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December 8, 2002

Dear Governor Musgrove,

This is a formal request that the State of Mississippi grant a stay on the execution of Jessie Derrell Williams, now scheduled for December 11, 2002.

The death penalty is a cruel and barbaric practice that is based more on revenge and racism than justice. I hope you will provide some leadership for Mississippi to consi der a moratorium on all executions. I realize that many people in Mississippi disagre e with me, and think we should kill more criminals, and do it faster. It's time for e ducation and awareness. There is nothing Christian or loving in wanting someone killed, for any reason.

Our culture is overwhelmed with violence, and it shows in many ways. It's time we find other ways.

Sincerely, Carmen Walker

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