

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 75/00 (AMR 51/144/00, 19 September 2000) - Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (Virginia) Bobby Lee Ramdass, black, aged 29

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Bobby Lee Ramdass was executed in Virginia on 10 October 2000. He was sentenced to death in 1993 for the murder of Mohammed Kayani during a robbery of a 7-Eleven store on 2 September 1992.

Governor Gilmore denied clemency shortly before the execution was scheduled to be carried out. The clemency petition contained statements from four of the jurors from the original trial who said that they would not have voted for death if they had known that Bobby Ramdass would have been ineligible for parole if they voted for life imprisonment. The trial judge had refused to clarify this issue (see original EXTRA). In June 2000, four US Supreme Court Justices, dissenting from the Court's decision to uphold Ramdass's death sentence, described the case as an "acute unfairness".

Bobby Ramdass becomes the 70<sup>th</sup> prisoner to be executed in the USA this year, and the 668<sup>th</sup> overall since the country resumed judicial killing in 1977. Virginia accounts for 80 of these executions, seven of which have been carried out in 2000.

**No further appeals are requested. Many thanks to all who took part in this action.**