

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 13/95 (AMR 51/10/95, 17 January 1995 and AMR 51/31/95, 23 February 1995) - Death Penalty

USA (Texas):Calvin BURDINE

Calvin Burdine, scheduled to be executed in Texas on 11 April 1995, has received an indefinite stay of execution from the US Federal District Court. The stay was granted to allow for further court hearings to ascertain whether the fact that Calvin Burdine's defence attorney slept during the original trial constituted "ineffective assistance of counsel."

The stay follows a denial of the appeal by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals that, while acknowledging that Burdine's counsel had slept during the trial, stated that it could not be proved that this would have affected the eventual verdict and sentence.

Thank you to all those that sent appeals on Calvin Burdine's behalf. No further action is required by the Urgent Action Network.