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State Supreme Court upholds lethal injection

Posted by [Bob Lowry](#) October 03, 2008 2:43 PM

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Ruling on a case from Marshall County, the Alabama Supreme Court held Friday that the state's use of lethal injection on death row does not violate the constitutional ban against cruel and unusual punishments.

The high court's ruling affirmed the death sentence of Rick Allen Belisle, who was convicted in the May 19, 1999, murder of Joyce Moore. A cashier at the T&J Kwik-Mart convenience store in Boaz, Moore was bludgeoned to death with a six-pound can of peas and with a metal pipe.

State investigators arrested Belisle and Annette Belisle, Belisle's wife, who worked at the convenience store.

In ruling that Alabama's use of lethal injection complies with the 8th Amendment of the Constitution, the state Supreme Court cited a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that upheld the state of Kentucky's use of the same procedure that the Alabama Department of Corrections uses.

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