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PRESS RELEASE

FROM: CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON THE FAIR ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

CONTACT: Gerald F. Uelmen, Executive Director
Tel. 408-554-5002
Fax 408-554-5026
Email guelmen@scu.edu


The California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice, created by the California State Senate to examine the causes of wrongful convictions and make recommendations and proposals to further insure that the administration of criminal justice in California is just, fair, and accurate, announced that it will hold its second public hearing to address the issues surrounding the fair administration of the death penalty in California. The hearing will take place in two parts from 9:30a.m. to 12:30pm and 1:30pm to 4:00pm on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 in the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room 381-B, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

The Commission invited academic researchers, as well as prosecutors and defense attorneys active in litigating death penalty cases at every stage to help frame its deliberations on this important topic. There will be approximately one hour reserved for
public comment at the end of the hearing. Each public participant will be limited to no
more than 3 minutes. The Commission will accept sign-ups for public comment on an
“as available” and first-come, first-served basis the day of the hearing.

This will be the eighth public hearing convened by the Commission. Prior hearings
addressed the problems surrounding eyewitness misidentification, false confessions,
testimony by in-custody informants, forensic evidence, professional responsibility of
prosecutors and defense lawyers, and remedies for wrongful conviction. Interim reports
issued by the Commission addressing many of these issues can be viewed at the
Commission’s website. The Commission expects to issue reports on Funding of Defense
Services in California, Compliance with Brady obligations, and Remedies for Wrongful
Conviction, shortly after its meeting on February 21.

The third hearing on the Fair Administration of the Death Penalty in California will take
place at Santa Clara University on Friday, March 28, 2008. Invited witnesses will
include representatives of victims’ organizations and advocacy groups concerned with the
fairness of California’s death penalty law, as well as researchers commissioned to
examine California Clemency Procedures. More information on those hearings,
including time, location, and invited witnesses, will be forthcoming.

For the most up-to-date information on the Commission, please visit www.ccfaj.org

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