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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights  
Title/Style of Cause: Thomas Joe Miller-El v. United States  
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures  
Dated: 5 February 2002  
Citation: Miller-El v. United States, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.117, doc. 1 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 76 (2002)

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76. On February 5, 2002 the Commission authorized precautionary measures in favor of Thomas Joe Miller-El. According to the petition requesting the measures, Mr. Miller-El was convicted of capital murder and sentenced to death in the State of Texas on October 4, 1993. The petition alleged that the United States is responsible for violations of Articles I, II, XVIII, and XXVI of the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man because Mr. Miller-El's trial and sentencing proceeding were tainted with racial discrimination. The petition also indicated that Mr. Miller-El was scheduled to be executed in the state of Texas on February 1, 2002. In its communication to the United States, the Commission indicated that if Mr. Miller-El was executed before the Commission had an opportunity to examine his case, any eventual decision would be rendered moot in respect of the efficacy of potential remedies, and he would suffer irreparable damage. On February 16, 2002 the Commission received information that the U.S. Supreme Court had agreed to hear his petition for a writ of certiorari and granted a stay of his execution.