



THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 29, 2017

Mr. Paulo Abrão
Executive Secretary
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Organization of American States
Washington, DC 20006

Re: **Mr. William Charles Morva, P-388-17 and PM 156-17**

Dear Mr. Abrão:

This letter is in reply to the Commission's letter dated March 21, 2017. In that letter, the Commission stated that it was transmitting Precautionary Measures Resolution 9/2017 and "copies of the pertinent parts of a petition involving William Charles Morva in the United States." However, the Commission has not forwarded to the State any portion of a petition involving William Charles Morva. Instead, the Commission has forwarded to the State a request for precautionary measures in conjunction with Precautionary Measures Resolution 9/2017.

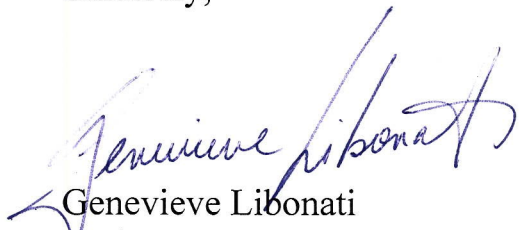
It appears as though the Commission has improperly treated the March 6, 2017 request for precautionary measures, filed by the Virginia Capital Representation Resource Center on behalf of Mr. Morva, as both a request for precautionary measures and a petition. The March 6, 2017 filing makes clear that it is only a request for precautionary measure as it: (a) is titled "Request for Precautionary Measures..."; (b) cites only Article 25 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure as the authority under which the request is made; and (c) specifically notes that "[t]he Rules of Procedure do not require that a request for precautionary measures accompany a petition." Consequently, we request that the Commission amend its records to accurately reflect the nature of Mr. Morva's March 6, 2017 filing, including through amendment of Precautionary Measures Resolution 9/2017 and

withdrawal of the petition number assigned to Mr. Morva's request, P-388-17.

Additionally, absent the filing of a petition, we wish to inform the Commission that we view a response pursuant to Article 30(3) of the Commission's Rules of Procedure as unnecessary and inappropriate at this point in time. We have, however, forwarded Precautionary Measures Resolution 9/2017 to the Governor and the Attorney General of the State of Virginia via a letter dated March 29, 2017, for whatever action they may deem appropriate. A copy of that letter is enclosed for your records.

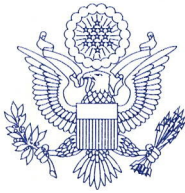
Please accept renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,



Genevieve Libonati
Acting Interim Permanent Representative

Enclosure:
As stated.



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March 29, 2017

Governor Terry McAuliffe
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23218

RE: William Charles Morva, Death Row Inmate – State of Virginia

Dear Governor McAuliffe:

Enclosed for your consideration is a request from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) concerning the case of William Charles Morva, who is currently on death row in the state of Virginia.

The IACHR is an organ of the Organization of American States (OAS), of which the United States is a member. The IACHR's primary mission is to protect and promote human rights. As part of its mandate, it examines allegations made by individuals within the jurisdiction of any OAS member state, including the United States. The IACHR received a request for precautionary measures—filed by the Virginia Capital Representation Resource Center on Mr. Morva's behalf—alleging, *inter alia*, that Mr. Morva was sentenced to the death penalty without due process and in disregard for international commitments proscribing the execution of individuals with intellectual disabilities. On March 16, 2017, the IACHR issued the attached Precautionary Measures Report, which the United States construes as recommendatory, requesting that Mr. Morva not be executed pending its further consideration of his allegations. A copy of the Report has also been sent to Attorney General Herring.

I thank you for your attention to this request. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Rachel Owen at OwenRE@state.gov, Tel: 202-647-9907.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Genevieve Libonati". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Genevieve Libonati
Acting Interim Permanent Representative

Cc: Hon. Mark R. Herring,
Attorney General of Virginia