

URGENT ACTION

MISSOURI CARRIES OUT TENTH EXECUTION OF 2014

Paul Goodwin was executed in Missouri in the early hours of 10 December, Human Rights Day, for the murder of Joan Crofts, committed in 1998.

The execution of **Paul Goodwin** on 10 December was delayed by about an hour and a quarter while the decision of the US Supreme Court as to whether to intervene or not was awaited. The Court eventually decided, seven to two, not to grant a stay of execution.

Governor Jay Nixon denied clemency. In a statement, he said: "There is no question of Goodwin's guilt in this murder, and my denial of clemency upholds the court's decision to impose a sentence of death. I ask that the people of Missouri remember Joan Crofts, and keep her family in their thoughts and prayers."

There are no more executions scheduled in the USA this year. This was the 35th execution in the USA in 2014 and the 1,394th since judicial killing resumed in 1977 under new capital statutes. Missouri accounts for 80 of these executions, behind only Texas, Oklahoma, Virginia and Florida. This was the 10th execution of the year in Missouri, the most carried out there since 1899.

The national total of 35 executions this year is the lowest since 1994 (when the total was 31). Eighty per cent of these executions were carried out in three states (Missouri (10), Texas (10) and Florida (eight)). The remaining seven executions were carried out in Oklahoma (three), Georgia (two), Arizona (one) and Ohio (one).

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

This is the first update of UA 302/14. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR51/057/2014/en

Name: Paul Goodwin

Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 302/14 Index: AMR 51/061/2014 Issue Date: 11 December 2014

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