



THE PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO THE  
UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
IN GENEVA

January 19, 2024

Morris Tidball-Binz

Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions  
Geneva, Switzerland

Tlaleng Mofokeng

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard  
of physical and mental health  
Geneva, Switzerland

Margaret Satterthwaite

Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers  
Geneva, Switzerland

Alice Jill Edwards

Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Special Procedures Mandate Holders,

Please find enclosed the U.S. response to your letter UA USA 29/2023 dated December  
14, 2023.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Billingsley".

Kelly Billingsley  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Human Rights Delegation

**U.S. response re. Mr. Kenneth Eugene Smith**

Thank you for your December 14 letter regarding the State of Alabama's scheduled execution of Mr. Kenneth Eugene Smith. The United States is governed by a complex federalist system, where the federal government and U.S. state governments share power and jurisdiction over criminal justice, including prosecutions and sentences. Accordingly, requests for information regarding cases under the jurisdiction of U.S. states or laws of U.S. states are referred to the state in question, in this case Alabama. We have passed your request for information to the relevant state authorities.