

DEATH PENALTY ACTION

Advisory for: Monday at 11am EDT
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Rally to Demand Walter Surface Technologies Ban Gas Masks Manufactured by Allegro Industries During Executions by Nitrogen Suffocation

Event Launches Tracking of National Execution Spree - 5 executions from Sept 20- 26 Could End With 1600th Post-Furman Execution

WINDSOR, CT — Worth Rises and Death Penalty Action will gather with local advocates outside the U.S. corporate headquarters of Walter Surface Technologies, the parent company of South Carolina-based Allegro Industries, the safety-equipment manufacturer that produced the respirator mask used to carry out the first-ever nitrogen suffocation execution. The groups will deliver nearly 30,000 petition signatures calling on the companies to disavow the use of their safety equipment in the planned September 26th nitrogen gas suffocation execution of Alan Miller in Alabama.

The protest launches the tracking of five executions in a seven day period across the United States. The first execution in over a decade in South Carolina is set for Friday, September 20, 2024. If that and the other three executions set for September 24 in Texas and Missouri and September 26 in Oklahoma all go forward, Alabama's gas suffocation execution of Alan Miller will be the 1600th execution in the United States since the resumption of executions in 1977.

A respirator mask manufactured by Allegro Industries was used to execute Kenneth Eugene Smith in Alabama on January 25 and will be used again on September 26, when Alabama is scheduled to use gas suffocation to execute Alan Miller. The United Nations has condemned nitrogen suffocation as a violation of international human rights outlined in treaties ratified by the United States.

The upcoming action follows the delivery of nearly 5,000 petition signatures by faith leaders and activists to Allegro Industries executives at its South Carolina headquarters on August 22. The petition demanded the corporation ban the use of its respirator masks in executions. Allegro executives locked the doors and called the police in response.

Advocates are now calling on Walter Surface Technologies to take accountability where its subsidiary has failed, and disavow the use of its safety products to carry out death sentences.

What: Rally to demand Walter Surface Technology stop its subsidiary Allegro Industries from supplying equipment for executions.

When: Monday, September 16, 2024, 11:00am EST

Where: Walter Surface Technologies ([810 Day Hill Rd., Windsor, CT](#)), outside

Who: Morgan Duckett, Corporate Campaigns Senior Associate, Worth Rises
Abraham Bonowitz, Executive Director, Death Penalty Action
Gary Drinkard, Exonerated Death Row Survivor, Witness to Innocence member
Deacon George Kain, Ph. D., Diocese of Bridgeport, Chaplain at the Ridgefield
Police Department

Note to Editors:

The public is invited to hear from a variety of speakers about the coming execution spree and the state of the death penalty in the United States at a public event at 7pm on Monday, September 16, at New Haven Friends Meeting, [225 East Grand Avenue, New Haven, CT 06513](#). This "Voices of Experience on the Death Penalty" event is the first in a series of events as the group travels and speaks at universities in Delaware, Washington, DC and throughout Alabama as the September 26th gas suffocation execution approaches.

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