



COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS
P.O. BOX 12308, CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

SHARON KELLER
PRESIDING JUDGE

LAWRENCE E. MEYERS
TOM PRICE
PAUL WOMACK
CHERYL JOHNSON
MIKE KEASLER
BARBARA P. HERVEY
CHARLES R. HOLCOMB
CATHY COCHRAN
JUDGES

LOUISE PEARSON
CLERK
512-463-1551

EDWARD J. MARTY
GENERAL COUNSEL
512-463-1597

December 17, 2007

Scott Cobb
3616 Far West Blvd., Suite 117, Box 251
Austin, Texas 78731

Dear Mr. Cobb:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the recent letter to R.G. Ratliffe. Enclosed please find copies of the letter and of the accompanying document.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jeanne Salyer'.

Jeanne Salyer



COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS
P.O. BOX 12308, CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

SHARON KELLER
PRESIDING JUDGE

LAWRENCE E. MEYERS
TOM PRICE
PAUL WOMACK
CHERYL JOHNSON
MIKE KEASLER
BARBARA P. HERVEY
CHARLES R. HOLCOMB
CATHY COCHRAN
JUDGES

LOUISE PEARSON
CLERK
512-463-1551

EDWARD J. MARTY
GENERAL COUNSEL
512-463-1597

December 3, 2007

R.G. Ratliffe
Houston Chronicle
San Antonio Express-News
1005 Congress Ave., Suite 1060
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Ratliffe:

We have received your letter requesting information from the Court under the Texas Public Information Act. We respond to your request pursuant Rule 12 of the Rules of Judicial Administration.

You request copies of all written policies that were in existence on September 25, 2007, regarding certain matters relating to executions. No written policies regarding those matters existed on that date. Subsequent to that date, the Court reduced to writing the unwritten policies that did exist on that date. I enclose a copy of that document.

We hope that we have provided you with the information that you require. If you believe that we have not, Rule 12.9 provides the procedure for appealing from the denial of a request. The Administrative Director of the Office of Court Administration is Mr. Carl Reynolds. His address is 205 W. 14th Street, Suite 600, Austin, Texas, 78701. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharon Keller

Enclosure

Execution-day Procedures

A designated judge will be assigned to be in charge of each scheduled execution. Generally, judges will be assigned in rotating seniority order by the general counsel. Exceptions in order of assignment will be made for prior involvement in the death-row inmate's case as trial judge, prosecutor, or defense counsel, or for recusal. Judges may also trade assignments, with notice to all other judges and general counsel, for other good cause such as anticipated absence from court on the day of execution. Unless the Court has been informed by defense counsel that no pleadings will be filed, or pleadings have been filed and ruled on, general counsel shall be present at the Court on the date of the scheduled execution until the time of execution has passed. The assigned judge shall be present at the Court, or immediately available, on the date of the scheduled execution until the time of execution has passed. Support staff may be requested to remain, also, as needed.

All communications regarding the scheduled execution shall first be referred to the assigned judge. The term "communications" includes pleadings, telephone calls, faxes, e-mails, and any other means of communication with the Court. The assigned judge may call a special conference or gather votes by telephone, e-mail, fax, or other form of communication.

If the communication includes a request for stay of execution, the assigned judge shall contact, by any reasonable means, the other members of the Court and request a vote on the motion to stay. Non-assigned judges will provide to the assigned judge an adequate means of contact. "Reasonable means" includes calling a special conference and contact by electronic communication.