

PUBLIC

AI Index: AMR 51/180/2002

6 December 2002

Further information on EXTRA 84/02 (AMR 51/172/2002, 19 November 2002) - Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (North Carolina)

Ernest West Basden (m), white, aged 50

Ernest Basden was executed in North Carolina early on 6 December; a few hours after the state governor denied him clemency. Ernest Basden was sentenced to death in 1993 for the murder of Billy Carlyle White, who was shot dead in January 1992.

In his final statement, Ernest Basden again apologized for the crime: "I killed Billy White. I'm sorry for it. And I pray that his family will come to forgive me and let time heal their wounds. And that's all we can do".

Ernest Basden becomes the 63rd person to be put to death in the USA this year, and the 812th nationwide since executions resumed in 1977. Twenty-two of these executions have been carried out in North Carolina.

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