

FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

201 WEST PARK AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301-7760

PHONE (850) 222-3803
FAX (850) 205-6849
WWW.FLACCB.ORG

MICHAEL B. SHEEDY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



August 9, 2018

The Honorable Rick Scott
Governor
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: *Please commute Jose Antonio Jimenez' death sentence to life without parole*

Dear Governor Scott:

Jose Antonio Jimenez was convicted of the tragic 1992 murder of Phyllis Minas. We pray for Ms. Minas and for consolation for her loved ones. All of us are called to stand with victims in their hurt as they seek healing and justice. We invite people across Florida to join in this prayer.

Both victims of crime and offenders are children of God and members of the same human family. We appreciate your difficult task as governor and still must ask you to commute this death sentence, and all death sentences, to life without the possibility of parole.

You may be aware that Pope Francis recently requested reformulation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)* on the death penalty. This reflects the growing awareness that the dignity of the person is not lost even after the commission of great crimes and that more effective forms of detention have been developed to ensure the due protection of citizens without definitively depriving the guilty of the possibility of redemption (cf. CCC #2267).

As Floridians gather in prayer for Ms. Minas, her family and friends, and all affected by violent crime, we also invite them to pray for you as you consider this request. We pray also for Mr. Jimenez and all those facing execution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael B. Sheedy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael B. Sheedy

cc: (Arch)Bishops of Florida