



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

May 30th, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary
Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

I have recently become aware of a very concerning development in the Colombian Embassy in Washington, DC. A man has arrived to be the new police attaché, who should instead be back in Colombia facing trial and cooperating with prosecutors. He is a key player in connection with a high-profile corruption case which reaches the highest levels of the Colombian government. Coronel Carlos Alberto Feria Buitrago should not be allowed to work at the Colombian embassy in Washington, DC; he should be denied diplomatic credentials and sent back to Colombia so he can face justice.

Coronel Feria was a key player in the cover-up of a major corruption case.

A major Colombian political scandal unfolded in January, 2023, when then Chief-of-Staff to the president and current Foreign Minister Laura Sarabia reported through internal government channels that a duffel bag with \$30,000 dollars in cash inside had been lost. In response, President Petro's security team, headed by Coronel Feria, immediately dragged in Ms. Sarabia's son's nanny named Marelbys Meza for unauthorized questioning, including with the use of a polygraph test. During this time, Coronel Feria held her against her will in the basement of the presidential palace for almost 48 hours.

Coronel Feria must return to Colombia to face justice.

Coronel Feria was indicted by Colombian prosecutors in March, 2024 for abuse of public office, false imprisonment and other crimes. Other police figures involved in the same abuse of authority have received as many as ten years in prison as punishment. President Petro is making a mockery of the generally distinguished diplomatic corps that works in Washington DC – we should not play a part to this farce.

Deny diplomatic credentials to Coronel Feria.

The bestowment of diplomatic credentials is a privilege granted by the United States to those diplomats who are deserving of them. In this case, Coronel Feria is only being sent here to prevent him from having to stand trial and potentially reveal information damaging to President Petro and other members of his administration.

Please do the right thing and deny diplomatic credentials to Coronel Feria so the United States plays no part in covering up the corrupt schemes of President Petro.

Sincerely,


María Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress