



Help Stop Washington State's September 10th Execution

Shortly after midnight of Sept. 10th, Washington State is scheduled to execute **Cal Brown**. Please send a letter to Governor Chris Gregoire and ask her to stay the execution and commute Brown's sentence to life without parole. The message can be as simple as "I support abolition of the death penalty. Please do not execute Cal Brown", or you can use the following talking points:

- The sanction of death, when it is not necessary to protect society, violates respect for human life and dignity.
- State-sanctioned killing in our names diminishes all of us.
- Its application is deeply flawed and can be irreversibly wrong, is prone to errors, and is biased by factors such as race, the quality of legal representation, and where the crime was committed.
- We have other ways to punish criminals and protect society.

To contact Governor Gregoire

Governor Chris Gregoire
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

phone: 360-902-4111
fax: 360-753-4110
www.governor.wa.gov/contact

There will be vigils on the evening of September 9th

- Olympia – State Capitol Steps, 7:00 p.m. to 12 Midnight
- Seattle – King County Courthouse (4th Ave. entrance) from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

For background information on why Catholics oppose the death penalty

Please see the resources available from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB): www.usccb.org/deathpenalty.

*"The right to life must be recognized in all its fullness.
In this context, I joyfully greet the initiative
by which Mexico abolished the death penalty in 2005."*

~ Pope Benedict XVI, July 2009

Jim Thomas, M.A.

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