being chief of security

of the questioned Enilce Lopez, "La Gata". In this last department he also named Gloria Bornachelly (sentenced to 8 years for ties to the "paras"), and offered the position of director to Enrique Osorio de la Rosa, one of the "brains" of the fraud that took various candidates supported by the "paras" to Congress.

The crime of professor Correa de Andreis worked with displaced people

Of the quarter century that Noguera will pay in jail, 16 years correspond to the sentence for the crime against Alfredo Correa de Andreis, a university professor that led several projects with those displaced by the "paras" on the Atlantic Coast.

According to the Court, "by virtue of his ties to the Bloque Norte of the Self Defense Forces, Jorge Noguera permitted and consented with the conduct displayed by Javier Alfredo Valle Anaya, from whom it is proven acted in connivance with the mentioned group to discredit the scholar, which excuse was used to kill him".

Weeks before the murder (perpetrated in Sept. 2004), Anaya carried out illegal surveillance and even paid for false witnesses that would incriminate Correa de Andreis as a supposed follower of the "Bloque Caribe" of the FARC.

The evidence was so weak that the case fell apart in a few days. And then Plan B as opted for: kill Correa. The "paras" mercenaries used the information from the illegal surveillance.

The Court absolved Noguera from two other killings that the DA's office accused him of: of the congressman Fernando Piscioti and the reporter Zuly Codina, also by way of the "paras".

The magistrates order the investigation of the ex governor Trino Luna (already sentenced for "parapolitics") and other Magdalena politicians for the Piscioti case.