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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
File Number(s): Case 12.076
Title/Style of Cause: Wayne Matthews v. Trinidad and Tobago
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated: 6 January 1999
Citation: Matthews v. Trinidad and Tobago, Case 12.076, Inter-Am. C.H.R.,
OEA/Ser.L/V/II.106, doc. 6 rev., Ch. III, para. 53 (1999)

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53. On January 6, 1999, the Commission requested the adoption of precautionary measures on behalf of Wayne Matthews, who is sentenced to death and whose case, 12.076, is pending before the Commission. The Commission requested that the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago stay his execution until a decision could be reached on the merits of the case, and based its request on the fact that, should the State execute the victim before the Commission had an opportunity to examine the case, any eventual decision would be rendered moot in terms of the efficacy of potential remedies, such as a recommendation of commutation of sentence, and would cause the victim irreparable harm. The Commission did not receive a response to its request from the State. As reported in section D.1 *infra*, in response to the Commission's request, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights ordered provisional measures in favor of Mr. Matthews in May of 1999.