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December 22, 2002
Governor Ronnie Musgrove
State of Mississippi
Office of the Governor
PO Box 139
Jackson, MS 39205
Dear Governor Ronnie Musgrove:
I urge you to grant clemency to Ron Chris Foster=2E Mr=2E Foster was sentenc=
to death for the 1989 murder of George Shelton=2E He is scheduled to be exec=
on January 8, 2003=2E
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uted

While I have tremendous sympathy for the family and friends of George Shelton, I am outraged that Mr=2E Foster was sentenced to death for a murder=

committed when he was only 17 years old=2E

The execution of juvenile offenders flagrantly violates international law, which demands protection for minors against the death penalty=2E This practice has been condemned by numerous international bodies, including the United Nations and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and was recently described by four U=2ES=2E Supreme Court justices as a "shamefu=

practice" that must be ended=2E

Governor Musgrove, I join with Amnesty International in calling on you to put an immediate end to this shameful practice of executing juvenile offenders=2E In the interest of conforming to evolving standards of decency=

and preserving the reputation of your state, I urge you grant clemency to Chris Foster=2E

Thank you for your time and attention to this serious matter=2E

Sincerely,

Vaughan Dutton 4 Dover Road Westville, ot South Africa