Honorarium Request for Exoneree Speaking Events

About Reginald Griffin and Joseph Amrine, Two Missouri Death Row Exonerees

Joseph Amrine was released from jail in June 2003 when he was 46 after the Missouri Supreme Court overturned his conviction and death sentence. Joe was sentenced to death in 1986 for the murder of a fellow prison inmate, Gary Barber, and spent seventeen years of his life on Missouri’s death row. Joe maintained his innocence, and investigators were never able to provide any physical evidence linking Joe to the crime. Joe was convicted mainly because of the testimony of fellow inmates, three of whom later recanted their testimony, admitting that they lied in exchange for protection.

Reggie Griffin grew up on the streets of St. Louis and at a young age, he got into a fight with a rival and ended up in prison on an assault charge. While serving his sentence at Moberly Correctional Center, Reggie heard about that three guys stabbing a fellow inmate to death. Later, he was stunned to learn he was charged with the crime and convicted based on the word of two jailhouse informants who received reduced sentences in exchange for their testimony. After a jury deliberated for 45 minutes and then sentenced him to death in 1988, Reggie spent about 23 years on the row. In 2011, the MO Supreme Court overturned his death sentence because prosecutors had withheld critical evidence: Moberly guards had confiscated a sharpened screwdriver from another inmate, Jeffrey Smith, immediately after the stabbing. Reggie was released in 2013 as the 4th person exonerated from death row in Missouri.

Honorarium Payment for Exoneree Speaking Events

We generally ask for a $750 honorarium/speaker fee payment to include all expenses, including time and travel expenses, associated with event.

- $250 per speaker per event
- $250 for MADP to continue to help other death row inmates and continue our work towards ending the Death Penalty in Missouri.
- There may be additional travel fees for events outside the Kansas City metro area.

Please make checks payable to Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty. For questions, please contact: Elyse Max, State Director, elyse@madpmo.org or 816-931-4177

Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization working every day to inform Missourians and others across the country about the brokenness of our state’s death penalty and to try to stop executions in this state.