

# On Wings of Hope

Project Hope



to Abolish the Death Penalty  
Since 1989 | www.phadp.org

**Execute  
Justice  
Not  
People**

Vol. 21 Issue II

Apr.-Jun. 2017

LADY JUSTICE

A gentle knock on my door alerted me that I had a visitor and when I opened it, there stood Lady Justice. I know you are not wondering how I recognized her because all of us do when we meet her. While asking her to come in I did however wonder what this visit could be about.

Once seated in my most comfortable chair she looked at me with a smile and said: "I know you are wondering why I am here in Alabama, a state that has never welcomed me, a state that has a long history of persecuting me. Even though there are some brave individuals who would like for me to take up residence here where I am so sorely needed most Alabamians, as you so well know, are not ready for that day."

"So how can I help you" I asked. Still smiling gently as gentleness appeared to be very much part of who she was, she continued: "I am tired of your politicians invoking my name when they obviously have never met me. Please tell your Governor when he denies a stay of execution in my name that he has no right to use it; please tell your Attorney General when he asks the Alabama Supreme Court to set an execution date with all possible speed in my name that he has no right to use it; please tell your legislators when they pass a piece of legislation, long overdue to save state killing and without it being retroactive, in my name that they too don't have the right to use it. Yes, I realize that invoking my name is a vote getter and makes those who do feel all so righteous, but they have absolutely no right to do that! Instead of using my name could they at least have the decency and honesty, (I know attributes hard to find among politicians), to call their acts what they are: acts of Vengeance, Just Us or Expediency.

Listening to Lady Justice I was filled with gratitude because all she articulated had echoed in my heart for so long and it felt so good to hear her say this with her clear and gentle voice not tinged by hatred and lies as those other voices so often are. However she was not finished yet and continued: "and while we are at it there is one more thing I would like for you to set straight. I am usually portrayed wearing a blindfold and I understand the symbolism of this, but it is not I who is blind it is your so called justice system that is blind. It is blind because you deny my twin sister Mercy and I can not exist without her. We are inseparable. Thank you for getting my message out", and with a last gentle smile Lady Justice disappeared into the night and left Alabama.

Esther

**Execute  
Justice  
Not  
People**

**PROJECT HOPE TO ABOLISH  
THE DEATH PENALTY** (phadp)  
501 (C) (3) non- profit.

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

Working together with friends, supporters and other advocates to educate the public and bring about the abolition of Capital Punishment in Alabama.

**NATIONAL OFFICE:**

P.O. Box 1362 Lanett, AL 36863  
Phone: 334 499 0003  
Email: [heesther@earthlink.net](mailto:heesther@earthlink.net)  
Web: [www.phadp.org](http://www.phadp.org)

Email group:phadp-mail-subscribe  
@yahoo.com, also on Face Book:  
Project Hope to Abolish the Death  
Penalty in Alabama

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Anthony Tyson, Chairman  
Bart Johnson, Vice Chairman  
Jeffery Lee, Sec. /Treas.  
Jessie Phillips, Coordinator  
Anthony Boyd, Sgt At Arms  
Info Dir. Randy Lewis

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Anthony Tyson, Pres./CEO  
Bart Johnson, Vice Pres.  
Esther Brown, Executive Director

**DEVELOPMENT:** Brandon Fountain  
**IN MEMORIAM:** Ronald B. Smith Jr.  
**STUDENT REP:** Petra Jackson  
**SPIRITUAL ADVISOR:** Donald Blocker

**BOARD OF ADVISORS**

Atty. Bryan Stevenson, Antoinette Bosco,  
Atty. Christine Lichtenfels, Callie Greer  
Robin DeMonia, Dale Wisely, Ph.D.  
Robert M Wilson, Judy Collins,  
Claudia Whitman, Ed Hart,  
Ann Williams, Ursula Malchau,  
Gary Drinkard, Britta Slopianka,  
Bill Pelke, Diane McNaron,  
Shelley Douglass, Sam L. Sullins,  
Dr. Katie Owens-Murphy

**THIS NEWSLETTER WAS WRITTEN,  
TYPED AND FORMATTED ON DEATH  
ROW AT HOLMAN PRISON**

Greetings Family,

We are heading into a new season of things to come. The State Of Alabama is out to murder again. But we are hopeful.

We understand how thirsty this state gets around election time. We have joined our wits with others to get the word out about the injustice happening with executions and this "Fair Justice Act". One being with our new friend and associate Mr. Alex Kelly, Director of Community Engagment For The Catholic Mobilizing Network. He has reached out to us, to help in anyway possible.

It's good to know that there are people out there that see the Fight For Justice and want to help. In 2017 we have been out front trying to connect with you all more on Facebook. We shared our feelings about P.H.A.D.P. -"What does Project Hope mean to us", and we followed that with our memorials. We are a people, we have feelings, we love and we are loved. So despite the rumors of executions, we will press forward in faith and not fear. This new "Fair Justice Act", is almost equal to incarserating an innocent man. How fair, would shortened appeals have been for

Anthony Hinton who spent 15 years just trying to convince a court of his innocence, after he had already shown them the same evidence that eventually freed him. So it shouldn't be called the "Fair Justice Act". It should be called "Alabama About To Act Up - Act".

This is another mistake by the Great State Of Alabama. They are saying that this Act will save taxpayers money. But how much would Abolishing The Death Penalty save them. How about building more transitional centers for released inmates; That are constructive and effective for those that are returning at a high rate. I would like to also say a Big Thank You to

Katie Owen-Murphy for her dedication and support to our cause. And to say hello to her and her students that are involved in the pen-pal project there at The University Of North Alabama. So again Thank You Friend. You and your students have given us another reason to be hopeful about our future. So as I close, I would like to say to everyone - Keep Hope Alive!

**I Remain Your Chairman,**

**Anthony Tyson Z641  
Holman 3700 N-17  
Atmore, Ala 36503**

"Capital Punishment VS. 8th Amendment"

The 8th Amendment prohibits excessive fine and excessive bail, as well as cruel and unusual punishment. Now punishment defined: as pain, suffering, loss, confinement or other penalty inflicted on a person for a crime or offense. In the law we have punishment. One of the definitions of ment is defined as: mind (latin meaning - ment = mind).

So we have punish-mind (punishment), punishmens or mind.. So here is the conflict, it is against the law to inflict mental anguish on another person. But in the definition of capital punishment we have Capital. Which is the most severe of punishment, which we just defined as pain and suffering on the mind. Severe mental pain or suffering.

It's an obvious reason why no western modernized civilization has the death penalty, but the United States. No one agrees that any person should be tortured mentally or physically. Even the 8th Amendment which is part of the Supreme law of the land, disagrees with Capital Punishment. This is exactly why botch drugs like the sedative Midazolam is being challenged in the courts on the grounds of not being effective enough to put a person in an unresponsive state.

The latest person to suffer from pain, torture and without question - mental anguish (mental Torture) was Kenneth Williams in an Arkansas torture chamber. He was executed with one of three drugs called Midazolam, which left him concious.

The witnesses saw his body jerk 15 times in quick successions, with sound that was audible even with the microphone turned off during his execution. Media witnesses reported that they observed Williams suffered. Not only did he jerk, he also was observed coughing, convulsing and lurching.

This is disturbing and this has happened many times with Midazolam. How many more times will we allow Midazolam to be used to torture and kill in violation of human rights and dignity as well as our constitutional law, the 8th Amendment?

by: Internal Exiler 33

\* \* \* \* \*

"Babble"

Imagine being locked in your closet for just 24 hours and asked to explain your experience of that situation. That's what it's like writing from a 5x8 cell. All types of thoughts run through your mind, so how can I stay on "said topic". Anger, frustration, confusion, etc... will always come into play when thinking of the injustice, misconduct or dissatisfaction of a so-called "equal opportunity" justice system! "WHY"? Is always the question. Wait! What? Another execution! Damn - Where was I I've lost my chain of thought.....

by: N.O.

Vengeance is not the point; change is. But the trouble is that in most people's minds the thought of victory and the thought of punishing the enemy coincide.

-Barbara Deming

"I Have A Nightmare Speech 2017"

In Loving Memory Of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

I had a nightmare that bibles would be restricted from the schools and education for the lower class would be so under-rated that our kids would never be no more than a waitress or bartender with a dream. I had a nightmare that our Southern Blacks would never seek their history and remain in bondage to poverty. I had a nightmare that faith would not be on time due to the lack of work, for Holy Scriptures says, "Faith without works is dead"! I had a nightmare that the south would never stop executing Gods forgiven children with their slavery techniques. I had a nightmare that the police would continue killing my young black people. I had a nightmare that I would never see Equal Protection amongst the lower class citizens who are better known as lab rats. Question is, who are they experimenting for when they never kill a person outside of poor categories?

Raise up and fight all injustices. Speak highly favor toward the poor americans. Give the blacks at least one chance at rael life. Deny ignorance at our own level and read the books on the shelf. Become doctors, judges, politicians and congressmen. Neglect fear and speak showing mercy to the meek, kindness and forgiveness would become a part of our constitution and laws of the land would protect the sheep that pasture and graze in it. I had a nightmare that none of this would come to pass and your skin color wouldn't determine how far you are allowed to go in life due to where you were forced to live at from lack of sources and avenues...

I Had A Nightmare...

by: Jovon Gaston 2802

\* \* \* \* \*

Do you remember where the line is s'pose to go?  
Hello! I'm talking to you./ Who me? I wasn't here last time, that's probably why it didn't go right./ Well, if you wasn't here then I'm not talking to you am I. Matter of fact why are you here now. Never-mind if you know just tell me./ Look it's not your job to know what line goes where./ I know it's not my job to know, but I want to know. Like you said, you wasn't here last time but I was and I dont want to see that again. If you had been here, you would understand./ Yo I heard about that. Was it bad?/ Yes it was that bad. If you ever see something like that, you will never forget it./ I heard they told them to continue like everything was going as planned./ Look! I dont want to talk about it. I dont see how you can do this to people you know./ Well, we really dont know them, plus it's good money./ Well for me it's not easy. This is the second and last one for me. I dont need the money that bad./ And that's why they tell you not to get to know them, keep them at arms length and you would be able to do your job./ This isn't my job. My job is to keep them from killing each other. Not Kill them. I'm not that cold hearted. But you go right ahead. I'm good. Now will you show me how it's s'pose to go so we can get out of here please!./ Yea I'll show you.

by: Jessie M.D.Y. Phillips

\* \* \* \* \*

"Life Row"

As I still frequently think to myself, "How did I end up on Death Row"... I came here not knowing what to expect. With all the documentaries and movies you see on t.v.- prison can be rough. Not even to mention the thought of Death Row. But once I got here I seen guys that showed compassion. Care for one another and welcome you with open arms. I thought for a second, this is too good to be true. You are not about to con me out of anything! But it was quite the contrary. There was no schemes or strings attached. I cant speak for what their charges are or what the courts found them alledgedly guilty of; But I will speak of their overall character. Form my own observation, this is not Death Row.. This Is LIFE ROW! There is an abundance of life shown though us! There is love! There is compassion. There is hope for a brighter day! But most of all, I see changed hearts, renewed minds, and loving spirits. We may have came to Death Row as the courts seen fit to put us to death. But we found life! And life more abundantly! For as God says in His Word, Touch not my anointed ones and do my prophets no harm! As you delight yourself in Me, I will make even your enemies to be at peace with you! To everyone, join the fight and help us abolish the Death Penalty once and for all...

by: "The Traveling Man"  
Justice Knight Z806  
Holman 3700 N-13  
Atmore, Ala 36503

\* \* \* \* \*

"Rush To Kill - Troubling Way To Die"

Alabama's Legislatures are pushing to pass a bill that will streamline capital cases on Appeals. This will make it where Direct Appeals and Collateral Appeals will have to be filed at the same time... This bill has passed the senate. The bill then went to the House Of Representatives where is was passed with amendment to it. The amendment was: Instead of paying attorney's of capital murder cases \$1,500, they will be paid \$7,500. This is for each attorney... Trial, Direct and Collateral Appeal Attorney's. If this bill is passed, it will cut years off the appeal process of the capital defendants who are found guilty after the enactment date of the bill. Defendants who are innocent will be at high risk of being executed. Alabama Lawmakers are making this attempt despite the fact that Alabama faces opposition for the botched execution of the late Ronald B. Smith Jr.. And also at a truce where states throughout the United States faces challenges to recieving the controversial drug Midazolam. Arkansas attempted to murder 8 death row inmates throughout the month of April.. Three were botched and two recieved stays... Arkansas used the same controversial drug Midazolam in these three botched executions. Yet Alabama ignores the torture of this process, continues to seek execution dates and attempts to speed up death penalty appeals...

by: Randy Lewis Z741  
T.V.O.A.I.M.

"Project Hope"

Focusing very little on what the State Of Alabama has taken from me, I now parade time on what they have given me. Pen, paper, time to think, a Holy Bible, a Koran and a sound place to prove their racism, torture towards blacks and poor people in general. I find myself elaborating on how they make laws as they break them and only a scientific expert can show you that science never stay the same but expect you to believe a jury can give a defendant a fair trial. Let me point something out to you. My son was going into his second year at life on earth; He would pinch, hollar, pout, run away when me or his mother would say come here! He threw his shoes out of the car window riding down the road. He always cried for what he wanted, pooped his diaper right after I changed him! God I said my son was the worst because my cousin child was not like him; same family, and given the same love. Now going on 9 years of age, he doesn't do none of these things. Science never stays the same. But a jury's job is not to elaborate on science, it's to judge it. And that violates any individual his/her constitutional rights because the trial is never fair especially in a capital murder.

It's said that a capital murder defendant is the worst of the worst. But I'm here to tell you whether guilty or innocent, the trial was never fair because it bases its theory on a scientific gesture that goes unproven. Which the actual case says it must be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. People you cant prove science and a behavioral tactic comes from the mental which a scientific expert can not even prove because it never stays the same. How can we rely on a jury with a minimum GED level education to elaborate on something even experts cant prove. The Death Penalty is Unconstitutional but my pen and paper is not...

by: Jovon Gaston Z802

\* \* \* \* \*

*Project Hope to Abolish the Death Penalty  
P.O. Box 1362, Lanett, AL 36863  
Tel: 334 499 0003  
[beesther@earthlink.net](mailto:beesther@earthlink.net) • [www.phadp.org](http://www.phadp.org)*

*Project Hope to Abolish the Death Penalty is an Interfaith 501 C 3 organization whose mission is to educate and mobilize communities to act to abolish the death penalty in Alabama. PHADP relies on YOU for support. Suggested donations: \$25/individual, \$40/household, and \$100/congregation, or whatever amount is affordable. Checks should be made out to "PHADP" and sent to the above address.*



**Five  
Justice  
No  
People**

We have written about some of our brothers who were executed. We published them in no particular order and they can be found on our website [www.phadp.org](http://www.phadp.org)

Ron Smith Remembered by Bart Johnson

Ronald Bert Smith Jr. (Big Ron) was working as a trustee when I arrived at Holman in 2011. Those first few months are a rough transition, but he was one of the calming influences during that time. Helping me get settled in, giving me some books to read, and showing me the ropes. The first 90 days on life row ( we call it that) you are on single walk, a higher security status. But once I finally got off that I started seeing for myself all the things he had been telling me.

At the time he was the vice-chairman of Project Hope. He was there at my orientation, taught me a lot about the history and purpose of PHADP. He also shared a lot about his personal story and about some of our supporters that he wrote. Eventually I joined the sub-board, meeting with the board more often. I got to know him on a personal level. We watched a lot of the same TV programs, read the same books, so we always had plenty to talk about.

Our spiritual journeys also paralleled in a lot of ways. I can't speak for him but I learned a lot about relying on God to keep me strong for him, especially during the last year. It wasn't just me. I saw Ron lift up other brothers too, as well as himself. During the months leading up to his execution he stayed strong and firm in his faith. This was a good example for us. If Ron could be that filled with the Holy Spirit facing execution, those of us with more time can be too. We don't have to be downtrodden just because of where we are. We can be uplifted, we can uplift each other.

Ron did a lot for life row, for PHADP over the years, and just like those who came before him, we are dedicated to the same purpose. We have already reprinted a very insightful piece that Ron shared some years ago about the Supreme Court. We will continue to remember Ron and use his memory as motivation and inspiration to reach our goal of abolishing the death penalty in Alabama.



# A Christian Perspective

Produced By  
Project Hope to Abolish the Death Penalty



## Organizational Information

A Christian Perspective is  
Published by Project Hope  
To Abolish the Death  
Penalty. Address  
correspondence to: Bart  
Johnson, Editor  
(Z-778-F-18), Holman 3700,  
Atmore, AL 36503

## Editorial Staff

Editor  
Bart Johnson  
Assistant Editor  
Randy Lewis  
Writers-Contributing  
Jeffery Lee

## Executive Committee

Anthony Tyson  
President/CEO  
Bart Johnson  
Vice President  
Esther Brown  
Executive Director

Spiritual Advisor  
Donald Blocker

For more information  
about Project Hope to  
Abolish the Death Penalty,  
write to:  
PHADP, P.O. Box 1362  
Lanett, AL 36863

All articles in this  
newsletter may be  
reprinted without  
permission unless  
otherwise stated. We ask  
only that you put:  
*reprinted by permission  
of Project Hope to  
Abolish the Death  
Penalty, P.O. Box 1362  
Lanett, AL 36863*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Family and Friends,

Greetings and salutations! As we embark on our summer at Holman we have our struggles but we stay strong in our faith and dedication to abolish the death penalty. We appreciate all of your thoughts, prayers and encouragement.

Many of us have children growing up before our eyes and we appreciate the tremendous effort of those on the outside raising them right.

Congratulations are in order for the recent high school graduates; we wish you all the best as you go on to college. My little ones have successfully completed 6<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and I couldn't be prouder.

Today's scripture is Psalm 119-49-50:

Remember the word you pledged your servant,

On which you have built my hope.

This has been my comfort in my suffering:

That your promises give me life.

Special thanks to Jimmy Davis for diligently providing God's word and to all the brothers of life row who continually lift each other up in what would otherwise be difficult circumstances.

"Keeping Hope Alive"

Bart Johnson

Editor/A Christian Perspective F-18 Z-778



### UNA-Holman Pen Pal Program

The program I've set up with Esther is a modest one, but I do hope it is, as she suggests, a creative and compassionate rebellion against Alabama's death penalty. I call it the UNA-Holman Pen Pal Program, and it is 100% voluntary. My students at the University of North Alabama who elect to participate are paired with a member of Project Hope and they correspond as pen pals. All of the mail goes through my UNA box and I provide the postage and envelopes. Right now we have 15 student and community volunteers who are paired with 7 Project Hope members, so I've nearly achieved my provisional goal of assigning two people to each Project Hope member.

The philosophy is simple: each letter they write is a rebellion against a system that asks us to ignore and dehumanize inmates on death row. As Esther puts it, it allows Alabama citizens to attach a "name" or personality to people who are treated as numbers or statistics or, even more frequently, who are reduced to the worst thing they've ever done.

I hope that each time an execution date is scheduled, our participants will have to do a little more soul-searching. Alabamians are too complacent with a system that is rife with economic and racial bias as well as corruption. Actually, I discovered Project Hope through a death row exoneree named Gary Drinkard, whom we invited to campus earlier this semester to tell his story.

We are working on embedding this program within several sections of Honors EN 111-- our honors English composition courses. This activity really challenges students, in a unique way, to apply the principles of rhetoric and composition (audience, purpose, rhetorical context) to a real-life situation. Many of my students have sat down in my office and asked, "Where do I begin? My pen pal will never leave death row. What do I discuss with him that does not exacerbate the differences between us?" Together, we devise simple but strategic starting points-- questions, or a shared piece of literature, or a photograph. It also urges them to connect with others on a fundamental human-to-human level, which is what the humanities is all about.

Dr. Katie Owens-Murphy  
Advisory Board Member

It may be modest, at least from Katie's point of view, but from where we stand it is nothing short of miraculous. Over the years we have repeatedly worked on reaching out to students, after all they are our future, but of course what happens with students is that they move on when they graduate. And now we have not only a steady connection but one who really advocates for us. (Katie). We too discuss and share the letters received at Holman at our weekly meeting, discussing for example how to put the pen pal at ease etc. Part of our stated mission is to advocate and educate and here the men see a real opportunity to do just that. It is very meaningful to them and to me. And of course the education goes both ways! One of the men told me that the letter he had received was the most thoughtful he had ever read. We are impressed and very grateful!

Esther

### An Example of Action

As many of you know, my birthday is coming up and I am expecting an abundance of wishes to appear on my timeline, but I want to ask something of you that would mean a lot more while there is still time. First, let me explain why I am about to make this request of you all.

I recently completed a course on crime and punishment that completely challenged and ultimately changed my view of the death penalty. For as long as I had been alive I never thought about questioning this form of punishment, but as this course carried on I realized just how inhumane this form of punishment is. I am currently writing a man on death row, and I am left feeling so enamored by his sense of disposition he expressed in his letter. Too often we dehumanize the incarcerated, but with an open mind and heart, one can see there is so much potential in them if we are only willing to see it. If the act of murder is a sentence to prison because it is immoral, how then is it just to face the same injustice? Why don't we long to see a human being grow from their mistakes rather than allow their lives to come to a halt without any chance of redeeming themselves? I would never ask someone to define me by my mistakes, so it is only right that I do not judge someone solely by their mistake; there is a great need for understanding, guidance and acceptance.

I realize that this post is not going to convince many of you to see things from my perspective, but at least understand what I am conveying.

Please take time to either write to Governor Kay Ivey or send her an email asking her to request a stay of execution for Robert Melson. Now, I do not know this man, but I do not have to know him personally to know that his life has value. As I am about to celebrate my life, I ask you to help save another. Thank you for your time and be well.

Ashley Garcia

To Ms Ashley Garcia,

As a member of Project Hope to Abolish the Death Penalty and on behalf of the Board, I would like to thank you for the post you published on your Facebook page in which you encouraged those who follow you to contact Governor Kay Ivey and ask that she stay the execution of Mr. Robert Melson.

Also, on behalf of all of us I would like to applaud you for your expressed new perspective of those who are incarcerated. So many incarcerated individuals are thrown away, abandoned and written off as castaways by their families and friends who have no voice of concern regarding them...

Your courage of speaking with concern for Mr. Robert Melson has been heard and felt...

Thank you for voicing your opinion on the importance of humanizing the incarcerated.

Sincerely,

Randy Lewis

#### UNA-Holman Pen Pal Program

UNA's English department is offering a pen pal program in collaboration with Project Hope to Abolish the Death Penalty (<http://www.phadp.org/>). Students who volunteer are paired with death row inmates at Holman Correctional Facility. This program encourages students to apply the principles they have learned in EN 111 (first-year composition) in crafting letters that are sensitive to audience and rhetorical context. Correspondence is also one of the many ways we can help death row inmates to feel connected to society and affirm their humanity. Community members are welcome to join our pen pal program. For more information, please contact: Dr. Katie Owens-Murphy at [kowensmurphy@una.edu](mailto:kowensmurphy@una.edu).

- "It was because of my letters that I happened to stumble upon starting to acquire some kind of a homemade education." ~Malcolm X, *Autobiography*.
- "His letters conveyed not only empathy for my situation but also an optimistic faith that I could make a better human being of myself. Nobody else had ever believed in me or accepted me unconditionally." ~Jimmy Santiago Baca, *A Place to Stand*.

From the UNA English Department website

"The Arkansas Affect 8 in 11"

The Great State Of Arkansas in the month of April attempted to make the record books. The record wasn't sports related or some silly record like how many single arm push ups you can do in on minute. This record was more severe and cruel. Arkansas attempted to kill eight men in just eleven days. Wow, what a record to attempt. The 8 in 11 record was suppose to begin in April and end on May 1st. Arkansas was trying to accomplish a feat that has never bee attempted and their sole reason for even trying such a thing was because the drugs that they was using were set to expire on May 1st. So Arkansas was trying to basically kill eight men in eleven days with drugs that were almost expired. How do we know the potency of the drugs was adequate to render a man unconcious and ultimately killing a man. So the frantic pace of killing in Arkansas was purely based on the time of the expiring drugs. Yet the state wants you to believe that the appeal process has run it's course, but know the drugs was about to expire. While the nation was celebrating the Easter season, the state of Arkansas was trying to set a record in April. The 8 in 11 record fell short where only four men were killed. Three men were issued stays on executions on pending issues. The federal courts, pertaining to the state used false pretenses to obtain a key drug stated to be used in the executions. The laws of the Justice system should work for both the state and defendant, yet the states are allowed to bend and break the laws to benefit their agendas. Wake up America before the Arkansas 8 in 11 Affect becomes the norm for America.

by: Jeffery Lee  
"The Caring Christian"

HOPE + FAITH + PATIENCE = JUSTICE

"You Brought Us Hope"

The adverse winds blew against my lips,  
my little ship wit grief was tossed;  
my plans were gone, heart full of strife,  
and all my hope seemed to be lost.  
Then He arose, one word of peace.  
There was a calm, a sweet release.  
A tempest great of doubt and fear  
possessed my mind; No light was there to guide me,  
or make my vision clear. Dark Night!  
It was more than I could bear.  
Then He arose, I saw His face.  
There was a calm filled with His grace  
My heart was sinking beneath the wave of deepening  
tests and raging grief;  
All seemed as lost, and none could save.  
And nothing could bring me relief.  
Then He arose and spoke one word,  
There was a calm! It Is The Lord..

by: Earl McGahee Sr. Z466  
Holman 3700 H-18  
Atmore, Ala 36503

**Execute  
Justice  
Not  
People**



What PHADP means to me

I came across PHADP when I still lived in Germany. From the first moment I believed that there is a special bond between all the people involved in this organization.

You have the brothers inside who support and educate each other and you have Esther on the outside who is their voice.

I found it amazing to see how the organization works and how many people they touch on the outside. For me PHADP is not only a sign of hope but also of compassion and growth. I am proud to be a little piece of this organization. It helped me to grow and to learn about justice and forgiveness.

Yes, I had to learn to forgive the people who are involved in an execution and yes I learnt from PHADP that I am able to forgive. I will not forget but forgive.

My wish for PHADP is that more people from the outside start to be the voice! Go to vigils and write emails or letters to the governor when an execution is coming up. Support PHADP in all the work they do. Help that amazing group of individuals to keep the hope going...

Britta Slopianka

Advisory Board Member

Congratulations to Attorney John Palombi of the Federal Defenders for the Middle District of Alabama for successfully arguing for a stay of execution for Robert Melson before the 11<sup>th</sup> and winning a stay. What better time than now to tell all of the Federal Defenders that they are our unsung heroes and that we so appreciate all they do, and by all we do mean ALL, attorneys, investigators/paralegals, ALL! We know how heartbreaking your work so often is and we thank you for not giving up and for keeping us in the loop.

All of us of phadp