

# Texas Conservatives Concerned | About the Death Penalty

A Project of **TCADP**

## **Texas CCATDP Statement On Texas Board Of Pardons And Paroles' Clemency Denial For Will Speer**

"It is a dark day in Texas – today, the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles denied clemency to Will Speer, a man who became a Christian on death row and has dedicated his life to preaching the Gospel to other incarcerated Texans," said Texas CCATDP Director Nan Tolson. "The Board's decision goes against the wishes of the victim's family, Texas and national faith leaders, and thousands of others who voiced their support for Will. What's more, the Board offered no explanation for this horrific decision.

"It is worth noting that the Board also denied Will a reprieve, which would have allowed him to finish out his role as the first inmate coordinator for the death row faith-based program. Will Speer's story is one of hope, mercy, forgiveness, redemption, and rehabilitation. He is proof that people can change and that every life has purpose. Will has made a remarkable impact on other incarcerated men in Texas and on the lives of those around him.

"Our state considers itself to be a champion of life, to foster a culture that recognizes and protects the inherent dignity and worth of every human being. However, as pro-life conservatives, Texas CCATDP firmly believes capital punishment directly contradicts these values that our state claims to uphold. This could not be more apparent in today's decision regarding Will Speer.

"We pray for and extend our thoughts to Will Speer, the families of his victims, his own family, his attorneys, and all of those involved in the death penalty system. We remain steadfast in our resolve to end the death penalty and pursue real public safety solutions for our great state that will not only keep us safe, but truly honor the right to life."

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