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Title/Style of Cause: Hugo Martinez and Beatriz Estrada de Martinez v. Guatemala
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Dated: 11 October 2002
Citation: Martinez v. Guatemala, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.117, doc. 1 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 59 (2002)

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59. On October 11, 2002 the Commission asked the Government of Guatemala to adopt precautionary measures to protect the life and person of Hugo Martínez and Beatriz Estrada de Martínez, at their home and workplace. According to the request, these persons had been the victims of a series of acts of intimidation and harassment. On August 20, 2002 the beneficiaries were the victims of a supposed traffic accident, and they had received several telephone calls in the middle of the night in which unidentified persons demanded that they remove themselves from the investigations into the death of Hugo Martínez's father, Justice of the Peace Martínez Pérez, who was lynched and murdered on March 12, 2001 in the municipality of Alta Verapaz. In November 2001, Mrs. Estrada's father was informed that the order to cause Mrs. Estrada's daughter and husband to disappear was going to be executed. The victims continued to receive death threats over the telephone. Through a note dated November 6, 2002 the government reported that the National Civil Police would be responsible for protecting the beneficiaries. According to the information provided by the petitioners, three police officers were appointed to protect the beneficiaries, but did not have the logistical elements necessary to thoroughly fulfill that mission.