

- Local
- State
- Nation
- World
- Crime
- Sound Off
- Politics & Elections
- Weather
- Obituaries
- Columnists
- Photo Galleries
- RSS
- Newsletter

Published Friday, October 26, 2007

### Halt executions for review of rules

**We agree with Gov. Bob Riley that the crimes for which Daniel Lee Siebert was sentenced to die were "monstrous, brutal and ghastly." He was convicted of murdering two women and two children, ages 4 and 5, in 1986.**

- LARGE TEXT
- PRINT
- EMAIL
- DISCUSS
- SHARE

We also agree with state prosecutors that Siebert's claim that the state's lethal injection drugs could interact with his cancer medication, causing him needless suffering as he died, is not supported by evidence.

Yet the ruling of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta to stay the execution, which had been scheduled for Thursday, until the U.S. Supreme Court hears a lethal injection challenge in Kentucky was undoubtedly correct. It would be wrong to kill Siebert with the question of the legality of lethal injections unresolved.

Riley had promised he would not block the execution but the appeals court decision left him little choice. The governor is a strong supporter of the rule of law, not given to grandstanding defiances like former state chief justice Roy Moore.

If there is any consolation for the governor and others who hoped for Siebert's execution this week, it is that he will die in prison. The 53-year-old convict has terminal pancreatic cancer and is expected to be dead within a few months.

Still, the fact that the appeals court ruling left Riley in a difficult situation is yet another argument for a state moratorium on the death penalty to allow for a thorough review of the process, incorporation of relevant higher court rulings and an initiative in the Legislature to resolve the many problems associated with the administration of capital punishment in Alabama.

Advertisement

Advertisement

**Last 20 messages**

General forum » [Friday Night Meet and Greet](#) - jeepster (3)

General forum » [Carolyn Chandler](#) - biggedy2 (15)

General forum » [Hoover has to forfeit](#) - tmae (64)

General forum » [I BELIEVE THAT](#) - macdaddy31 (1)

General forum » [HaPpY BiRtHdAy, Musicandlyrics!!!](#) - jeepster (14)

General forum » [Thanks Kenny](#) - Buckeye (5)

General forum » [Just a Note of Thanks](#) - jeepster (10)

General forum » [Response to Bachus letter](#) - macdaddy31 (4)

General forum » [squamous cell carcinoma](#) - Celly (17)

General forum » [Shelter dogs get home makeover](#) - curve (11)

General forum » [New sniglet](#) - MississippiTider (22)

General forum » [What's the best way to marinate a b...](#) - fields (19)

General forum » [Montgomery cancer doctor loses medi...](#) - sugar overdose

General forum » [Degree Question](#) - emscars3 (49)

General forum » [TCHS football game](#) - fields (11)

General forum » [Mercedes to make 1 millionth SUV](#) - Wise Beyond Years (6)

General forum » [Discipline "Back In The Day" Is Now...](#) - Lewdielew (32)

General forum » [Is Christianity a vicious, mean rel...](#) - BunnyGirl (90)

General forum » [Elementary school teacher suspended...](#) - knighted (24)

General forum » [A new job for Kenny?](#) - kennelmaster (5)

**Last 20 messages**

General forum » [Friday Night Meet and Greet](#) - jeepster (3)

General forum » [Carolyn Chandler](#) - biggedy2 (15)

General forum » [Hoover has to forfeit](#) - tmae (64)

General forum » [I BELIEVE THAT](#) - macdaddy31 (1)

General forum » [HaPpY BiRtHdAy, Musicandlyrics!!!](#) - jeepster (14)

General forum » [Thanks Kenny](#) - Buckeye (5)

General forum » [Just a Note of Thanks](#) - jeepster (10)

General forum » [Response to Bachus letter](#) - macdaddy31 (4)

General forum » [squamous cell carcinoma](#) - Celly (17)

**TOP JOBS**

» [View all Top Jobs](#)

» [Search Jobs](#)

**TOP PROPERTIES**

» [View all Top Properties](#)

» [Search all homes](#)

**TOP WHEELS**

» [View all Top Wheels](#)

**TOP YARD SALES**

» [View all Top Yard Sales](#)

**TOP PETS**

» [View all Top Pets](#)

Advertisement



General forum » [Shelter dogs get home makeover](#) - curve (11)

General forum » [New sniglet](#) - MississippiTider (22)

General forum » [What's the best way to marinate a b...](#) - fields (19)

General forum » [Montgomery cancer doctor loses medi...](#) - sugar overdose

General forum » [Degree Question](#) - emscars3 (49)

General forum » [TCHS football game](#) - fields (11)

General forum » [Mercedes to make 1 millionth SUV](#) - Wise Beyond Years (6)

General forum » [Discipline "Back In The Day" Is Now...](#) - Lewdielew (32)

General forum » [Is Christianity a vicious, mean rel...](#) - BunnyGirl (90)

General forum » [Elementary school teacher suspended...](#) - knighted (24)

General forum » [A new job for Kenny?](#) - kennelmaster (5)

Other New York Times Regional Media Group Alabama sites:

[TimesDaily](#) | [The Gadsden Times](#) | [Tide Sports](#)

Copyright © 2007 Tuscaloosa News. All Rights Reserved.