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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights  
File Number(s): Case 12.240  
Title/Style of Cause: Douglas Christopher Thomas v. United States  
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures  
Dated: 6 January 2000  
Citation: Thomas v. United States, Case 12.240, Inter-Am. C.H.R.,  
OEA/Ser./L/V/II.111, doc. 20 rev., Ch. III, para. 47 (2000)

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47. On January 6, 2000, the Commission requested the adoption of precautionary measures on behalf of Douglas Christopher Thomas, sentenced to death, whose execution was scheduled for January 10, 2000 in the State of Virginia and whose case (12.240) is pending before the Commission. The Commission requested that the State stay the execution, to give it time to fully examine the allegations made in the petition, on the grounds that executing Mr. Thomas before the Commission could investigate the case would cause irreparable harm. On January 11, 2000, the State informed the Commission that the U.S. federal government had no involvement with the case prior to the receipt of the Commission's request and that Mr. Thomas had been executed by the State of Virginia on January 10, 2000, after the U.S. Supreme Court refused to grant a stay.