
Judicial History of Augusto Pinochet Ugarte



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LEGAL CASE	STATUS OF PINOCHET IN CASE AT TIME OF HIS DEATH (10 Dec 2006)	CRIMES FOR WHICH PINOCHET WAS BEING INVESTIGATED	PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS CASE	CURRENT STATUS OF THE LEGAL CASE at May 2010
Riggs (investigation from 2004, of crimes committed from 1975)	Processed*	Illegal enrichment, tax evasion, possession of false passports and falsification of public documents. Later expanded to include misuse of public funds (29 November 2005)	This case was the first in which Pinochet was processed for financial crimes	CLOSED (SUSPENDED) Temporary suspension for lack of evidence and the invocation of double jeopardy A related investigation exists in Spain. Spanish judge Garzón requested seizing of family funds in Nov 2009 to cover liabilities
Operación Colombo (clandestine operation with 119 victims, carried out July 1975)	Processed*	Coauthor of the aggravated kidnapping of 6 people (of a total of 119 victims). Expanded on 5 December 2005 to include 3 additional victims		OPEN 139 former agents processed
Villa Grimaldi (clandestine detention and torture centre functioning between 1973 and 1975)	Processed*	Author of 26 aggravated kidnappings, 'illegitimate torment' against 23 persons, and aggravated homicide	This was the first case in which Pinochet was processed for torture	OPEN 4 guilty verdicts (including against Manuel Contreras) and 15 former agents processed
Caravana de la Muerte ('Caravan of Death') (summary executions carried out in October 1973)	Processed*	Coauthor of aggravated kidnap and aggravated homicide against 73 people. In 2001 the Supreme Court changed the status from coauthor to accomplice after the fact	This was the first case in which Pinochet was impeached (a necessary precursor to the formalisation of final charges)	OPEN 8 guilty verdicts confirmed by the Supreme Court, amongst them a sentence against retired general Arellano Stark. 25 former agents processed
Operación Cóndor (Plan Condor) 1970s international repressive network (formalised in 1975)	Case suspended against Pinochet	Author of the aggravated kidnapping of 9 individuals		OPEN 52 former agents processed
Prats (double assassination in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 30 September 1974)	Case suspended against Pinochet	Aggravated homicides and conspiracy (<i>asociación ilícita</i>)		COMPLETED 9 guilty verdicts confirmed by the Supreme Court on 8 th July 2010, but some initial sentences were reduced. Final maximum sentences were 17 years (Manuel Contreras & Pedro Espinoza), minimum 541 days (for an accomplice). The DINA was declared an 'illicit association'.
Calle Conferencia (Mayo de 1976)	Case suspended against Pinochet	Kidnapping and homicides	This was the first case in which the Santiago Appeals Court accepted a criminal complaint against Pinochet	OPEN 85 former agents processed

CASE	HOW THE CASE CAME ABOUT	DATE OF INITIATION OF THE CASE	JUDGE(S) ASSIGNED TO THE CASE	IMPEACHMENT OF PINOCHET	DATE(S) OF FORMAL PROCESSING OF PINOCHET
Riggs	National criminal investigation begun in response to a US Senate investigation into money laundering	21 July 2004	Sergio Muñoz (to Sep 2005). Succeeded by Carlos Cerda, then Juan Manuel Valderrama (from Oct 2008)	The Supreme Court approved the impeachment on 19 October 2005	23 November 2005, with the benefit of bail (set at 12,000,000 Chilean pesos)
Colombo			Juan Guzmán, followed by Víctor Montiglio on Guzmán's 2005 retirement	The Santiago Appeals Court impeached Pinochet in June 2005. Confirmed by the Supreme Court 14 September 2005	24 November 2005, with the benefit of bail (set at 10,000,000 Chilean pesos)
Villa Grimaldi	Private criminal complaint	28 July 2000	Alejandro Solís	4 October 2006	27 October 2006, with the benefit of bail (set at 500,000 Chilean pesos)
Caravan of Death	Private criminal complaint	28 Jan 1998	Juan Guzmán, followed by Víctor Montiglio on Guzmán's retirement in 2005	Antofagasta Appeals Court on 23 May 2000, confirmed by the Supreme Court on 8 August 2000. Impeachment repeated on 17 July 2006 due to the reopening of the case	1 December 2000. On 17 July 2006 the initial permanent suspension of the case was overturned. Pinochet was processed for a second time on 28 November 2006
Plan Condor	Private criminal complaint	1998	Juan Guzmán, followed by Víctor Montiglio on Guzmán's retirement in 2005	Requested on 23 December 2003; approved by the Santiago Appeals Court 28 May 2004; confirmed by the Supreme Court in August 2004	13 December 2004, accompanied by an order of house arrest. Later revoked in favour of the benefit of bail (set at 2,000,000 Chilean pesos)
Prats	Private criminal complaint		Alejandro Solís	By the Supreme Court in January 2005. The impeachment was however revoked on 24 March on the grounds that the legal point at issue had already been judged (the principle of <i>cosa juzgada</i> , double jeopardy)	n/a
Calle Conferencia	Private criminal complaint	12 Jan 1998	Juan Guzmán, followed by Víctor Montiglio on Guzmán's retirement in 2005	Supreme Court rejected the petition on 22 October 2003	n/a

CASE	EVIDENTIARY GROUNDS ON WHICH PINOCHET WAS PROCESSED IN THIS CASE	Was the processing appealed?	Where an appeal existed, what was the outcome?	FINAL SUSPENSION OF THE CASE AGAINST PINOCHET
Riggs	Official Report of the US Senate, and information provided by the SII (Chilean Inland Revenue) and other official institutions			On 20 December 2006 the case against Pinochet was definitively suspended due to his death
Colombo		Yes. Pinochet's defence team submitted a writ of habeas corpus (<i>recurso de amparo</i>)	The habeas corpus was rejected by the Santiago Appeals Court. The Supreme Court upheld this position on 21 April 2006 when it expanded the range of counts for which Pinochet was processed	On 16 November 2005 Pinochet was declared fit for trial after medical reports. On 20 December 2006 the case against Pinochet was definitively suspended due to his death
Villa Grimaldi	Interviews, witness testimony, interrogations and forensic medical reports	Yes. Pinochet's defence team submitted a writ of habeas corpus (<i>recurso de amparo</i>)	The Santiago Appeals Court confirmed the initial processing	In December 2006 the case against Pinochet was definitively suspended due to his death
Caravana		Yes. Pinochet's defence team submitted a writ of habeas corpus (<i>recurso de amparo</i>) and an order of non innovation	On 11 December 2000 the defence's writ was accepted and the initial processing was overturned on procedural grounds (a formal declaration, legal prerequisite for processing, had not been taken)	In December 2006 the case against Pinochet was definitively suspended due to his death
Condor	Forensic medical reports, a televised interview of Pinochet broadcast by a Miami TV channel, and testimony collected by Judge Sergio Muñoz	Yes. Pinochet's defence team submitted a writ of habeas corpus (<i>recurso de amparo</i>) and an order of non innovation	In January 2005 the Supreme Court rejected the defence's writ confirming that Judge Guzmán's initial processing was legally justified	In September 2005 the Supreme Court definitively suspended the case against Pinochet for health reasons
Prats	n/a			On 2 April 2005 the case was definitively suspended against Pinochet because the Supreme Court had rejected the request for impeachment
Conferencia	n/a			On 19 December 2003 Judge Guzmán definitively suspended the case against Pinochet

* Processing is a Chilean judicial stage which precedes final formal charges but nonetheless carries a strong presumption of involvement

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