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Institution: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights  
File Number(s): PM 119/09  
Title/Style of Cause: Cesar Julio Valencia Copete v. Colombia  
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures  
Dated: 17 November 2009  
Citation: Valencia Copete v. Colombia, PM 119/09, Inter-Am. C.H.R.,  
OEA/Ser.L/V/II., doc. 51, corr. 1, Ch. III, para. 19 (2009)

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19. On November 17, 2009, the IACHR granted precautionary measures for Magistrate César Julio Valencia Copete, in Colombia. The request for precautionary measures alleges that Magistrate Valencia Copete had received threats to his life stemming from his participation in investigations into alleged ties between public officials and armed groups operating outside of the law. It adds that in March 2008, Magistrate Valencia Copete learned that his cellular telephone had been tapped by the Administrative Department of Security. It was allegedly learned that an official in the Office of Protection who was also assigned to the Counterintelligence Section was in possession of personal information about Magistrate Valencia Copete; that the State had still not taken the measures necessary to investigate the surveillance and telephone wiretapping to which Magistrate Valencia Copete had been subject; and that even though the State had provided him with a security scheme, neither he nor his representatives have been able to participate in its design and implementation, and the authorities responsible for implementing it were apparently not receptive to his requests. The Inter-American Commission asked the government of Colombia to adopt the measures necessary to guarantee the life and physical integrity of César Julio Valencia Copete; guarantee access to information in the intelligence files that would be necessary to protect his personal security; and report on the steps taken to judicially clarify the acts that warrant the adoption of precautionary measures.