Richard C. Dieter EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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DEATH PENALTY INFORMATION CENTER

November 15, 1993

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to send you this copy of the Death Penalty Information Center's latest effort, Innocence and the Death Penalty: Assessing the Danger of Mistaken Executions. This report is the result of a request we received from Rep. Don Edwards (D-CA), Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, regarding people who have been released from death row in recent years. We wrote a report which the staff of the Subcommittee then edited and released at a Capitol Hill press conference on October 21. I hope that you will find this reprint useful.

As with much of our work, this report depended heavily on earlier research--in this case, the work of Hugo Bedau and Michael Radelet. One of the dimensions which DPIC adds to this effort, is attracting new media attention to the issue. The release of this report was covered by *The Today Show, Larry King Show, Fox TV, National Public Radio, Pacifica Radio,* and numerous newspapers, including *The Washington Post* (editorial), *Dallas Morning News, Baltimore Sun, Austin American-Statesman, Detroit News, Pittsburgh Post Gazette, Houston Chronicle, Charleston Gazette,* and many other papers from which we are still receiving clippings.

If you would like an additional copy of the report, the cost is \$4 which includes shipping. If you want multiple copies (10 or more), the cost is \$2 each, which is about what it cost us for printing. Our next report will focus on the death penalty in Texas, emphasizing that the rest of the country may be facing crises similar to those in Texas if capital punishment continues on its current path. Please keep us informed about developments in your own state and let us know ways that DPIC can be helpful to you.

I look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Dieter

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DEATH PENALTY INFORMATION CENTER

December 22, 2000

Dear Friends,

I am writing to introduce myself as the new Communications Director for the Death Penalty Information Center. Previously working in Senator Olympia J. Snowe's communications office, I am pleased to now be a part of this team that serves as a reliable resource for those working on this issue, for the media and the public.

It is no secret that growing concern about the fairness and accuracy of the death penalty in the United States has resulted in extensive media coverage of this issue, and grassroots organizations focusing on capital punishment are developing at a rapid pace. I would like to offer the Center as an educational partner for any media training needs your organization may have, as well as a resource for your group as it works to gain visibility. With an established group of death penalty experts and media professionals, the Center can provide crucial guidance that will enable your organization to reach even more members of your community.

In the coming weeks, you will receive additional information about the Death Penalty Information Center's new media training workshop. This program will provide essential tools that members of your organization can use to establish a message, generate media and public attention, and further the agenda of your group. From newspaper articles and press events to the Internet and targeted mailings, there are a number of resources available that can serve as a platform for your group's message. This workshop will be an excellent chance for all members to gain a greater understanding of how these various forms of communication can affect the future of capital punishment.

I have enclosed a copy of DPIC's most recent year-end report, "A Watershed Year of Change: New Revelations About Death Penalty Reverse Years of Division," for your review. In addition, I hope that you will also take this opportunity to bookmark our award-winning Internet site at its new address, www.deathpenaltyinfo.org. where I will frequently post updated links to its extensive library of useful information. Please feel free to contact me for additional information that you may need and to let me know how DPIC can help with your work. I may be reached by calling (202) 293-6970 or through email at bbowser@essential.org.

Please accept my very best wishes for an enjoyable holiday season. I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Brenda Bowser

Enclosure