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Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
File Number(s):	Petition 829-04
Title/Style of Cause:	Frederick Atkins, Michael Huggins, Lennox Boyce and Jeffrey Joseph v. Barbados
Doc. Type:	Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated:	17 September 2004
Citation:	Atkins v. Barbados, Petition 829-04, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.122, doc. 5 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 12 (2004)
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12. On September 17, 2004, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of Frederick Atkins, Michael Huggins, Lennox Boyce and Jeffrey Joseph, in the context of petition P829-04, which alleged violations of the alleged victims' rights under Articles 2, 4, 5, and 8 of the American Convention on Human Rights in connection with mandatory death sentences that had been imposed upon them as well as the use of hanging as a method of execution and the alleged victims' conditions of confinement. Available information at the time of the petition indicated that warrants of execution had been read to the alleged victims and that there was an imminent risk that execution dates would be scheduled. In view of the situation, the Commission requested that the Government of Barbados refrain from executing the beneficiaries pending the Commission's investigation into the allegations in their petition, on the basis that their executions would render any eventual decision by the Commission ineffective and would cause the beneficiaries irreparable harm. Further, because the information available also indicated that Lennox Boyce and Jeffrey Joseph had already been scheduled to be executed on September 21, 2004, the Commission requested the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to adopt provisional measures in favor of Mr. Boyce and Mr. Joseph in conformity with Article 63(2) of the American Convention. In response, the President of the Court adopted a Resolution, which was ratified by the entire Court on November 25, 2004 (see below the section on matters pending before the Inter-American Court).