

DEATH PENALTY ACTION

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Executions Set to Resume in Oklahoma Following Six-Month Hiatus

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma - Growing opposition to the ongoing Oklahoma execution spree will exhibit itself with multiple protest and prayer events set around Thursday's scheduled execution of Jemaine Cannon in revenge for his 1995 murder of Sharonda Clark.

"It's been more than six months without an execution in Oklahoma, and things are no different than when they were doing one every month in the latter part of 2022," said Abraham Bonowitz, executive director of Death Penalty Action. "In fact, 78% of Oklahomans support a halt to executions while the legislature implements the more than 40 recommendations of the Oklahoma Death Penalty Review Commission. If they won't fix it, they should end it, and soon, because the next guy in line has a solid actual innocence claim that no court will entertain."

Death penalty opponents will shine a spotlight of opposition on the next execution in the #Oklahoma25 Execution Spree, as follows.

JULY 19

* Petitions urging Governor Stitt to find a way to halt this execution will be delivered to his office at the Capitol at 4pm CT TODAY, Wednesday, July 19. Following that at about 5:30pm CT, there will be a visibility protest action across the street from the Oklahoma Governor's Mansion.

JULY 20

* Unless the execution is halted, protesters will vigil starting at 9am CT on July 20 at various locations, including at the prison in McAlester, at the Governor's Mansion in Oklahoma City, and on-line via Zoom at bit.ly/JemaineCannonVV (and on the Death Penalty Action Facebook page). Prayers will be offered of Clark, Cannon, their families, and the correction officers taking part in the execution. People of all faiths are welcome to participate.

* Other prayer vigils taking place include at

* Holy Innocents Chapel, 6114 NW 63rd Street in Oklahoma City at 9am.

* St. Joseph Monastery, 2200 South Lewis, Tulsa, from 9:30am to 10:30am. While open to the public, out of respect for the monastic community, members of the media are asked to enter the monastery or ask for interviews.

* St. Scholastica Chapel at the Church of Saint Benedict, 2200 West Ithica Street, Broken Arrow. No formal service is planned however, the chapel will be open for those who wish to pray for this intention.

* If the execution goes forward, a Memorial Vigil will take place at 5pm CT at The Lazarus Community at Clark United Methodist Church, 5808 NW 23rd St, Oklahoma City. During this event, one of the 25 crosses erected there last summer will be painted red.

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