

HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.
4TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES

JUDICIARY

SMALL BUSINESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1004

SUBCOMMITTEES:

AIR AND LAND FORCES
STRATEGIC FORCESCOURTS, INTERNET, AND
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
COMMERCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
CRIME, TERRORISM, AND HOMELAND
SECURITYFINANCE AND TAX
RURAL AND URBAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

July 12, 2007

VIA FAX AND HAND DELIVERY

Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles

RE: Troy Anthony Davis

Dear Chairman Hunt and Board Members:

The case of Troy Anthony Davis will be before you on Monday, July 16, 2007. As you know, Mr. Davis is facing execution on Tuesday, July 17, 2007. His best hope at this time is clemency and it is within your purview to grant it.

I am writing this letter to add my voice to the many others urging you to stop an irreversible action that will end all attempts at ensuring that justice is done. You have an important opportunity to right a wrong that will be a stain on our State and our system of justice.

Because of a number of well-documented problems with the case and the inability to have a proper appeal through the Federal system, Mr. Davis is due to be executed amid innumerable doubts and omissions.

The death penalty is the most final of sentences and, in recent years, we have seen more than 120 innocent prisoners removed from Death Rows across the nation. We have no way to know how many innocent people have been executed because of flaws in our system of justice. However, from those numbers we can extrapolate that it is very high indeed and even one innocent person executed is one too many.

You have received many heartfelt and reasoned pleas from Members of Congress, Religious Leaders, the Legal Community and Anti-Death Penalty Advocates, but none more telling than that of former FBI Director and U.S. District Court Judge William Sessions, who stated his case in an Op-Ed column in the Atlanta Journal Constitution on July 10, 2007. (copy attached) A strong supporter of the death penalty, Judge Sessions stated:

"Former Chief Justice William Rehnquist, once wrote that the judicial system 'like the human beings who administer it, is fallible.' I agree. Especially when it comes to a human life, the courts should always be able to examine claims of innocence.....It would be intolerable to execute an innocent man. It would be equally intolerable to execute a man without his claims of innocence ever being considered by the courts or by the executive. Georgia's Board of Pardons and Paroles can consider the issues raised by Davis. I urge that body to immediately do so and to grant clemency."

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1133 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE (202) 225-1605
FAX (202) 226-0881

SOUTH DISTRICT OFFICE
5700 HILLDALE DRIVE, SUITE 110
LITHONIA, GA 30058
PHONE (770) 987-2291
FAX (770) 987-8721

NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE
3469 LAWRENCEVILLE HIGHWAY, SUITE 205
TUCKER, GA 30084
PHONE (770) 839-2016
FAX (770) 839-3753

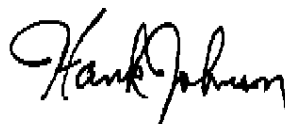
Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles
July 12, 2007
Page 2

I join with Judge Sessions, my colleagues in Congress and the myriad voices around the world who are urging you to be guided by fairness, reason and rationality in granting clemency to Troy Anthony Davis.

Thank you for your consideration of this plea.

With best regards, I remain,

Very truly yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hank Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr., Esq.
Member of Congress

