

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 51/098/2004

11 October 2004

Further information on UA 273/04 (AMR 51/141/2004, 27 September) – Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (North Carolina)

Sammy Crystal Perkins (m), black, aged 50

Sammy Perkins was executed in North Carolina on 8 October 2004. He was sentenced to death for the murder of a seven-year-old girl, LaSheena Renae “JoJo” Moore, in 1992.

On the evening of 7 October, by five votes to four, the US Supreme Court lifted a stay of execution that had earlier been granted by a federal judge to allow Sammy Perkins’s lawyers more time to challenge the constitutionality of North Carolina’s lethal execution process (see original UA). Governor Easley subsequently denied clemency.

Sammy Perkins becomes the 48th person to be executed in the USA this year, and the 933rd since executions resumed in the USA in 1977. North Carolina accounts for 32 of these killings.

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