



Maryland Citizens Against State Executions

MEDIA ADVISORY

November 6, 2007

CONTACTS:

Jane Henderson, 240-338-2579

Tom Waldron, 410-350-6637

Father of Oklahoma City Bombing Victim to Speak Out Against the Death Penalty

*Bud Welch to discuss his evolution from supporter to opponent
of execution of Timothy McVeigh*

Bud Welch, whose 23-year old daughter, Julie, and 167 others were killed in the bomb blast that destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah building in Oklahoma City, will speak at a series of events in mid-November in Maryland. He is a riveting speaker who brings a remarkably important voice to the death penalty debate.

Mr. Welch had opposed the death penalty but Julie's death prompted bouts of anger, pain, hatred and a desire for revenge. After months of agony, Mr. Welch began to question that desire for revenge and concluded that nothing positive would arise from McVeigh's execution.

Mr. Welch has spent many years speaking out against the death penalty. He met Bill McVeigh, Tim McVeigh's father, and the two formed a friendship that is being documented in an upcoming film. Mr. Welch has addressed the Russian Duma, the British and the European Parliaments, and universities and groups across Europe. He has testified twice before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee.

Bud Welch Events

Tuesday, November 13, 7 pm: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1025 S. Potomac Street, Baltimore, MD with David Kaczynski

Wednesday November 14, 7 pm: Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Rd, Rockville, MD

Friday November 16, 6:30 pm: Mount Saint Mary's University – Purcell Hall, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd, Emmitsburg, MD

Saturday November 17, 7 pm: St John's Lutheran Church, 8808 Harford Rd, Parkville, MD with Kirk Bloodsworth

Bud Welch's visit to Maryland follows significant movement in the Maryland legislature last session toward repeal of the death penalty. Legislation to repeal the death penalty and replace it with life without parole won strong support from Gov. Martin O'Malley. Legislation to repeal the death penalty will be introduced again in the 2008 session.

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Maryland Citizens Against State Executions is a coalition of groups and individuals united to end the death penalty in Maryland through education, grassroots action, and public demonstration.