

Welcome to Texas CCATDP's November 2023 newsletter!

SCHEDULED EXECUTIONS

Two men are scheduled to be executed in the state of Texas in November. These are the last scheduled executions for 2023. The first of these executions is scheduled for Thursday, November 9, when Brent Brewer is scheduled to be put to death for the 1990 murder of Robert Doyle Laminack. The second is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, when David Renteria is scheduled to be put to death for the murder of Alexandra Flores.

TAKE ACTION

Support Clemency for Brent Brewer Over the 32 years he has spent on death row, Brent has not committed a single act of violence against another person. His exemplary disciplinary record flies in the face of outrageous testimony provided during his trial – and again during a resentencing hearing in 2009 – by the State’s now discredited expert, Dr. Richard Coons. Dr. Coons, who never spoke or met with Brent, did not cite any evidence to support his conclusion that Brent would likely commit acts of violence in the future.

This “future dangerousness” determination is required for a jury to impose a death sentence in Texas. One of those jurors did not want to sentence Brent to death, but Texas’s confusing and misleading jury instructions led her to believe her single vote could not change the verdict.

Brent has long expressed remorse to the Laminack family, recognizing that the consequences of his actions were “extreme loss and pain of the victim’s family and a brokenness that cannot be fixed.”

Please contact the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles and urge them to grant clemency to Brent Brewer. You must include his TDCJ #999000 and DOB 05/26/1970 in your appeals. You can also share your concerns with Governor Abbott. You can find a sample message here. **Please contact the Board no later than Monday, November 6, 2023.**

Be on the lookout for how you can voice your support for David Renteria later this month by following us on Facebook and X (Twitter).

OCTOBER EXECUTION UPDATES

The State of Texas put to death Jedidiah Murphy on October 10, World Day Against the Death Penalty, despite concerns associated with his original trial. Will Speer, originally scheduled for execution on October 26, was granted a stay of execution hours before he was to be put to death. Both Jedidiah and Will experienced a radical transformation behind bars — expressing genuine remorse for their crimes and using their newfound faith to inspire others on death row.

Thank you to everyone who called, wrote, shared, and advocated on Jedidiah and Will’s behalf.

Prior to Will’s stay of execution, the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles denied clemency — going against the wishes of his victims’ families, faith leaders, and thousands of others who voiced their support. To read Texas CCATDP’s statement regarding Will Speer’s clemency denial, click here.

NEW RESOURCES



The Texas CCATDP Webpage is live!

We recently launched our webpage — your one-stop-shop for all things Texas CCATDP. Check back often for updates, resources, upcoming events, and more.

[Visit our webpage](#)

Texas CCATDP Fact Sheet

We recently published a new fact sheet: “Why We’re Concerned About the Death Penalty.” You can find a direct link to this fact sheet on our webpage. If you’d like hard copies of this resource, contact us.

[View our fact sheet](#)

WHY WE’RE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DEATH PENALTY

<p>INEFFECTIVE DETERRENT</p> <p>The death penalty does not keep us safe. There is no convincing or conclusive evidence that the death penalty is an effective deterrent for violent crime.</p>	<p>Since 1973, 16 people convicted and sentenced to death in Texas have been exonerated, and there is strong evidence that Texas has executed innocent people.</p> <p>INACCURATE SYSTEM</p>
<p>BURDEN ON TEXAS TAXPAYERS</p> <p>The cost of an average death penalty case is nearly three times higher than imprisoning someone for life without the possibility of parole. <i>Execute more than imprison would</i></p>	

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



World Day Against the Death Penalty Interfaith Prayer Vigil

Texas CCATDP co-hosted an interfaith prayer vigil with TCADP at the Texas Capitol on October 10, which is recognized globally as World Day Against the Death Penalty. Faith leaders and anti-death penalty advocates from the Austin area came together to pray and shed light on the issues of capital punishment.

PHOTO: Texas CCATDP Director Nan Tolson delivering remarks.

If you are part of a group who might be interested in hosting a conversation, presentation, or other event about conservatives and the death penalty, please contact us at ConservativesConcernedTexas@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday, Nov. 3 “First Friday Virtual Prayer Vigil” On the first Friday of each month, Catholic Mobilizing Network holds a Virtual Prayer Vigil to lament upcoming executions and bear witness to the inviolable dignity of all human life. This includes time for guided prayer, petitions, Scripture reflections, and contemplative silence. 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM CT. Virtual. RSVP here.

