

Oklahoma's Nitrogen Gas

Yesterday, the fourteenth of March, State Attorney and General Mike Hunter and Corrections Director Joe Allbaugh have stated that Oklahoma have made plans on using Nitrogen Gas as their new substance for proceeding with death row executions.

After several botched executions and one mistakenly selected drug, Oklahoma has taken to gas; the 2015 execution of Richard Glossip was called off at the last moment as executioners realised they had made a mistake.

The system is being called the Inert Gas Inhalation, or IGI. Although most details have not been worked out, Mr Hunter has informed us “Well Documented research has shown that individuals who are exposed to excessive amounts of inert gas experience fatigue, dizziness, perhaps a headache, loss of breath and eventual loss of consciousness.” Because of this, the mostly likely option to inhale the gas would be a hood or a mask.



A federal public defender and one of the Attorneys representing the Oklahoma death row prisoners has challenged the system. “How can we trust Oklahoma to get this right when the state’s recent history reveals a culture of carelessness and mistakes in executions?” Said Dale Baich. However nothing has changed and Richard Glossip, a man who survived his execution due to Oklahoma’s faulty reputation with injecting drugs, will be the first in line to face the new method. Whether it will work or not is for time to tell.

When asked about their opinions, Crawshaw Academy students and teachers answered.

“I believe the gas is less humane than the injection as they have more time to think about being killed and suffocating” – Aimee Dixson, Crawshaw student.

“I would actually prefer neither, I don’t like the idea of a death sentence. And if there *had* to be one, I’d say just use one method that’s humane, efficient and works” – Mr Stevens, Crawshaw ICT Teacher

Many people are wondering why Oklahoma is now reverting to this after a three year Hiatus and a bad history of executions involving one inmate writhing in agony on a death chamber ‘table’. Countless Americans are wondering if Oklahoma and Mr Hunter really can be trusted with this new gas.