

URGENT ACTION

MISSOURI EXECUTION GOES AHEAD

David Zink, aged 56, was executed on 14 July in Missouri. He was sentenced to death in July 2004 for the murder of 19-year-old Amanda Morton committed three years earlier.

The US Supreme Court refused to intervene and Governor Jay Nixon denied clemency. In a statement, the Governor said that “the guilt of **David Zink** in this crime is unquestioned, and my denial of clemency upholds the jury’s decision”.

In his final statement, David Zink said: "I can't imagine the pain and anguish one experiences when they learn that someone has killed a loved one, and I offer my sincerest apology to Amanda Morton's family and friends for my actions. I hope my execution brings them the peace and satisfaction they seek." He also apologized to what he called the “second set of victims”, namely his own family and friends, who “had the unfortunate circumstance of developing emotions which will now cause them pain and suffering upon my execution.”

The lethal injection began shortly after 7.30pm and David Zink was pronounced dead at 7.41pm.

There have been 18 executions in the USA this year, five of them in Missouri. This brings to 1,412 the total number of prisoners put to death since judicial killing resumed under revised laws in 1977. Missouri accounts for 85 of these executions.

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

Name: David Zink
Gender m/f: m

This is the first update of UA 152/15. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/documents/AMR51/2103/2015/en/

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