

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 79/02 (AMR 51/160/2002, 24 October 2002) - Death penalty/Legal concern

(Missouri)William Robert Jones (m)

William Jones was executed in Missouri on 20 November. He was sentenced to death on 9 February 1987 for the murder of Stanley Albert the previous year.

The US Supreme Court rejected his final appeal on 19 November, and the Governor of Missouri denied clemency. In a statement written to family members of Stanley Albert and read out after the execution, William Jones said: "I am sorry for what has happened and that you suffered this great loss. But after 17 years of my incarceration, does this really give you a sense of closure or simply a sense of vengeance? I pray for you all."

William Jones becomes the 60th person to be put to death in the USA this year, and the 809th to be put to death since nationwide since executions resumed in 1977. Fifty-nine of these executions have been carried out in Missouri.

No further action from the network is requested. Many thanks to all who send appeals.