

January 15, 2021

Administrative Court Records
Superior Court of California, County of Lassen
2610 Riverside Drive
Susanville, CA 96130

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Daniel Trautfield, I am a legislative coordinator with Drop LWOP, a coalition of grassroots and not-for-profit organizations whose mission is to educate the public about LWOP sentencing and advocate for just reforms. We are attempting to gather as much statistical information about LWOP sentencing as possible. To that end, I am writing pursuant to California Rules of Court, Rule 10.500 to request public information from the criminal records of individuals sentenced under PC §190.2 from 1991 through 2020.

We are requesting administrative, statistical information about a subset of cases heard at the court, including:

1. Disposition Dates
2. Final Disposition summaries
3. Specific Special Circumstance findings (eg. 190.2(a)(3) or 190.2(a)(17))
4. Any demographic information available including:
 - a. Race of defendant
 - b. Gender of defendant
 - c. Age at time of sentencing

We are **not** requesting specific case information such as transcripts, or longform records. We are also not requesting any identifying information of any individuals sentenced. Our request is for administrative records, not adjudicative. We are not seeking “writings prepared for or filed or used in a court proceeding, the judicial deliberation process, or the assignment or reassignment of cases and of justices, judges (including temporary and assigned judges), and subordinate judicial officers, or of counsel appointed or employed by the court.” Rather, we would like administrative, statistical information about a subset of cases heard at your court. Ideally, this information would be sent via spreadsheet. I have included below a sample of a larger index of cases with information that was sufficient for our search, should you find it helpful.

Note: It is necessary that records include all special circumstance convictions.

I have attempted to be as specific as possible, but if you find that our request is unclear or insufficiently focused, please let us know what we can do to narrow/focus our request so that you can provide us with the information we require. Also, if you know of any additional resources for this type of data, we would appreciate the tip.

Because the Drop LWOP Coalition is a collection of grassroots/not-for-profit organizations, we request that you waive any fees that would normally be applicable to this request. If you are unable to do so, please notify us before incurring any costs.

Please send your response in electronic format, via electronic mail to dtrautfield@gmail.com.

Thank you for your help. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (805) 291-3139 or at dtrautfield@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Daniel Trautfield
dtrautfield@gmail.com
(805) 291-3139

Sample Case Summary:

CASE_ID_NUMBE	DEFENDENT_NAME	COMPLAINT_DATE	DOB	RACE	GEN_DER	FINAL_DISPOSITION	DISPOSITION_DATE	SENTENCING_DATE	ALL_GUILTY_CHARGES
C0000001	DOE, J	1/1/91	02/26/80	White	M	Found Guilty, Felony	02/04/19	09/28/01	COUNT 1: PC187(a) -- PC190.2(a)(17) - - PC190.2(a)(17)