

PUBLIC

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15 June 2001

Further information on EXTRA 19/01 (AMR 51/048/2001, 23 March 2001) and follow-ups (AMR 51/060/2001, 18 April and AMR 51/083/2001, 11 June) - Death penalty

USA (Ohio) Jay D. Scott, black, aged 48

Jay Scott was executed in Southern Ohio Correctional Facility shortly after 9pm, local time, on 14 June 2001. In recent weeks he had twice come within minutes of execution. He was sentenced to death in 1984 for the murder of 74-year-old Vinnie Prince, who was shot during an attempted robbery of her Cleveland delicatessen in May 1983.

Jay Scott's lawyers ended their legal challenges against the execution on 13 June after the US Supreme Court refused to hear the case. They appealed to the Governor to reconsider his earlier denial of clemency. The Governor refused.

Jay Scott had been diagnosed as suffering from schizophrenia. He had exhibited severe symptoms of mental illness in recent years.

Jay Scott received visits from family members on his last day. At one point he reportedly told relatives that he was "looking forward to the basketball game", apparently referring to a match due to be played tonight, 15 June.

This was the 36th execution this year in the USA and the 719th since the country resumed judicial killing in 1977. Jay Scott is the second prisoner put to death in Ohio since the USA resumed executions: another mentally ill inmate, Wilford Berry, was executed in 1999 after he gave up his appeals.

No further action by the UA Network is requested. Jay Scott's attorneys have asked for their thanks to be relayed to those who sent appeals.