

URGENT ACTION

ARIZONA CARRIES OUT USA'S 1300TH EXECUTION

Sammy Lopez was executed in the US state of Arizona on 27 June for a murder committed in 1986.

Samuel Villegas Lopez (known as **Sammy Lopez**) was sentenced to death for the murder in October 1986 of Estefana Holmes, a 59-year-old woman. The details of the defendant's background of extreme poverty and severe childhood abuse and its effects on him were not presented to the sentencing judge, either at the 1987 trial or at the 1990 re-sentencing.

The execution reportedly ended at 10:37am, about 40 minutes after the lethal injection process began with the insertion of intravenous tubes into the condemned man's veins.

This was the 23rd execution in the USA this year, and the 1300th since the USA resumed judicial killing in 1977. Arizona has carried out 32 of these executions, four of them this year.

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

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the first update of UA 176/12. Further information:

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR51/048/2012/en>

Name: Samuel Villegas Lopez

Gender m/f: M

Further information on UA: 176/12 Index: AMR 51/051/2012 Issue Date: 28 June 2012

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