

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 227/07 (AMR 51/138/2007, 30 August 2007) – Death penalty/Imminent execution

USA (Tennessee) Daryl Keith Holton (m), white, aged 45

Daryl Holton was executed on 12 September. He was sentenced to death in 1999 for the murder of his three young sons and their half-sister in 1997.

Condemned prisoners convicted in Tennessee of crimes committed before 1999 can choose between lethal injection and the electric chair. Daryl Holton chose the latter.

This was the first execution to be carried out in Tennessee's electric chair since 7 November 1960. A report on execution procedures by the Tennessee Department of Correction in April 2007 states that in the case of executions in the electric chair, "electrocution equipment should be set to render 1750 volts at 7 amps, cycled on for 20 seconds, and on for an additional 15 seconds". The report states that the Department has tested the electrocution system "at least quarterly and has conducted regular maintenance as required".

Daryl Holton becomes the 40th person to be put to death in the USA this year and the 1,097th since judicial killing resumed in the USA in 1977. Tennessee has carried out four executions since it resumed them in 2000. It is the second execution carried out in Tennessee this year.

No further action is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.