

Institution:	Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Title/Style of Cause:	Alejandro Ponce Villacís, Ermel Chavez, Pablo Fajardo and Luis Yanza v. Ecuador
Doc. Type:	Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated:	22 December 2005
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20. On December 22, 2005, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of the lawyers and human rights defenders Alejandro Ponce Villacís, Ermel Chávez, Pablo Fajardo, and Luis Yanza. The information available indicates that the beneficiaries had suffered acts of harassment and threats, and that their office had been broken into and robbed due to their professional work on one high-profile case. Given the risks facing the beneficiaries, the Commission asked the Ecuadorian Government to adopt the measures necessary to protect the lives and personal integrity of Alejandro Ponce Villacís, Ermel Chávez, Pablo Fajardo, and Luis Yanza, and to inform the Commission of the steps taken to investigate the incidents that gave rise to the adoption of precautionary measures. The Commission continues to monitor the situation of the beneficiaries.