

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 51/077/2007

25 April 2007

Further information UA 89/07 (AMR 51/074/2007, 16 April 2007) – Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (Ohio) James J. Filiaggi (m), white, aged 41

James Filiaggi was executed in Ohio on the morning of 24 April. He was sentenced to death in 1995 for the murder of his former wife, Lisa Huff Filiaggi, who was shot on 24 January 1994.

This was the first execution in Ohio under Governor Ted Strickland, who took office in January 2007. He denied clemency, and on 23 April also rejected a request from James Filiaggi's counsel for a reprieve so that they could join current litigation on the constitutionality of lethal injection procedures in Ohio. The state and federal courts denied requests for a stay of execution so that Filiaggi could join the lethal injection lawsuit. The execution went ahead a little over an hour later than scheduled to wait for the US Supreme Court to consider whether to intervene. The Court declined to do so.

James Filiaggi becomes the 14th prisoner to be put to death in the USA this year, and the 1,071st since judicial killing resumed in 1977. Ohio accounts for 25 of these executions. All but two of the executions in the USA this year have been carried out in Texas.

No further action is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.