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NATIONLINE

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Court refuses to force C-section on woman

The Illinois Supreme Court refused to enter a dispute Thursday over an attempt to force a pregnant woman to have a Caesarean section to save her endangered fetus. The two-sentence order upheld an appellate court ruling and effectively ended an appeal by Cook County Public Guardian Patrick Murphy, the fetus's court-appointed guardian.

Authorities went to court to force the unidentified woman, 22, to have the C-section. Doctors say the fetus, 1½ weeks shy of full term, is being deprived of oxygen and will die or suffer severe brain damage unless it is surgically removed from the womb. The woman refused the operation and said in court papers God will protect her fetus.

KING CASE: Memphis District Attorney General John Pierotti says he'll listen to people who now claim they can prove James Earl Ray didn't kill Martin Luther King Jr., but won't grant anyone immunity. Pierotti, who calls the new allegations "a sham and a fraud," spoke to ABC's *PrimeTime Live*. Memphis businessman Lloyd Jowers, in an interview, claimed a now-deceased Memphis produce dealer asked him to hire the gunman who killed King.