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CSU Cleveland State
University

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

1801 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115
Telephone: (216) 687-2344

FEMALE OFFENDERS ON DEATH ROW
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by

Victor L. Streib
Professor of Law
(216) 687-2311
or 751-9486

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Cleveland State University

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The number of female offenders under sentences of death has risen slowly, beginning in the low to mid twenties several years ago. As of the end of 1989, there were twenty-nine females under thirty death sentences. Debra Brown was under two death sentences (Indiana and Ohio).

The practice of sentencing female offenders to death remains at a remarkably low rate. The annual number of female death sentences in the past decade has been four in 1979, two in 1980, three in 1981, five in 1982, four in 1983, eight in 1984, five in 1985, three in 1986, five in 1987, five in 1988, and eight in 1989. This is a decade in which the annual death sentencing rate for all offenders began at 160 per year and since 1984 has leveled off at about 300 per year. Thus, female death sentences average less than 2% of the total death sentences each year.

All twenty-nine female offenders now on death row were convicted and sentenced to death for murder. Two-thirds of these condemned female offenders are white, in contrast to male offenders only half of whom are white. The names and other information for these cases are as follows:

ALABAMA

Haney, Judy: White; age 32 at crime and now age 38 (DOB 6-69-51); murder of her white (?) husband (hired her brother-in-law to commit killing) in Talledega County on 1-1-84; sentenced on 11-18-88.

Harris, Louise: Black; age about 35 at time of crime and now age 36 (DOB 6-16-53); murder of her black husband (hired someone to commit killing) in Montgomery County in 1988(?); sentenced on 8-11-89.

Neelley, Judith Ann: White; age 18 at time of crime and now age 25 (DOB 6-7-64); kidnapping and murder of white female age 13 in DeKalb County on 9-28-82; sentenced on 4-18-83.

Thomas, Patricia Ann (aka Jackson): Black; age 33 at crime and now age 42 (DOB 12-31-47); murder of black female adult in Tuscaloosa County on 2-28-81; sentenced on 12-28-81.

Walker, Maxine Altione: White; age 43 at crime and now age 45 (DOB 9-10-44); murder of white male boyfriend (hired nephews to commit killing) in Talladega County on 3-31-88; sentenced on 12-15-88.

FLORIDA

Buenoana, Judias V. (aka Judy Ann Goodyear): White; age 28 at crime and now age 46 (DOB 4-4-43); arsenic murder of white husband in Orlando on 9-16-71; sentenced on 11-26-85.

Casteel, Dee Dyne: White; age 45 at crime and now age 51 (DOB 6-5-38); robbery and murder of white male adult and white female age 84 in Miami on 8-20-83; sentenced on 9-16-87.

Jackson, Andrea Hicks (aka Felice): Black; age 25 at crime and now age 31 (DOB 2-26-58); murder of black male police officer in Jacksonville on 5-16-83; sentenced on 2-10-84.

INDIANA

Brown, Debra Denise: Black; age 21 at crime and now age 27 (DOB 11-11-62); murder of black female age 7 in Gary on 6-18-84; sentenced on 6-23-86.

Landress, Cindy Lou: White; age 30 at crime and now age 31 (DOB 1-20-58); murder of white male adult (her boyfriend) in Hammond (Lake County) on 4-23-88; sentenced on 6-26-89.

Thacker, Lois A.: White; age 25 at crime and now age 31 (DOB 1-27-58); murder of her white husband (hired someone to commit killing) in Orange County on 11-3-84; sentenced on 6-27-85.

KENTUCKY

Foster, Lafonda Faye: White; age 22 at crime and now age 26 (DOB 8-30-63); murder of 3 white males and 2 white females in Fayette County on 3-9-86; sentenced on 4-24-87.

MISSOURI

Twenter, Virginia: White; age 26 at crime and now age 28 (DOB 9-1-61); murder of her mother in Pettus County on 5-4-88; sentenced on 1-6-89.

Wacaser, Nila: White; age 39 at crime and now age 41 (DOB 12-2-48); murder of her two children (boys ages 8 and 11) in Kansas City on 8-28-87; sentenced on 5-31-88.

NEVADA

Ford, Priscilla: Black; age 51 at crime and now age 60 (DOB 2-10-29); murder of 3 white females and 3 white males in Reno on 11-27-80; sentenced on 4-29-82.

NORTH CAROLINA

Cox, Donna Sue: White; age 27 at crime and now age 30 (DOB 4-6-59); murder of white male adult (her boyfriend) in Parkton (Robeson County) on 7-12-86; sentenced on 10-30-87.

Stager, Barbara Terry: White; age 39 at crime and now age 41 (DOB 10-30-48); murder of her husband in Durham (Durham County) on 2-1-88; sentenced on 5-19-89.

OHIO

Brown, Debra Denise: Black; age 21 at crime and now age 27 (DOB 11-11-62); murder of black female age 15 in Cincinnati on 7-13-84; sentenced on 6-18-85.

Grant, Rosalie: Black; age 22 at crime and now age 29 (DOB 6-20-60); murder of her two young sons in Youngstown on 4-1-83; sentenced on 10-21-83.

Green, Elizabeth: Black; age 24 at crime and now age 26 (DOB 1-13-63); robbery and murder of black male age 68 in Cincinnati on 1-4-88; sentenced on 7-11-88.

Lampkin, Beatrice: Black; age about 46 at crime and now age 47 (DOB 10-3-41); murder of her husband in Hamilton County in 1988(?); sentenced on 4-26-89

OKLAHOMA

Allen, Wanda Jean: Black; age about 28 at crime and now age 30 (DOB 8-17-59); murder of female adult in 1988(?); sentenced on 4-26-89.

Jones, Patricia: White; age about 36 at crime and now age 37 (DOB ?); murder in 1988?; sentenced on 12-7-89.

Plantz, Marilyn Kay: White; age about 27 at crime and now age 29 (DOB 10-19-60); murder of husband in 1988?; sentenced on 3-31-89.

Smith, Lois Nadean: White; age 41 at crime and now age 49 (DOB 9-12-40); murder of white female adult in Gans (Sequoia County) on 7-4-82; sentenced 12-29-82.

TENNESSEE

Owens, Gaille Kirksey: White; age 32 at crime and now age 37 (DOB 9-22-52); murder of husband (had someone commit killing) in Shelby County on 2-17-85; sentenced on 1-15-86.

TEXAS

Beets, Betty Lou: White; age 46 at crime and now age 52 (DOB 3-12-37); murder of husband in Athens (Henderson County) on 8-6-83; sentenced on 10-14-85.

Newton, Francis Elaine: Black; age 21 at crime and now age 24 (DOB 4-12-65); murder of husband (black male age 23), son (black male age 7), and daughter (black female age 1) in Houston on 4-7-87; sentenced on 11-17-88.

Perillo, Pamela Lynn: White; age 24 at crime and now age 34 (DOB 12-3-55); robbery and murder of white (?) male age 26 in Houston on 2-24-80; sentenced on 9-2-80 and 11-13-84.

Tucker, Karla Faye: White; age 23 at crime and now age 30 (DOB 11-18-59); murder of white female age 32 and white male age 27 in Houston on 6-13-83; sentenced on 4-25-84.