



Winter 2013

Seizing the Momentum

Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty

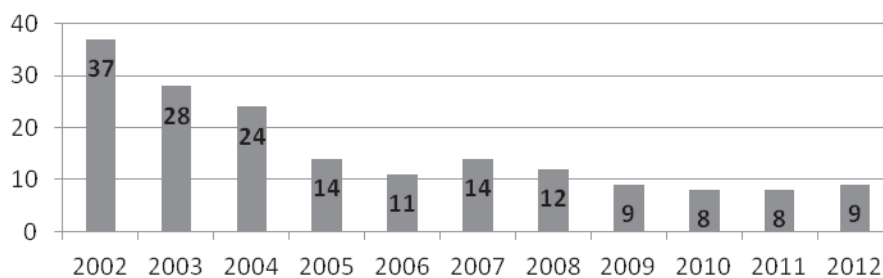
Use of Death Penalty Geographically Isolated, Arbitrarily Imposed in Texas, According to New Report by TCADP

Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex led state in pursuit of the death penalty in 2012

On December 12, 2012, TCADP released its annual report, *Texas Death Penalty Developments in 2012: The Year in Review*. The report details the continued decline in new death sentences in the last decade and presents information on executions, reduced sentences, and stays, judicial developments, and other issues affecting the nation's most active death penalty state. Data from the report was featured in the *Texas Tribune*, the *Austin Chronicle*, the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, and WOAI in San Antonio.

New death sentences in Texas have declined more than 75% since 2002 and remained near historic low levels in 2012. Juries condemned nine new individuals to death in Texas, a slight increase over 2011 and 2010, when new death sentences fell to their lowest number since the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Texas' revised death penalty statute in 1976.

New death sentences in Texas



According to the report, more than half of all new death sentences in 2012 were imposed in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, while no new death sentences were imposed in Harris County for the third time in five years.

Tarrant and Dallas Counties each accounted for two new death sentences and Johnson County accounted for one. Dallas County now leads the state in new death sentences since 2008, accounting for nearly 20% of sentences imposed in the last five years. Dallas County also led the state in executions, accounting for 5 of the 15 executions carried out last year.

In conjunction with the report, TCADP updated its interactive maps presenting new death sentences by county from 2008 to 2012 and from 1976 to 2012. You can find them online at <http://tcadp.org/2008-2012-new-death-sentences/>.

Troubling questions persist regarding the determination of who receives the ultimate punishment, as cases involving individuals with comparable backgrounds or who presented similar legal arguments received vastly different treatment by the criminal justice system last year.

Continued on page 6.

In this issue:

Voices of Texas: Juan and Martha Cotera

2013 Legislative Session

Register for the TCADP Annual Conference

Celebrating the 2013 Annual Award Winners

News from the Field

Thank You, Members, Donors, and Partners for Justice!

Scheduled Executions

January

29 Kimberly McCarthy

February

21 Carl Blue

27 Larry Swearingen

March

21 Michael Gonzales

Execution Vigils: tcadp.org under "Get Involved - Stop Executions"



From the Executive Director

Dear TCADP Members and Supporters,

According to TCADP's 2012 year-end report, *Texas Death Penalty Developments in 2012: The Year in Review*, Texas – along with the rest of the nation – is steadily moving away from the death penalty. While our state is still the nation's leading executioner, death sentences remain near record-low levels. Use of the death penalty continues to be geographically isolated and arbitrarily imposed.... Just 5 counties in the entire state account for 54% of new death sentences in the last 5 years. Read more about the report's findings in this issue of *Seizing the Momentum*.



In a recent opinion piece in the *Houston Chronicle* ("Legislature should seriously reconsider death penalty," December 13, 2012), former Texas district attorneys Grant Jones and Sam Millsap cite the serious flaws in the system in explaining their own shift away from supporting the death penalty. They write:

The professionals who administer our justice system cannot guarantee that they will never be without fault. Once we accept that fact, we have to ask ourselves, as a civilized society, whether we can live with a system that promises nothing more than to get it right most of the time in death penalty cases. We submit that we cannot.

I couldn't agree more ... we cannot live with a system that makes fatal mistakes, that arbitrarily decides who should live and who should die for their crimes, and that continues to be imposed disproportionately on people of color. And we cannot end the death penalty without you.

Thanks to your steadfast support and participation, we are making a difference by educating the citizens of Texas and changing the conversation on this issue at the state and county levels. During the 83rd Texas Legislature, TCADP and its new Volunteer Lobby Corps will seek to engage in dialogue with each and every legislator about death penalty issues in Texas.

2013 will bring other exciting opportunities for TCADP to engage new partners in our strategic efforts to end the death penalty. Please make plans to join us for our 2013 Annual Conference, which promises to recharge your batteries and equip you for another year of advocacy!

I look forward to seeing you at the conference and to our continued work together to end the death penalty in Texas!

With best wishes,

TCADP *Seizing the Momentum*

TCADP Seizing the Momentum is published quarterly by the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, the only statewide grassroots organization working solely to end the death penalty in Texas through education, outreach and advocacy.

Subscription Information: *TCADP Seizing the Momentum* is distributed to TCADP members and allies. To find out more about the organization and become a member, visit our website at www.tcadp.org.

Issue #39, Winter 2013
(Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall)

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Contributors: David Atwood, Les Breeding, Chris Castillo, Kristin Houlé

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Volunteers

Thanks so much to the following individuals who have volunteered in the TCADP Office or provided administrative support in recent months: Herb and Angela Diener, Christina Dunigan, Tom and Jean Egan, Jade Herman, Kay Forth, and Kit Partridge. We are immensely grateful for your assistance!



Calendar of Events

January

6: Odessa Chapter meeting, 4:00pm odessa@tcadp.org
8: 83rd Session of the Texas Legislature Convenes at Noon
16: Dallas Religious Organizing Committee 6:00pm, Chapter meeting 7:00pm, dallas@tcadp.org
21: TCADP booth at the Austin MLK Festival, 10:00-4:00pm, Houston Chapter in MLK Parade
21: El Paso Chapter Meeting 7:00pm, elpaso@tcadp.org
22: Delivery of TCADP 2012 year-end report to the legislature; contact Kristin at khoule@tcadp.org to volunteer.
27-29: United Methodist Women Legislative Training
29: Scheduled execution - Kimberly McCarthy

February

1: Last Day to Receive TCADP Annual Conference Registration Early Bird Rates; Last Day to Book Block Rate Hotel Rooms for TCADP 2013 Annual Conference
2: Death penalty forum, San Antonio
10-11: Mass Incarceration Symposium and Lobby Day, ACLU of Texas. Register - www.aclutx.org/lobby
18-21: Samuel DeWitt Proctor - Clergy and Lay Leadership Conference, Dallas
18: El Paso Chapter Meeting, 7:00pm, elpaso@tcadp.org
20: Dallas Religious Organizing Committee 6:00pm, Chapter meeting 7:00pm, dallas@tcadp.org
21: Scheduled execution - Carl Blue
23: TCADP 2013 Annual Conference, Austin
27: Scheduled execution - Larry Swearingen

March

18: El Paso Chapter Meeting, 7:00pm, elpaso@tcadp.org
20: Dallas Religious Organizing committee 6:00pm, Chapter meeting 7:00pm, dallas@tcadp.org
21: Scheduled execution - Michael Gonzales

Full event descriptions and monthly chapter meeting dates with active links can be found at www.tcadp.org under "Get Involved - Attend Events".

Are you aware of regional or local civic and religious conferences/festivals that allow exhibitors? Share these opportunities with TCADP so we can continue to reach new people! info@tcadp.org or 512-441-1808

Follow TCADP on TWITTER!

@TCADPdotORG

Breaking news, coming events, things you should know! RETWEET!





Voices of Texas: Juan and Martha Cotera

"We have no more right to kill than the two young men that killed my son. That is how I feel about the death penalty. I will never change. My son was against the death penalty. We all are."

- Juan Cotera, Austin, Texas

Juan remembers the phone call like it was yesterday.

"I got a call the morning after (our son) was carjacked and killed," Juan Javier's father said. "We were called by the young woman who was with him the night before. She was wondering if Juan got home because 'something' had happened. So I came downstairs, and he wasn't in his room, his truck wasn't here."

It was then that Juan Javier's parents started making calls, searching for their 25-year-old son.

"He was going across town and stopped to visit a friend when he was carjacked in downtown Austin, about two blocks from the police station," said his mother, Martha Cotera. The gunmen also carjacked a second young man, Brandon Shaw, and held them at gunpoint.

"The carjackers committed the crime because they wanted to rob them. So they took them to as many ATM machines before midnight that they could and made them take money out," she said. "They put them both into the trunk of the car and drove them into Town Lake and left them there to drown."

It took the police a couple of days to determine what happened to Juan Javier and Brandon.

Juan Javier left his house at 10:30 p.m. on a Monday night. He went to play cards with his cousin's roommate but never returned.

"Wednesday, at noon, the mayor, the police chief, and the fire chief came in person to tell us about finding Juan Javier and Brandon in the lake," Martha said. Their son, a well-known young leader, had worked on the Austin mayor's campaign.

"When Juan Javier was born, the first time I saw him, he was my 'miracle.' Just incredible. We were very close. We used to have long conversations about everything in life," his father, Juan Cotera, said.

Martha said she learned a lot from her son. "My favorite times were discussing race with him. He had an influence on me. We probably learned more important lessons from him than he did from us. I feel he was wise beyond his years," she said.

"I was definitely against the death penalty long before my son's death - I say my whole life - because I saw it as savage and uncivilized. It has no place in the kind of society we wanted for our children."

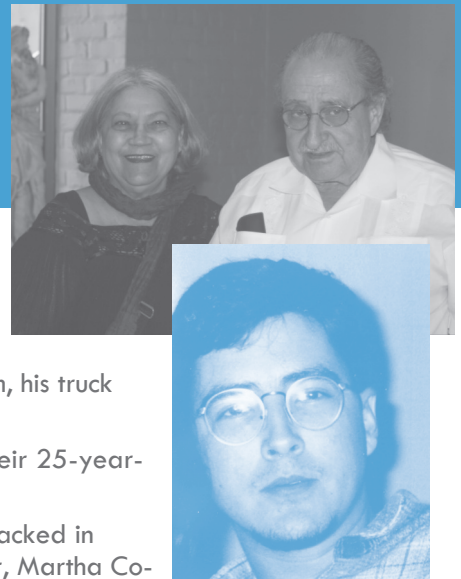
"The death penalty is no different than what happened to my son. We are the state - the people - and we kill. We make it official because we have the power to say it is official and therefore we carry no guilt over it," he said.

"We have no more right to kill than the two young men that killed my son. That is how I feel about the death penalty. I will never change. My son was against the death penalty. We all are."

Martha agrees.

"I was raised a Christian and it's just wrong to step in the role of a higher being and make the decision to kill someone. Whether we kill someone willingly one on one or if the state kills, it is still wrong. It's not up to the person, it's not up to the state if person lives or dies. I believe in a higher being. I believe that life is precious. It's not for us to determine who lives and dies," she said.

Martha has been the owner of Information Systems Development for 37 years. Juan is owner of Cotera+Reed Architects, founded in 1975. Both are lifelong opponents of the death penalty.



Submitted by Chris Castillo, Texas Outreach Coordinator for Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation, ccastillo@mvfr.org.



Legislative News

The 83rd Texas Legislature begins on Tuesday, January 8, 2013, and the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty will again be there working to repeal the death penalty.

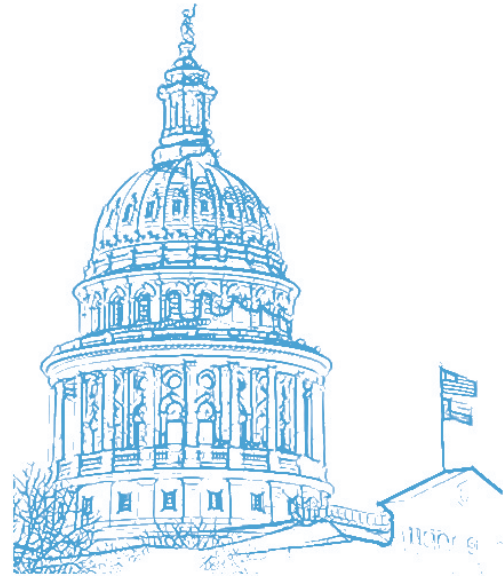
This will be the fourth legislative session that we have worked with the Legislature on a comprehensive bill that not only stops executions in Texas, but also repeals all of the other laws in the Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure that relate to the death penalty. In the last two sessions, the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence has held public hearings on that bill.

Texas is a part of a growing number of states where legislatures have reviewed their death penalty. That scrutiny has led to the abolition of the death penalty in the following states: New Jersey (2007), New Mexico (2009), Illinois (2011), and Connecticut (2012). The death penalty has been abolished in 17 states and the District of Columbia.

This year, a number of other states in addition to Texas will be introducing repeal legislation, including: Alabama, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, Maryland, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, and Washington State. We expect efforts to be successful in several of these states.

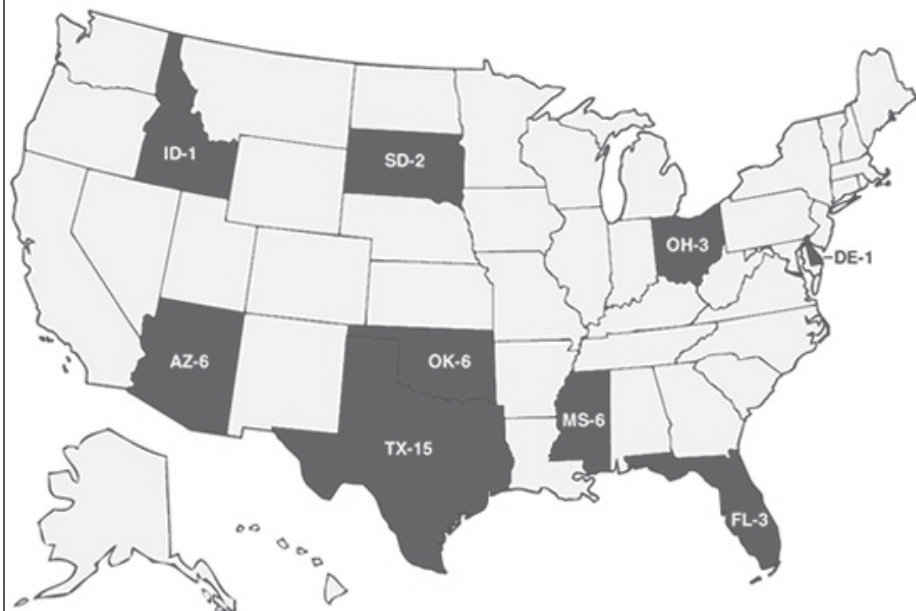
TCADP has stepped up our efforts this year by the formation of a volunteer Lobby Corps. This is a group of 18 members who have been specifically trained in legislative outreach and advocacy. We believe this will be a huge asset for us in communicating with the Legislature on this issue.

We will seek your support and assistance as the session progresses through email action alerts and other communications. If you have questions about legislation during the session, please be in touch with the TCADP office, 512-441-1808 or khoule@tcadp.org.



EXECUTIONS IN 2012

Nine states carried out executions this year, equaling the fewest number of states to do so in 20 years.

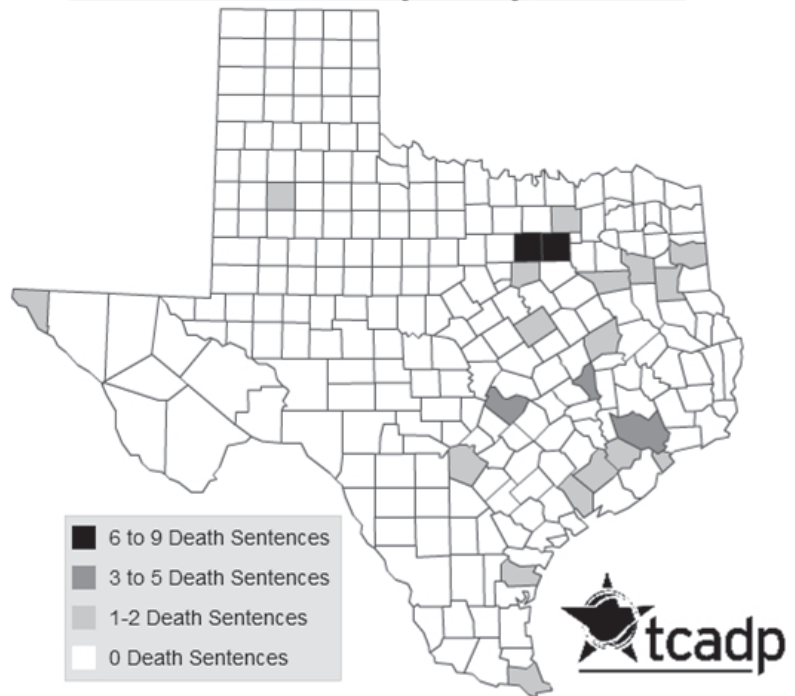




As one example of this arbitrariness, several death row inmates with diagnosed severe mental illnesses were scheduled for execution last year. The executions of Steven Staley and Marcus Druery were halted pending unresolved issues related to their mental competency, while the execution of Jonathan Green, who reportedly suffered from schizophrenia, proceeded on October 10, 2012 after significant legal wrangling.

This disparate treatment was also evident in terms of issues related to intellectual disabilities. Two inmates with recognized intellectual disabilities received reduced sentences and were removed from death row last year: Roosevelt Smith, convicted in 2007, and Anthony Pierce, who spent more than three decades on death row. Conversely, Marvin Wilson was executed on August 7, 2012 despite being diagnosed with an IQ of 61, well below the threshold of 70 for mental impairment. His case created an international uproar and starkly illustrated the woefully inadequate and unscientific standards used by the State of Texas to determine which defendants with intellectual disabilities are protected from execution.

New Death Sentences by County, 2008-2012



“According to the report, more than half of all new death sentences in 2012 were imposed in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, while no new death sentences were imposed in Harris County for the third time in five years.”

Other highlights of *Texas Death Penalty Developments in 2012: The Year in Review*:

- The State of Texas accounted for 15 out of 43 U.S. executions last year, a smaller percentage than in the past but still nearly three times as many as any other state. Texas has executed a total of 492 people since 1982 – 253 executions have occurred during the administration of Texas Governor Rick Perry (2001 - present), more than any other governor in U.S. history.
- Six inmates scheduled for execution in 2012 received reprieves. In addition, three execution dates were withdrawn.
- Death-qualified juries rejected the death penalty in the sentencing phase in four trials in 2012 and opted instead for life in prison without the possibility of parole. In all four cases, the jury determined that the defendant did not pose a future danger. Over the last five years, death-qualified juries have rejected the death penalty in at least 20 capital murder trials.
- According to research by TCADP, the Texas death row population stands at its lowest level since 1989. As of November 16, 2012, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice counted 289 death row inmates, which includes 10 women.

TCADP will deliver a copy of the report to every legislative office at the State Capitol on Tuesday, January 22, 2013.

Texas Death Penalty Developments in 2012: The Year in Review is available online at www.tcadp.org/TexasDeathPenaltyDevelopments2012.pdf. Contact Kristin Houle at khoule@tcadp.org to receive a hard copy.

Information about national death penalty developments in 2012 is available from the Death Penalty Information Center: <http://deathpenaltyinfo.org/documents/2012YearEnd.pdf>.

TCADP 2013 Annual Conference

"Changing the Conversation"



Saturday, February 23, 2013

St. Edward's University 8:00am - 5:30pm
3001 South Congress Avenue Austin, Texas

- **Annual Media & Appreciation Awards**
- **General Membership Meeting**
- **Workshops and Small Group Conversations**
- **Keynote Speaker**
- **Networking with TCADP Members and Allies**
- **Exhibitors and Door Prizes**
- **Panel Discussion:** *How are instances of wrongful convictions and evidence of wrongful executions changing the conversation on the death penalty?*

NEW THIS YEAR! - The 2013 Annual Conference will feature several small group conversations whose topics will be determined by YOU! TCADP invites you to submit a conversation topic when you register for the conference.

What do you want to learn from and share with your fellow TCADP members and supporters?!

Confirmed Panelists Include:

- **Karen Boudrie**, an award-winning journalist, news director, and public relations consultant who covered the trial of Carlos DeLuna in Corpus Christi in 1983 and was the last person to speak with him before his wrongful execution in 1989;
- **Anthony Graves**, a motivational speaker and legal consultant who spent 12.5 years on death row before being exonerated in 2010; and
- **Professor James Liebman**, Simon H. Rifkind Professor of Law, Columbia University School of Law, and the lead author of *Los Tocayos Carlos: An Anatomy of a Wrongful Execution*

SAVE THE DATE!

Registration information online at
tcadp.org/what-we-do/annual-conference/

or contact
the TCADP office at
512-441-1808 for assistance.

Conference Registration

Advance Registration by February 1, 2013:

TCADP Member \$45
Non-Member \$55
Student \$25

After February 1, 2013:

TCADP Member \$50
Non-Member \$60
Student \$25

Registration fee includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch

Lunch Only Option — Keynote and Awards

12:30—2:00pm (Must Purchase by February 15) — \$20
Sponsor a table for 6 — \$120

Wyndham Garden Hotel—Austin
February 22 and 23, 2013, \$109 a night.

Deadline for booking: February 1.

Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty

2709 S Lamar, Austin, TX 78704 www.tcadp.org info@tcadp.org (512) 441-1808

Changing the Conversation
Saturday, February 23, 2013
TCADP 2013 Annual Conference

Conference Program

- 8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 General Membership Meeting
- 10:30 Panel Discussion: *How are instances of wrongful convictions and evidence of wrongful executions changing the conversation on the death penalty?*
- 12:30 Lunch, Keynote and Award Presentations
- 2:00 Workshops / Small Group Conversations
- Beginners Guide to Legislative Advocacy
 - Collaborating to Drive Down Death Sentences and Executions
 - Conservatives Concerned about the Death Penalty (small group conversation)
- Plus, other small group conversations as proposed by participants
- 3:45 Workshops/ Small Group Conversations
- The Habits of the Heart: Bridging the Divide and Building Common Ground
 - How to Answer the Tough Questions
 - Increasing Awareness of the Needs of Murder Victims' Family Members
- Plus, other small group conversations as proposed by participants
- 5:00 Closing Session
- 5:15 Adjourn and Begin Changing the Conversation!
- 5:30 After Party - All Welcome!

Exhibitors/Advertisers: Purchase an ad in the conference program to congratulate an award winner and/or promote your business or organization. Exhibit on-site for personal outreach and contact with TCADP members.

Ad copy (JPG/PDF format—high resolution) must be emailed to info@tcadp.org by February 1, 2013.

Download form at

tcadp.org/what-we-do/annual-conference/

On the TCADP Website: Under the “What We Do—Annual Conference” button you can find:

- the conference flyer for download and distribution;
- online/mail registration;
- a link to the hotel registration information;
- the schedule as it is updated;
- information on program advertising; and
- information on exhibiting at the conference.

www.tcadp.org/what-we-do/annual-conference/

2013 TCADP Award Winners:

Media: Joe Bailey, Jr. and Steve Mims, “Incendiary”

Appreciation: Methodist Federation for Social Action —
Southwest Chapter

Appreciation: J.C. Dufresne

Awards will be presented during the Conference Luncheon!

Conference Cost

Advance registration by February 1, 2013 (payable by cash, credit card, check, or money order):

TCADP Member—	\$45
Non-Member—	\$55
Student/Youth —	\$25

**Registration fee includes
breakfast and luncheon.**

Registration after February 1, 2013:

TCADP Member—	\$50
Non-Member—	\$60
Student/Youth—	\$25

Secure online registration options are available at www.tcadp.org under the “Donate” button or mail payment to TCADP, 2709 S Lamar, Austin, TX 78704!

Call the TCADP office at (512) 441-1808 for more information or to check the status of your membership.

Lunch Only Option — Keynote and Awards

12:30—2:00pm (Must Purchase by February 15) — \$20

Or Sponsor a Luncheon Table for 6 — \$120

Accommodations

Wyndham Garden Hotel

3401 South IH-35 Austin, Texas 78741

*A limited number of rooms have been blocked for
Friday and Saturday nights at \$109 a night.*

*The Hotel will have a free shuttle available
to the conference location.*

How to book your Austin hotel stay for a standard room with one king bed or two double beds (February 22-24, 2013)-

Call 1-800-996-3426:

• Give the associate your desired dates of stay and ask for the “TX Coalition Against the Death Penalty” room block. You will then guarantee your reservation with a credit card.

Book Online:

• Go to www.wyndhamaustin.com. Click “Search using Group Code.” Enter your desired dates of stay in the appropriate box (February 22-24, 2013). In the Group code box, enter “02206702TX”.

Cut-off date: 02/01/13— Last day to make reservations.

*If you have trouble making reservations, please contact Jennifer Sams at: jsams@wyndham.com or call 512-744-4831. **Please Book Early!***

*Invite your friends,
and see you in Austin!*



Please make plans to join us in celebrating these extraordinary individuals at the TCADP 2013 Conference—Changing the Conversation!

Media Award: **Steve Mims** and **Joe Bailey** are the filmmakers of “Incendiary,” which focuses on the case of Cameron Todd Willingham. The film exposes the political manipulation of the Texas Forensic Science Commission as it sought to determine whether flawed forensic science played a role in Willingham’s conviction and ultimate execution.

Like many films, “Incendiary” has created opportunities for Texans to engage in a critical dialogue about the human frailties surrounding the administration of justice. Steve and Joe have provided an insightful film that will continue to provoke audiences for a long time to come.



Appreciation Awards:



JC Dufresne is an elected member of the State Democratic Executive Committee of the Texas Democratic Party. Due in large part to his efforts, delegates to the Texas State Democratic Convention voted overwhelmingly in favor of including a call for abolition of the death penalty in the 2012 platform!

The **Methodist Federation for Social Action-Southwest Chapter** is one of TCADP’s most reliable coalition partners and steadfast organizational members. This chapter supports our work in myriad ways... MFSA-Southwest Chapter also was one of the first groups to sign the Statement of Support and Organizational Affiliation with TCADP.



Read more about the winners online at

tcadp.org/2012/11/30/tcadp-announces-2012-2013-annual-award-winners/

Register TODAY!

TCADP Annual Conference
February 23, 2013 8:00 AM to 5:15 PM
St. Edward's University
Austin, Texas

I want to “Change the Conversation” on the death penalty in Texas!

_____ \$45 TCADP Member
(After February 1, \$50)

_____ \$55 Non-Member
(After February 1, \$60)

_____ \$25 Student

_____ \$20 Lunch only option (12:30—2:00pm)

_____ Enclosed is an additional contribution to help cover the cost of providing the TCADP Annual Conference.

Circle Your Lunch Choice:
Vegetarian
Vegan
Omnivore

Please make checks payable to TCADP. Mail payment and registration form to: TCADP; 2709 S. Lamar; Austin, TX 78704. Secure online registration and contributions can be made at <http://www.tcadp.org> under the “Donate” button.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Credit Card Type: _____ Exp Date: _____

Number: _____

Registration includes continental breakfast and lunch.

Information about advertising in the conference program or exhibiting at the conference is available online or through the TCADP office (512) 441-1808. Thank you!



TCADP Representatives in Rome

In our important work to abolish the death penalty in Texas, it is good to remind ourselves that we are not alone. TCADP is affiliated with the NCADP (National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty).

TCADP is also good friends with the Sant' Egidio Community, based in Rome, Italy. Sant' Egidio has been working against the death penalty worldwide for many years. The Community initiated the "Cities for Life...Cities Against the Death Penalty" program 10 years ago. On November 29 and 30, 2012, people opposed to capital punishment in over 1600 cities around the globe, including Austin and Houston, participated in the program by illuminating a public place, holding a prayer service or otherwise speaking out against the death penalty. TCADP Founder, David Atwood and his wife Priscilla participated in a program held by Sant' Egidio in front of the Colosseum in Rome. The Colosseum was illuminated to celebrate abolition of the death penalty in Connecticut. The Atwoods also spoke at several schools and churches in Rome and Naples while in Italy.



Conservatives Concerned about the Death Penalty

More and more conservatives are voicing concern about the death penalty as bad public policy. To respond to these voices, TCADP will convene a small group session with interested conservatives at the Annual Conference on February 23 at St. Edward's University, Austin.

If you identify yourself as a conservative, we hope you will make plans to attend. If you are interested in seeing what comes of this conversation but are unable to make the conference, please share your interest with TCADP Program Coordinator, Vicki McCuiston at info@tcadp.org or 512-441-1808. Together we can end the death penalty.



News from the Field

Here's a snapshot of outreach and educational events that TCADP staff and local members have sponsored or participated in over the last three months:

Austin: On October 30, 2012, TCADP Intern Christina Dunigan represented the organization at a death penalty forum sponsored by the Amnesty International group at the University of Texas. On November 18, 2012, TCADP Advisory Board Member Anthony Graves and TCADP Executive Director Kristin Houlé participated in the worship service of Wesley United Methodist Church. Kristin spoke about the United Methodist Church's long-standing opposition to the death penalty, while Anthony held the congregation spellbound with his story about spending 18 years in prison, including 12.5 years on death row, for a crime he didn't commit. Many thanks to Reverend Sylvester Chase and the members of Wesley UMC for hosting us! Also on November 18, the members of Pax Christi Austin hosted Kristin at their monthly meeting to hear an update on the state of the death penalty in Texas and ideas for their continued involvement.



Dallas: Local members recruited dozens of new supporters at the University of Dallas Ministry Conference in late October. They also represented TCADP at the annual PeaceMakers dinner of the Dallas Peace Center on December 6. Vigils are now taking place on the evenings of executions in Texas at the Cathedral of Hope – PeaceHouse Dallas Lobby (5910 Cedar Springs Rd) at 6:00 PM. All are welcome.

More than 100 people gathered together on December 4, 2012 in the Grand Lounge at Paul Quinn College for "A Faithful Conversation on the Death Penalty with Dallas Faith Leaders." Moderated by TCADP Program Coordinator Vicki



McCustion, the dialogue featured Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III, Senior Pastor of Friendship-West Baptist Church; Rev. Dr. Wes Magruder, Chair of the

Board of Church and Society of the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church; Rev. Stanley J. Meyer, Bishop Assistant for Leadership and Disciple Life in the Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana Mission Area of the

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San Antonio

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Look for TCADP on Facebook and "Like" today! See photos of activities and links to important news developments.

facebook®



News from the Field cont.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and Deacon Charles Stump, Director of Pastoral Services for the Catholic Diocese of Dallas. The panelists addressed a wide variety of questions related to religion and the death penalty, which were submitted in advance by audience members. We are immensely grateful to the staff of Paul Quinn for hosting us and to the members of the Dialogue Planning Committee who worked so hard to put the event together. Go to the link to see twitter comments and pictures compiled from the evening: <http://bit.ly/VGi5lb>

El Paso: El Pasoans Against the Death Penalty seek to deliver PowerPoint presentations on the death penalty – in English or Spanish – to local faith, civic, or student groups. Contact elpaso@tcadp.org for more information.

Fort Worth: More than 50 new and old friends of TCADP gathered on October 25, 2012 at the home of Katie Sherrod and Gaylan Poole to support the work of the organization. Participants heard from State Representative Lon Burnam, one of the hosts of the event, about legislative progress, while TCADP Executive Director Kristin Houle spoke about recent death penalty developments. Father Carmen Mele addressed the moral dimensions of the issue, and TCADP Board Members Rev. Bernard Kern and Estrus Tucker delivered the call to action. Thanks to Katie and Gaylan for hosting this event, to Rep. Burnam and his staff, especially Phillip Haigh, and Bernard and Estrus for organizing it, and to everyone who joined us for a wonderful evening of fellowship!



San Antonio: TCADP member Susan Ives received rave reviews for her presentation to the San Antonio Friends Meeting on October 28. TCADP Advisory Board Members Roger Barnes and Sam Millsap spoke to a Sunday School class at Travis Park United Methodist Church on November 18, with the support of Rev. Monte Young.

Vigil Locations tcadp.org under “Get Involved”

Huntsville (Location of Executions) Corner of 12th and Ave. I (in front of Walls Unit) at 5:15 pm

Austin (Site 1) - On Congress at 11 St., 5:30 - 6:30 pm, **(Site 2)** - Prayer vigil at St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic Church on Oltorf and Congress at 6:00pm (approx 20 minutes)

Beaumont Diocese of Beaumont, Diocesan Pastoral Office, 703 Archie St. @ 4:00 pm on the day of an execution

Brownsville 802 and Paredes Lane from 4:30 -5:30pm

College Station 5:30 to 6 pm, east of Texas A&M campus at the corner of Walton and Texas Ave. across the street from the main entrance

Corpus Christi Sisters Of Incarnate Word Convent, 2930 Alameda, 6:00 pm

Cuero At Gazebo on Main Street, next to Library, 5:45 pm. Public Invited. For information call 361-676-2921

Dallas – 6:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Hope – PeaceHouse Dallas Lobby (5910 Cedar Springs Rd). If the door is closed, ring the bell!

El Paso (Site 1) 6:00 pm Saint Patrick Cathedral, 1118 N Mesa St, **(Site 2)** Our Lady of Mount Carmel, 131 S Zaragosa Rd, **(Site 3)** Our Lady of Guadalupe 2709 Alabama, and **(Site 4)** St. Pius X Hope Chapel, 1050 N Clark.

Ganado At Assumption Catholic Church Pro-Life Monument, 5:45 pm Public invited. For information call 361-771-3325

Houston Rotating Locations... January—March St. Anne's Catholic Community at the corner of Shepherd and Westheimer, from 5:30 to 6:20

Lubbock St. John's United Methodist Church, 1501 University Ave., 5:30 to 6:30 pm

McAllen In front of The Monitor, corner of Nolana and Jackson at 5:30 pm

McKinney St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Community located at 110 St. Gabriel Way, the last Sunday of the month, following the 11:00 mass to remember those scheduled for execution in the following month, as well as the victims of their crimes and family members on both sides.

Odessa Public vigil takes place from 5:00 to 5:30 pm in front of St. Joseph Catholic Parish, 907 S. Dixie, Odessa 79761. Prayer takes place inside the church from 5:30 to 6:00 PM. All are welcome. The church phone number is 432-337-2213

San Antonio (Site 1) - Archdiocese of San Antonio, in the St. Joseph Chapel at the Chancery, 2718 W. Woodlawn Ave. (1 mile east of Bandera Rd.) at 11:30 am on the day of execution. Broadcast on Catholic Television of San Antonio (Time-Warner cable channel 15) at 12:30 pm and 6:30 pm on the day of execution. **(Site 2)** - Main Plaza across from Bexar County Courthouse and San Fernando Cathedral - Noon **(Site 3)** - Join the Sisters of Divine Providence and friends in vigil and prayer from 6:00 - 6:30 pm on Texas execution days in front of Our Lady of the Lake Convent by the large crucifix. 515 S.W. 24th Street

Spring Prayer Vigil at 6 pm on evenings of executions at St Edward Catholic Community, 2601 Spring Stuebner Rd, Spring, TX 77389 for the murder victim, for family and friends of the murder victim, the prison guards and correctional officers, for the family of the condemned man/woman, for the man/woman to be executed and to an end to the death penalty

Victoria At Incarnate Word Convent, 5:45 pm. Public Invited. For information call 361-575-7111



Thank You for Your Generous Support

TCADP thanks the following individuals and organizations for their generous contributions in the past quarter (October 23, 2012 – January 7, 2013). Your financial assistance is critical to all of the activities and events described in this newsletter! Please let us know if we have inadvertently left you or your partner off of this list. We apologize in advance if we missed anyone.

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Changing the Conversation

TCADP 2013 Annual Conference

Saturday, February 23, 2013

St. Edward's University
Austin, Texas

Register Today!



Conference Registration: Available Online under the "Donate" Button
or Mail-In Form on page 7.
Early-Bird Rates end February 1, 2013.

Conference Hotel: Wyndham Garden Hotel Austin
A limited number of rooms have been blocked at a special rate.
Contact information on page 5.
Book room by February 1, 2013.

Conference Advertisers/Exhibitors: Advertising and Exhibitor Rates available online at
<http://tcadp.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/2013-program-advertising-rates.pdf>
or by calling 512.441.1808; submit ad copy by February 1, 2013.