

Police State Victim: Juan Ruiz



Charge: Assault of Border Patrol (2 counts)

**Actual act: Exercising free speech & drumming at peaceful
"No Borders" protest in California, Nov. 11, 2007**

FUNDS FOR DEFENSE NEEDED

Madison, Wis. resident **Juan Ruiz** was arrested while playing drums at the border fence. Video of the arrest and information on the case are posted on the web at: sandiego.indymedia.org and noborderscamp.org.

Juan is in the Imperial County, California, jail, accused *assaulting a federal officer with intention to cause bodily injury*. Penalties on each federal count could range from 8 years to life in federal prison. He may also face deportation.

Juan, a permanent legal resident of the U.S., left Colombia with his family at age 4 and grew up in Madison, graduating from Shabazz High School in 2005. A musician, drummer and poet, he has worked on issues of poverty, peace, discrimination and direct relief to Katrina victims.

Financial help is urgently needed. Send donations to the Madison Area General Defense Committee Legal Defense Fund. Make checks out to: **GDC Legal Defense Fund, P.O. Box 2442, Madison, WI, 53701.** (Write "Juan" in the memo line. Contact for this fund is John Peck, 608-262-9036). To help in any other way, please contact Laurel Mark – lbmark@wisc.edu, 608-233-9141 or 608-698-1391. We are grateful for your assistance.

11/17/2007