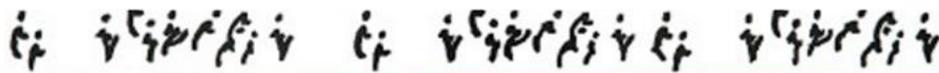


# CJS WEBINAR EVENT



## JOURNEY OF HOPE

...From Violence to Healing™



Panellist

**Bob Stoughton**  
Fitz Center for Leadership  
in Community (Ret.)



Panellist

**Reverend Dr. Crystal Walker**  
Executive Director  
Greater Dayton Christian Connections



Panellist

**George White**  
Co-Founder  
Journey of Hope

Hosted by:

## Criminal Justice Studies Program

Co-Sponsored by:

Fr. William J. Ferree Chair of Social Justice  
The Human Rights Center

**Tuesday, December 1, 2020**  
**6:30pm to 7:30pm EST**

[Click HERE to Register for the Webinar](#)

AVIATE PATH-Eligible



**University of Dayton**

# ABOUT

## *Journey of Hope Webinar – Death Penalty Abolishment Panel* *Hosted by the Criminal Justice Studies Program*

In 2019, U.S. Attorney William Barr announced that the federal government would resume executions. Since that announcement was released, the federal government has executed seven inmates. The first female in nearly 70 years, Lisa Montgomery, is scheduled for federal execution on Dec. 8th and two days later another death sentence will likely be carried out. In this session, the family members of murder victims share their personal stories and discuss the movement to abolish the death penalty.

## SPEAKER/PANELLIST BIOGRAPHIES

### **Robert ‘Bob’ Stroughton**

Bob Stoughton has been a member of the Death Penalty Abolition and Restorative Justice Issue Team of the Marianist Social Justice Collaborative since 2004. He also co-facilitates the Miami Valley Chapter of Ohioans to Stop Executions. He recently retired as the Research Administrator for the Montgomery County Human Services Planning and Development Department and was part of the Fitz Center for Leadership in Community. Previously he served in management and administrative roles for several human service agencies with a particular emphasis on services and policies affecting “at-risk” youth. He has degrees in Physics (B.S., U. of Notre Dame) and Neuroscience (M.S., U. of Rochester), and was a Research Scholar at the Children’s Hospital Research Foundation in Cincinnati, OH.

### **Crystal Walker**

Rev. Dr. Crystal Walker is the Executive Director of Greater Dayton Christian Connections. She has a heart for social justice working with efforts in domestic violence training and counseling, race relations, mass incarceration, revising death penalty laws, gun violence legislation, immigration reform, prison ministry, discrimination laws, human trafficking and a multitude of other issues. She is ordained in the Christian Church Disciples of Christ and serves under the leadership of her husband, Rev. Shelby Walker. She has a rich history in the hospitality industry and serves on various boards in the Dayton community. Rev. Dr. Crystal is the recipient of various awards including the Coretta Scott King Award from the Dayton Chapter of S.C.L.C., and the Marsha Froelich Survivor Award from the Y.W.C.A. of Greater Dayton. She is a graduate from the University of Louisville with a degree in Business Management, Payne Theological Seminary with a Masters of Divinity, and United Theological with a Doctor of Ministry degree. She has a blended family of (5) children-one deceased and nine grandchildren.

### **George White**

George White is and has been many things in his life: husband, father, and a business degreed corporate vice president. He is a co-founder of the Journey of Hope; an organization led by family members of murder victims that works to address alternatives to the death penalty, and build a culture of hope and healing, rather than vengeance. On February 27, 1985, George and his wife Charlene were shot repeatedly by an armed robber at his place of business in Enterprise, Alabama. George held Charlene in his arms as her life slipped away. Their children, Tom and Christie, were only 12 and 5 at the time. The nightmare had just begun. Sixteen months later, George was charged with murdering his wife. Following a capital murder trial that was later described as “a mockery and a sham”, George was convicted and sentenced to life in prison. His conviction was overturned in 1989, and he was released from prison, but George remained in legal limbo until 1992, when proof of his innocence was finally brought forward. Following a brief hearing, the trial court ordered the charge against him forevermore dismissed. The nightmare had lasted more than seven years... Had the State of Alabama had its way, George White would be a dead man today.



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