

DEATH PENALTY ACTION

Advisory for June 25, 2023

Contact: Blair FitzGibbon, 202-503-6141, blair@blairfitzgibbon.com

Follow Death Penalty Action Next Seven Days

Oklahoma City - Death Penalty Action, the only national, secular single-issue anti-death penalty organization in the United States will be front and center in multiple death penalty-related activities in the coming days. The opportunity to cover the progression of events starts Tuesday at the sentencing hearing of the Pittsburgh Synagogue shooter and continues through Harrisburg on Wednesday and on to the 30th Annual "Starvin' for Justice" Fast & Vigil to Abolish the Death Penalty at the US Supreme Court.

- Tuesday at 4:30pm - Visibility action and "Prayer Vigil for Healing" outside the Federal Courthouse in Pittsburgh, PA. "[Say NO to the Angel of Death](#)" is convened by L'Chaim! Jews Against the Death Penalty, a project of Death Penalty Action, and its Pennsylvania partner, Pennsylvanians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty.
- Wednesday at 10am - Press conference with Sam Randolph, an exonerated Pennsylvania death row survivor who was paralyzed when he was beaten by guards before being freed a decade later, in 2022. The group is drawing attention to the effort to raise the funds necessary to "[Help Sam Walk Again](#)."
- Thursday, June 29 through Sunday, July 2: [The 30th Annual "Starvin' for Justice" Fast & Vigil to Abolish the Death Penalty at the US Supreme Court in Washington, DC](#). This highly visual symbolic protest event draws death penalty opponents from across the country and from other countries. Programs starting at 6pm each evening of the four days will feature leading figures like **Rev. Sharon Risher**, whose mother and two cousins were killed in the Charleston church shooting, noted death penalty expert **Robert Dunham**, **Randy Gardner**, brother of the last man executed in the US by firing squad, **Charles Keith** and **Rodrick Reed**, brothers of high-profile innocent prisoners awaiting exoneration, Ohio's Kevin Keith and Texas's Rodney Reed, **Rev. Dr. Jeff Hood**, a spiritual advisor who has accompanied two prisoners to their executions so far this year, and many more. All activities take place on the sidewalk in front of the US Supreme Court.

The group is [today](#) completing a set of events in Oklahoma, where on Friday news broke that death row prisoner Anthony Sanchez, who has always maintained his innocence, announced that he has fired his attorneys and asked the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board to cancel his scheduled clemency hearing. **Sanchez is the first Oklahoma prisoner among the slate of 25 Oklahoma executions announced last summer to eschew the clemency process, calling it a cruel hoax. More information is [here](#).** Death Penalty Action manages this campaign.

Additional information is at DeathPenaltyAction.org

###