

**BREAKING  
NEWS**

# Emerging Solidarity

**SPECIAL  
EDITION**

# OUR MOMENT IS ON IT'S WAY!!!!

## ORAL ARGUMENTS SCHEDULED

*AS THE SUPREME COURT PREPARES TO HEAR LEE'S APPEAL, IT STANDS AT A CROSSROADS. THIS CASE REPRESENTS MORE THAN JUST AN INDIVIDUAL'S FIGHT FOR JUSTICE; IT SYMBOLIZES THE COLLECTIVE STRUGGLE OF THOSE WRONGLY CONDEMNED. THEIR HOPES HINGE ON THE COURT'S DECISION—A DECISION THAT COULD REDEFINE JUSTICE, COMPASSION, AND HUMANITY WITHIN PENNSYLVANIA'S LEGAL SYSTEM.*

*THE FOCUS OF THIS APPEAL IS DEREK LEE'S CASE. HE HAS BEEN IN PRISON FOR LIFE SINCE 2016, CONVICTED OF SECOND-DEGREE/FELONY MURDER, ROBBERY, AND CONSPIRACY. ON APRIL 26, 2024, DEREK LEE FILED AN APPEAL WITH THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA, CHALLENGING THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF HIS MANDATORY LIFE-WITHOUT-PAROLE SENTENCE.*

*HIS LEGAL TEAM, INCLUDING THE ABOLITIONIST LAW CENTER AND THE AMISTAD LAW PROJECT, ARGUES THAT SUCH A SENTENCE VIOLATES BOTH THE EIGHTH AMENDMENT OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION AND THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION, WHICH PROHIBIT "CRUEL PUNISHMENTS."*

*THE COURT HAS GRANTED LEE'S PETITION FOR AN APPEAL, FOCUSING ON WHETHER HIS SENTENCE IS CATEGORICALLY UNJUST GIVEN HIS LACK OF INTENT TO KILL. DEREK'S CASE HAS GAINED THE SUPPORT OF FORMER LAW OFFICIALS, LEGAL EXPERTS, FORMER CORRECTIONS OFFICIALS, FORMER LIFERS, AND EVEN GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO, WHO BELIEVE THAT GIVING SOMEONE A LIFE SENTENCE WITHOUT PAROLE FOR FELONY MURDER IS TOO HARSH AND DOESN'T FULFILL THE GOALS OF PUNISHMENT.*

*PREVIOUSLY, LOWER COURTS UPHELD LEE'S SENTENCE BASED ON EARLIER DECISIONS. HOWEVER, HONORABLE SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE CHRISTINE DUBOW IS NOW URGING THE SUPREME COURT TO RECONSIDER WHETHER IT'S FAIR TO IMPOSE MANDATORY LIFE SENTENCES WITHOUT PAROLE UNDER PENNSYLVANIA'S CONSTITUTION.*

*ON OCTOBER 8TH, THE PENNSYLVANIA SUPREME COURT WILL HEAR ORAL ARGUMENTS THAT COULD BECOME A PATHWAY TO FREEDOM FOR MORE THAN 1,000 PEOPLE SERVING LIFE IN PRISON WITHOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF PAROLE FOR MURDERS THEY DIDN'T COMMIT. THIS IS THE MOST ANTICIPATED, HISTORICAL AND HOPEFUL MOMENT THAT THESE WRONGFULLY CONDEMNED MEN AND WOMEN SENTENCED TO THIS UNJUST PUNISHMENT HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR.*