



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

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Rubio,

I write to you worried that the situation of freedom leader José Daniel Ferrer has become dire. José Daniel has been suffering brutal beating at the hands of the regime thugs in Cuba in the last few weeks at the Mar Verde prison in Santiago de Cuba. His access to water and other necessities is extremely limited which has put his life at serious risk. Please do all that you can to fight for José Daniel – his life is in danger. José Daniel Ferrer is not just any dissident; he is the most important and credible leader of the opposition on the island today.

**The communists did what they always do – broke their word and threw José Daniel back in jail.**

Only three months after being freed in a phony deal the regime made with the Biden Administration, José Daniel was thrown back in jail. We know that communists cannot tolerate a person like José Daniel – free-thinking, independent, passionate, and committed to helping his people. Communists always fear people who do not bow before them. That's why the regime is targeting him, they want to eliminate him just as they did with Oswaldo Payá and other key opposition figures. José Daniel is a living symbol of resistance with international credibility, and the regime is desperate to silence him.

**José Daniel's life is in danger.**

The regime thugs at Mar Verde prison in Santiago de Cuba have beaten José Daniel seven times in fourteen days. Conditions at the concentration camp are horrendous and his life is in danger. He cannot be used as a pawn for negotiations, liberty must come without conditions or compromise. The regime fears his voice precisely because it is authentic, powerful, and free.

**The United States must fight for the freedom of José Daniel.**

The United States is the only country in the world that has the power to protect the freedom-loving people of Cuba like José Daniel. Please do whatever is possible to achieve the liberation of José Daniel before his health gets any worse. The regime in Cuba is a paper tiger – it will fall with just a flick of the finger. Let this serve as a warning: if anything happens to José Daniel Ferrer, there must be serious consequences. The United States and its allies cannot allow another Cuban hero to die in silence.

Please use whatever means are at your disposal to fight for the freedom of José Daniel Ferrer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Elvira Salazar', written over a horizontal line.

María Elvira Salazar  
Member of Congress