



EUROPEAN UNION  
DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Head of Delegation

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Office of Executive Clemency  
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**Subject: Execution of Mr Patrick Hannon**

Dear Members of the Clemency Board,

The European Union takes note of the fact that Mr. Patrick Hannon is to be executed in the State of Florida on November 8, 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. Hannon, who has been on death row for 26 years.

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 victims. However, the European Union does not believe that the use of the death penalty can ever be justified.

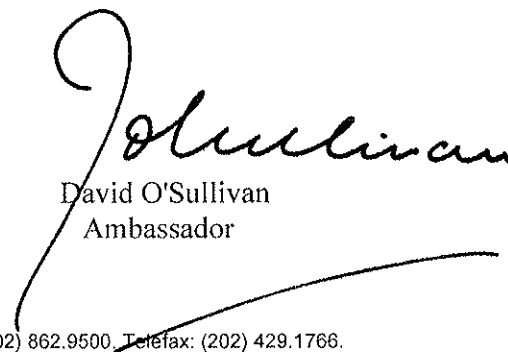
The European Union is opposed to the use of capital punishment under all circumstances and accordingly aims at its universal abolition, seeking a global moratorium on the death penalty as a first step. We believe that the elimination of the death penalty is fundamental to the protection of human dignity,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

The EU notes with concern that Mr. Hannon's trial lawyer presented no evidence of any mitigation during the penalty phase of the trial; such as his reported mental health issues, his suffering from parental neglect and indications that he had been intoxicated at the time of the crime.

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 to exercise all powers vested in your office to commute the sentence of Mr. Patrick Hannon and grant him relief from the death penalty.

Yours sincerely,



David O'Sullivan  
Ambassador