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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
File Number(s): PM 242/09
Title/Style of Cause: Enrique Rojas Rodriguez, Marco Romero Silva and Edna Bibiana Ortiz v. Colombia
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated: 16 November 2009
Citation: Rojas Rodriguez v. Colombia, PM 242/09, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II., doc. 51, corr. 1, Ch. III, para. 18 (2009)

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18. On November 16, 2009, the IACHR granted precautionary measures for Enrique Rojas Rodríguez, Marco Romero Silva, and Edna Bibiana Ortiz, members of the Consultancy on Human Rights and Displacement (Consultoría para los Derechos Humanos el Desplazamiento, CODHES), in Colombia. The request for precautionary measures alleges that these three individuals had had their telephones tapped, had been tailed, and had been subject to other intelligence activities on the part of agents of the Administrative Department of Security (DAS). It adds that the proposed beneficiaries would seem to be at risk in light of the fact that high-level public officials had made speeches against their activities in defense of people who had been subject to forced displacement. In addition, it reports that on October 30, 2009, Edna Bibiana Ortiz was part of a humanitarian mission verifying the situation of displaced populations in the Upper Sinú and Upper San Jorge. The mission was attacked with firearms, allegedly by paramilitary groups, leaving a teacher dead and a nurse hospitalized. The Inter-American Commission asked the State of Colombia to adopt the measures necessary to guarantee the life and physical integrity of the beneficiaries; provide a nexus and/or protection system for members of CODHES who travel to conflict zones in the course of their work; provide protection around the perimeter of CODHES headquarters; and guarantee access to any information in intelligence files that may be necessary to protect their personal security.