

Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights  
Title/Style of Cause: Elma Soraya Souza Novais v. Brazil  
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures  
Dated: 21 November 2002  
Citation: Novais v. Brazil, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.117, doc. 1 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 19 (2002)

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19. On November 21, 2002 the Commission granted precautionary measures on behalf of Elma Soraya Souza Novais. In this regard, the Commission was told that one of Mrs. Novais' sons was killed in December 1999; at the insistence of Mrs. Novais and because of her complaints, four military police officers from the state of Pernambuco were tried. The petitioners claimed that the military police officers allegedly involved had threatened Mrs. Novais and assaulted her in different ways; moreover, one witness to the crime was killed. The precautionary measures requested by the IACHR were aimed at protecting the life and person of Mrs. Novais and investigating the threats. The State did not provide information on the compliance of the measures by the deadline and, on January 22, 2003, it indicated that it had asked the Federal Police to protect Mrs. Novais, in accordance with the terms requested by the IACHR. The Commission summoned both parties to a hearing to be held in February 2003 during its 117th regular session.