

AIR ON LINE 905-40/2016

July 28 2016

IAB PRESS RELEASE ON THE MURDER OF A JOURNALIST IN BRAZIL

The International Association of Broadcasting - IAB – strongly condemns and rejects the murder of journalist João Miranda do Carmo, occurred on Sunday July 24 in Santo Antônio do Descoberto, State of Goias.

According to witnesses, two people descended from a vehicle in front of the home of the victim, knocked on his door calling him by his name and when he came out, fired seven shots and fled.

Miranda do Carmo was owner and responsible for a website where he reported on local news, informed on problems and denounced irregularities.

The police were already aware that the journalist had been threatened because of his reports and do not rule out that the crime is related to his journalistic work.

The Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the OAS states:

"The murder, kidnapping, intimidation of and/or threats to social communicators, as well as the material destruction of communications media violate the fundamental rights of individuals and strongly restrict freedom of expression. It is the duty of the state to prevent and investigate such occurrences, to punish their perpetrators and to ensure that victims receive due compensation".

IAB calls on Brazilian authorities to urgently instruct the procedures which will allow to identify the perpetrators of this serious act and to provide maximum guarantees for communicators to exercise the important work of informing the public without fear of reprisals.

The International Association of Broadcasting - IAB is an organization founded in 1946 that represents over 17.000 private radio and television stations and its goal is the defense of private and free broadcasting as well as the effectiveness of Freedom of Expression and Opinion.