

PUBLIC

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13 June 2003

Further information on EXTRA 31/03 (AMR 51/080/2003, 04 June 2003) - Death penalty

USA (Indiana) Joseph L. Trueblood (m), white, aged 46

Joseph Trueblood was executed in Indiana in the first few minutes of 13 June 2003. He was sentenced to death in 1990 for the August 1988 murders of his former girlfriend Susan Bowsher and her two young children, Ashlyn Bowsher, aged 2, and one-year-old William Bowsher. All three were shot dead.

The Governor denied clemency on 11 June. In his statement, he said: "My review of this case has determined that Trueblood's guilt is clear and the legal proceedings that led to his death sentence were fundamentally fair. As Governor, I am deeply committed to upholding the Constitution and laws of Indiana, as I have sworn to do. My respect for the rule of law and my review of the facts in this case lead me to my decision. The petition for clemency of Joseph Trueblood is denied."

Joseph Trueblood becomes the 38th person to be put to death in the USA this year, and the 858th since the USA resumed executions in 1977. Indiana accounts for 11 of these executions.

No further action is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.