

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on EXTRA 49/95 (AMR 51/66/95, 2 May 1995) - Death Penalty

USA (Illinois)

Girvies DAVIS

Amnesty International very much regrets that Girvies Davis was executed as scheduled in Illinois on 17 May 1995.

Governor Jim Edgar refused to stop the execution, stating that Davis had committed a heinous and brutal crime.

The execution went ahead despite doubts about Davis' guilt of the crime for which he was sentenced to death, and Amnesty International believes that it therefore violated United Nations safeguards. The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 1984/50, Safeguard 4, states: *"Capital punishment may be imposed only when the guilt of the person charged is based upon clear and convincing evidence leaving no doubt for an alternative explanation of the facts."*

Letters expressing regret at Girvies Davis' execution may be sent to Governor Edgar as indicated in the original action. Thank you to all who sent appeals.