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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Title/Style of Cause: Detainees Neing Held at the National Civilian Police Substation v. Guatemala

Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures

Dated: 23 December 2005

Citation: Police Substation v. Guatemala, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.124, doc.

5, Ch. III, para. 26 (2005)

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26. On December 23, 2005, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of the detainees being held at the National Civilian Police substation in the municipality of Sololá in Guatemala. The information available indicates that detention conditions at this facility are poor and include overcrowding, the absence of drinking water, extensive spreading of diseases, and a lack of proper medical care for inmates, and that these conditions are compounded by the risk of riots and associated deaths of detainees as a result of potential clashes between rival groups. Although the Commission recognized that the State of Guatemala had taken various medium and long-term steps to improve the situation both in Sololá department and at the national level, the IACHR decided that the adoption of urgent measures was necessary to protect the lives and personal integrity of the detainees held at the National Civilian Police substation in Sololá department. The Commission continues to monitor the situation of the beneficiaries.