



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Head of Delegation

Washington, 7 November 2017
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The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Governor of the State of Arkansas
State Capitol Room 250
500 Woodlane Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201

Fax: 501.682.1382

Subject: Execution of Mr Jack Greene

Dear Governor Hutchinson,

The European Union takes note of the fact that Mr. Jack Greene is to be executed in the State of Arkansas on November 9, 2017. The European Union, represented by the Delegation of the European Union in the United States, wishes to make an urgent humanitarian appeal on behalf of Mr. Greene.

The EU recognizes the serious nature of the crime involved, and wishes to express its sincere sympathy to the surviving family and friends of the victim. However, the European Union does not believe that the use of the death penalty can ever be justified.

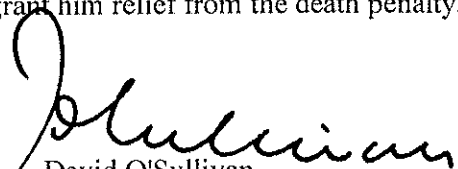
The European Union is opposed to the use of capital punishment under all circumstances and accordingly aims at its universal abolition, seeking a global moratorium on the death penalty as a first step. We believe that the elimination of the death penalty is fundamental to the protection of human dignity, and to the progressive development of human rights.

The EU is aware that there are major concerns about Mr. Greene's intellectual abilities and that post-conviction proceedings established an IQ of 76. Besides his potential intellectual disability, there are strong signs that Mr. Greene suffers from severe mental illness that renders him incompetent to be executed. The EU's guidelines for minimum standards state that capital punishment should not be imposed on persons suffering from any mental illness or having an intellectual disability.

We believe that any miscarriage of justice, or failure of the judicial system in the application of the death penalty, represents an irreparable loss of human life. No legal system is immune from error, nor is there any reliable evidence to support the argument that the death penalty is a deterrent to serious crime.

Taking account of these factors, we respectfully urge you, Governor, to exercise all powers vested in your office to commute the sentence of Mr. Jack Greene and grant him relief from the death penalty.

Yours sincerely,


David O'Sullivan
Ambassador