



THE NEWS  
STATION



STATE

## Both sides weigh in on death penalty in PA

NewsWatch 16's Jack Culkin spoke with a county official and area defense attorney in Pennsylvania about their opinions on the death penalty being allowed.

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PENNSYLVANIA, USA — The discussion of the death penalty in Pennsylvania is one that sees many people landing on either side of the fence.

To try to understand this more, Newswatch 16 sat down with a county official and area defense attorney to hear their arguments on why capital punishment should stay or go.

Eric Frein was one of the most recent [death penalty cases](#) in Pennsylvania.



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In 2017, he was convicted of shooting and killing one Pennsylvania State Trooper and injuring another.

Pike County District Attorney Ray Tonkin was heavily involved in the case and still stands by that verdict.

"There is evil that is in our society, and Eric Frein was the face of evil in doing what he did," Tonkin said.

Governor Josh Shapiro [announced Thursday afternoon](#) that he will be continuing a moratorium on executions in Pennsylvania.

Tonkin disagrees with that decision.

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