

**RIELA 2011**  
**Environmental Crimes; Criminal**  
**Procedures, Penalties, Results**  
**and Deterrence**  
**San Juan, Puerto Rico**

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# **Environmental Crimes Legislation**

- **Criminal Code (1997)**
  - **Offenses against the natural bases of human life (Articles 197-202)**
  - **Offenses against human safety in the face of collective risks (Articles 203-212)**
- **Law 716/96 On Environmental Crimes**
- **Criminal Procedure Code (1998)**

# Criminal Procedures, Penalties

- **Environmental Prosecutors Unit**
  - Unit created in 2000
  - Approx. 7 prosecutors in office
- **No Environmental Courts**
- **Penalties**
  - Imprisonment between 2 to 10 years
  - Fines

# Results, Deterrence

- **Results**
  - No imprisonment convictions
  - Fines applied
- **Deterrence**
  - Approx. 600 denunciations per year (mainly illegal logging, contamination)
  - Usually end in fines between \$1,000-\$15,000

**Thank you!**

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