

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 32/03(AMR 51/082/2003, 5 June 2003) - Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (Texas)

Kia Levoy Johnson (m), black, aged 39

Kia Johnson was executed in Texas on the evening of 11 June 2003. He was sentenced to death in February 1995 for the murder in 1993 of William Rains, a 32-year-old white man who was shot during a robbery of the shop in San Antonio where he worked as a night manager.

The appeal courts refused to stay the execution on the grounds of evidence that Kia Johnson may have had mental retardation.

Kia Johnson was the 37th person to be executed in the USA this year, and the 857th since judicial killing resumed in the USA in 1977. Texas now accounts for 305 of these executions, 16 of which have been carried out this year.

No further action by the UA Network is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.