

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 189/06 (AMR 51/105/2006, 06 July 2006) and updates (AMR 51/112/2006, 13 July 2006 and AMR 51/160/2006, 17 October 2006) – Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (Mississippi)

Bobby Glen Wilcher (m), white, aged 44

Bobby Wilcher was executed in Mississippi on 18 October 2006 after more than two decades on death row. He was sentenced to death in 1984 for the murder of Katie Belle Moore and Velma Odell Noblin, who were stabbed to death in Bienville National Forest in central Mississippi in March 1982. He was 19 years old at the time of the crime.

Bobby Wilcher suffered from bipolar disorder, a serious mental illness, and he also had a long history of psychological problems, including suicide attempts.

The courts refused all attempts to have his appeals reinstated. On 24 May 2006, Bobby Wilcher had filed a motion in court seeking to drop all his remaining appeals and to allow the state to execute him. In July he informed his lawyer that he had changed his mind, and subsequently signed two affidavits to that effect.

Bobby Wilcher becomes the 45th person to be put to death in the USA this year and the 1,049th since executions resumed there in 1977.

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