PUBLIC AI Index: AMR 51/010/2004

12 January 2004

Further information on EXTRA 37/03 (AMR 51/115/2003, 07 August 2003) and follow-up (AMR 51/124/2003, 17 September 2003) – Death penalty / Legal concern

USA (Tennessee)

Philip Ray Workman (m), white, aged 48

The reprieve granted to Philip Workman in September has been extended, in light of an unspecified federal criminal investigation. The original reprieve had been set to expire on 15 January.

On 9 January, Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen issued the following statement:

"After conferring with the Attorney General, I have decided to extend Mr. Workman's reprieve until the federal investigation is completed and its relevance to the case is determined. As a result, I'm extending the temporary reprieve until April 15. I believe the death penalty should be carried out judiciously. As long as there continue to be outstanding questions related to this case, the proper thing to do is to wait until those questions have been answered."

The reprieve will expire on 15 April 2004. At that time, depending on the outcome of the investigation and analysis of its impact on this case, the state Attorney General could seek a new execution date from the Tennessee Supreme Court.

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