

# DEATH PENALTY ACTION

Advisory for: Wednesday, May 3 at 11am CDT

Contact: Blair FitzGibbon, 202-503-6141, [bpf@slipstreampr.com](mailto:bpf@slipstreampr.com)

Interviews Available

## **National Anti-Death Penalty Leaders To Participate in Restoration of 25 Crosses Erected to Protest Oklahoma Execution Spree Protests Growing As Execution of Richard Glossip Approaches**

Oklahoma City, OK - As the spotlight on Oklahoma intensifies in the approach to the scheduled May 18th execution of Richard Glossip, leaders from the anti-death penalty movement are converging on Oklahoma City. Death Penalty Action Executive Director Abraham Bonowitz and Journey of Hope ...From Violence to Healing Co-Founder, SueZann Bosler will participate in a "Cross Maintenance" restoration project with members of The Lazarus Community at Clark United Methodist Church, 5808 NW 23rd St, Oklahoma City. The work project from 10am to 4pm will repair and repaint the 25 crosses installed along NW 23rd Street last summer, shortly after 25 execution dates were set in Oklahoma. Each cross reminds us of the humanity connected to each scheduled execution, including the prisoner, his victim(s), and everyone impacted in the aftermath of murder.

Rev. Bo Ireland, Pastor at Clark United Methodist Church, as well as Bosler and Bonowitz are available for interviews starting at 11am CDT on Wednesday, May 3, 2023. Bonowitz and Bosler will also be in attendance at events at the Oklahoma State Capitol on Thursday morning and will be meeting with legislators, faith communities and students throughout Oklahoma through May 11.

### *Background:*

Abraham Bonowitz has been working on the issue of the death penalty for over three decades, and in Oklahoma since 2016, when he managed the campaign opposing SQ 776, which wrote the death penalty into the Oklahoma State Constitution. The organization he runs, Death Penalty Action, is the leading direct action protest and mobilization organization opposing executions in the United States.

SueZann Bosler was nearly killed but survived stab wounds in her head and back in an attack that also killed her father, Rev. Billy Bosler. As a victim/survivor and daughter of a murder victim, Bosler is a leading voice opposing executions and in promotion of the healing power of forgiveness. Her story has been featured on 48 Hours, the Oprah Winfrey Show, and in news outlets across the United States and internationally. [She is also featured in a mini-documentary](#) series called [The People vs. The Death Penalty](#). Five-minute videos telling the stories of people with direct experience with the death penalty. The series also features a warde who oversaw three electrocutions, two exonerated death row survivors, and two brothers fighting free their wrongly convicted brothers on death rows in Texas and Ohio.

Please meet Ireland, Bonowitz and Bosler at Clark United Methodist Church at 5808 NW 23rd St starting at 11am on Wednesday, or arrange interviews at other times by contacting Blair FitzGibbon, 202-503-6141, [bpf@slipstreampr.com](mailto:bpf@slipstreampr.com)

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