

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Death Penalty

5 March 1993

USA (Virginia): Syvasky POYNER

Syvasky Poyner is scheduled to be executed by the state of Virginia, USA, on 18 March 1993.

Poyner, black, aged 36, was sentenced to death in 1984 for the murders of four white women and one black woman in three separate incidents involving robberies in January and February 1984.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As of 15 January 1993, there were 48 prisoners under sentence of death in Virginia. The most recent person to be executed by the state was Charles Stamper, on 19 January 1993. The method of execution is electrocution.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters in English or your own language:

- expressing concern that Syvasky Poyner is scheduled to be executed on 18 March 1993;
- urging Governor Wilder to grant clemency to Syvasky Poyner and commute his death sentence.

APPEALS TO

The Honorable L Douglas Wilder
Governor of Virginia
State Capitol
Richmond, VA 23219, USA

Telegrams: Governor Wilder, Richmond, VA 23219

Telephone: +1 804 786 2211

Faxes: +1 804 786 3985

Salutation: Dear Governor

and to diplomatic representatives of the USA accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.