

EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ref. Ares(2018)4067171 - 01/08/2018

Deputy Head of Delegation

Washington, 1 August 2018 del-usa.001.dir(2018) 4536111 KB/AD/st

The Honorable John Kasich Governor of Ohio Riffe Center, 30th Floor 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215-6117 Fax: 614 466 9354

Subject:

Commutation of the sentence of Mr Raymond Tibbetts

Dear Governor Kasich,

The European Union welcomes your decision, announced on July 20th, to commute the sentence of Mr. Raymond Tibbetts to life in prison without the possibility of parole. It is our position that the elimination of the death penalty is fundamental to the protection of human dignity.

We appreciate your recognition of the flaws in the sentencing phase of his trial, which had led the jury to sentence him to the death penalty.

We look forward to further the longstanding relationship between the European Union and the State of Ohio at the economic, political and cultural levels. The lively exchange between Ohio and all the Member States of the European Union is testimony to the strength of our ties.

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Vicini

Deputy Head of Delegation