



Maryland Citizens Against State Executions

MEDIA ADVISORY

March 12, 2007

CONTACTS:

Jane Henderson, 240-338-2579

Laura Hayes, 301-656-0348

Law Enforcement Officials Urge Repeal of Maryland's Death Penalty; *Say Life Without Parole is More Effective* *More than three dozen prison wardens, police officers, and prosecutors in Maryland sign letter urging repeal*

WHAT: Press conference with leading law enforcement officials.

Death penalty repeal sign-on letter will be released.

WHEN: Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Room 145, Baltimore City Delegation Room, House Office Building, Annapolis

A wide-ranging group of corrections officials, police and prosecutors will call for full repeal of the death penalty in Maryland at a press conference Tuesday.

Speakers will include:

- **John Clark**, former federal prison warden, Marion, Ill.
- **Gary Hilton**, former warden, Trenton (N.J.) State Prison, and former Commissioner, N.J. Department of Corrections
- **Patrick V. Murphy**, former police commissioner, New York City, Detroit, and Washington, D.C.
- **James Abbott**, chief of police, West Orange, N.J., and member of the New Jersey Death Penalty Study Commission
- **Andrew Sonner**, former state's attorney, Montgomery County, and former judge, Maryland Court of Special Appeals.
- **I. Matthew Campbell**, former deputy state's attorney, Montgomery County, Md.

“When those who have devoted their lives to public safety join together to say the death penalty has failed, it’s time that we all stop and listen,” said Jane Henderson, executive director of Maryland Citizen Against State Executions. “These law enforcement officials have seen first-hand that the death penalty is a distraction and a hindrance and that the certain and severe punishment of life without parole much more effectively serves public safety.”

Legislation to repeal the death penalty and replace it with a sentence of life without parole is pending in the Maryland House of Delegates and Senate. A Senate committee vote is expected this week.

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