

PHIL BREDESEN
THE GOVERNOR OF TENNESSEE

27 June 2006

Donald E. Dawson
Nicholas D. Hare
Office of the Post-Conviction Defender
Suite 600
530 Church Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Re: Paul Dennis Reid, Jr.

Gentlemen:

I received late yesterday afternoon a clemency application prepared and signed by you on behalf of Paul Dennis Reid, Jr., seeking a reprieve of Mr. Reid's execution until such time as a hearing is held on Mr. Reid's competence, or in the alternative commutation of his sentence to life imprisonment. Mr. Reid did not sign the clemency petition, and to date he has not signed court pleadings that would automatically stay his execution, scheduled for tomorrow morning.

The clemency request asserts that Mr. Reid is mentally ill and that his mental condition should preclude his execution. Because the issue of Mr. Reid's mental capacity has been and continues to be thoroughly reviewed by both the state and federal courts, I do not believe that intervention by my office through the use of the Governor's clemency powers is appropriate. Accordingly, I respectfully decline your request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip Bredesen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Philip Bredesen