

William Barr
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
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USA

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Stop the executions of four men

Dear Attorney General Barr,

I am writing to ask to do all in your power to call off the executions of four men convicted under US federal law, currently set for 26 and 28 August and 22 and 24 September, and abandon any plans to pursue further death warrants.

The three executions carried out over four days in July 2020 have provided new evidence of flaws and arbitrariness that have long affected the US death penalty system. Racial bias and flawed legal representation are some of the common factors that have contributed to unreliable judicial decisions on life or death, including for people with severe mental and intellectual disabilities. I ask you to intervene and lead the urgent review of the broken US death penalty system.

As of today, 22 US states have now abolished the death penalty, and 11 others have not carried out executions in more than 10 years. 2019 figures on executions and death sentences confirmed that yearly US totals remain within historical lows. Similar trends are reflected at a global level.

I encourage you to do everything in your power to call off the scheduled executions and end the cycle of violence. Thank you for your attention to this human rights matter.

Yours sincerely,

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