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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Title/Style of Cause: Ruben Ramirez Cardenas v. United States
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated: 30 January 2007
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48. On January 30, 2007, the IACHR granted precautionary measures in favor of Mexican citizen Rubén Ramírez Cárdenas, who is deprived of liberty at a detention center in the state of Texas, waiting for a date to be set for execution of the death penalty. The precautionary measures were submitted in the context of a petition alleging violation of the rights enshrined in Articles I, XXV, XXVI, and XVIII of the American Declaration, which is being processed before the Commission. The petition alleges, inter alia, violations of the right to due process, that Mr. Ramírez Cárdenas was not informed of the right to consular assistance, and that he was subjected to inhuman conditions of detention. The petition also alleges that the use of lethal injection as the method of execution causes extreme and unnecessary suffering, and that the pardon procedure provided for in the state of Texas is incompatible with Article XXVI of the American Declaration. The Commission asked the United States to adopt the measures necessary to protect the life and physical integrity of the beneficiary, so as not to impede the processing of his claim before the inter-American system. The Commission continues to monitor the beneficiary's situation.