

Reporters Without Borders

<http://www.rsf.org/car-driver-waves-gun-at-tv-crew-23-01-2013,43933.html>

Americas - Salvador

Swift justice

Man suspected of pointing gun at TV crew quickly arrested

24 January 2013

Reporters Without Borders welcomes the news of the arrest in de Santa Tecla yesterday of Marco Antonio Landaverde, suspected to have threatened a crew from the television station *Canal 12* with a gun. Questioned with his wife in a hotel on the outskirts of the city, he denied the allegation, saying he was the only one to have been threatened.

"The authorities took the threats against *Canal 12* seriously and we welcome the quick outcome to the investigation," the media freedom organization said. "It is important that this incident motivates both the government and media managements to improve the protection of journalists who are exposed to serious risks in their work."

23.01.13 - Car driver waves gun at TV crew reporting on shooting trial

Reporters Without Borders joins the Association of Salvadoran Journalists [APES](#) in calling for an investigation into a death threat made in the street and in broad daylight yesterday against a crew from the television station *Canal 12* in Santa Tecla, west of the capital San Salvador.

"The efforts by the Salvadoran authorities concerning journalists' safety must be further strengthened in the light of the threats received by the *Canal 12* team of reporters. Together with APES, we call for the establishment of genuine safeguards to protect journalists at risk because of their work and the sectors they cover.

"This applies not only to the relevant police and judicial authorities but also to the managements of media organizations. We hope that the current investigation will quickly produce results," the press freedom organization said.

The incident occurred when the *Canal 12* crew had just left the Santa Tecla courtroom, where the trial of three men suspected of involvement in a shootout in the town six days earlier had just opened. At a bend in the road, the crew's vehicle was forced to stop by another car whose driver briefly waved a pistol and pointed it at the journalists before putting it down and driving off. The crew [filmed](#) in the incident.

The TV station said in a statement it had received other threats, including a warning that "we won't be responsible for the lives of the journalists and cameramen" if they reported on the trial.
