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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
File Number(s): Petition 360-06
Title/Style of Cause: Angel Maturino Resendiz v. United States
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated: 1 May 2006
Citation: Resendiz v. United States, Petition 360-06, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.127, doc. 4 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 45 (2006)

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45. On May 1, 2006, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of the Mexican citizen Ángel Maturino Resendiz, who was a prisoner in a detention center in the state of Texas, United States, under sentence of death. The precautionary measures were presented along with a petition alleging the violation of Articles I, XXV, and XXVI of the American Declaration, which is being processed as No. P360-06. The information available states that since his youth, Mr. Resendiz suffered serious symptoms of mental instability and schizophrenia and these worsened during his seven year stay in prison awaiting the death sentence. It is alleged that he suffered hallucinations and frequent self-inflicted injuries. The petition also alleges, inter alia, serious failings in his legal representation during his trial; the incompatibility of the procedure for clemency under Texan law with the standards of due process defined in Article XXVI of the American Declaration; that the use of the lethal injection as the method of execution causes extreme and unnecessary suffering. In view of these antecedents, the IACHR requested that the Government of the United States adopt the measures necessary to protect the life and physical integrity of the beneficiary and not impede the processing of the above-mentioned claim lodged before the inter-American system. The Commission notes that although precautionary measures were in effect, the beneficiary was executed on June 27, 2006.