The Death Penalty Information Center's 2022 Year End Report was released on December 16, 2022 and received extensive on-message coverage in hundreds of print, online, television, and radio news outlets across the United States and around the world.

The news that a record number of executions were visibly problematic attracted widespread attention. The headline in The New York Times was “Death Penalty Researchers Call 2022 ‘Year of the Botched Execution.’” The Washington Post article was headlined “A third of executions went wrong in 2022, watchdog says.” National Public Radio carried the headline “More than a third of executions in 2022 were ‘botched,’ a report finds.” “None of this should have happened,” Robert told The New York Times. “But it happened over and over and over, which feeds into the growing public belief that states can’t do this right.”

All of the coverage documented the steady decline of the death penalty, as evidenced by executions and death sentences remaining near historic lows in 2022. The lead of the widely-carried Associated Press story was “Public support and use of the death penalty in 2022 continued its more than two-decade decline in the U.S., and many of the executions that were carried out during the year were ‘botched’ or highly problematic, an annual report on capital punishment says.” Robert’s quote in the wire story summed it up: “All the indicators point to the continuing decline in capital punishment and the movement away from the death penalty is durable.”

Many stories highlighted the theme that moratoria supporters and reform prosecutors won election in 2022 despite massive campaign spending and advertising that attempted to tie these candidates to perceptions about rising violent crime. The Washington Post reported: “Dunham noted that overall support for the death penalty remained flat this year despite rhetoric about violent crime flooding the discourse ahead of the 2022 midterms — a break from the 1990s, when crime rates and support for the death penalty both reached record highs.” A second story in The New York Times citing the report and quoting Robert led with “In 2022, a remarkable thing happened: In the heat of an election in which Republicans seized on the public’s fears of crime, support for capital punishment barely moved, if at all.”

Once again, National Public Radio was a leader in coverage of the report with several variations of this story which ran across 1,000 different member stations. BBC World Service also did a piece interviewing a Washington Post reporter about the report that ran on over 200 NPR stations. Robert was a guest on NPR's 1A discussing botched executions. 1A is NPR's flagship program that reaches more than 4.6 million listeners each week and airs on more than 435 radio stations in the U.S. CBS Radio News did two national pieces that ran on hundreds of stations across the country.
As Nevada’s Governor considered a commutation of death sentences, four TV stations in the state covered the report. We also saw television coverage in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Idaho, and Missouri.

A selection of notable coverage follows.

**Top Tier Print, News Wires, and Online Media (in alphabetical order)**

*Associated Press*
Report: Executions continued decline but many ‘botched’ (Dec. 16, 2022)
https://apnews.com/article/capital-punishment-18a24913cdf8ab8bae1cb03e329365e0
Note: The AP story was widely carried, including ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, The (UK) Independent, Las Vegas Sun, Local Today (Texas News), Seattle Times, and others. The AP story was also carried by Lee Enterprises, a media company that publishes 77 daily newspapers in 26 states and more than 350 weekly and specialty publications.

*Associated Press*
New Oklahoma AG seeks to slow pace of lethal injections (January 18, 2023)
https://apnews.com/article/oklahoma-prisons-crime-57f91c6c36710f7ed5b5e42b720f3670
Note: This story was written in 2023. References the botched nature of executions mentioned in YER

*CNN*
The death penalty in the US remains in decline during ‘the year of the botched execution,’ analysis finds (Dec. 16, 2022)

*The Guardian*
‘Surreal spectacle’: US botched 35% of execution attempts this year (Dec. 16, 2022)

*National Public Radio*
More than a third of executions in 2022 were 'botched,' a report finds (Dec. 21, 2022)

*New York Times*
Death Penalty Researchers Call 2022 'Year of the Botched Execution' (Dec. 16, 2022)

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
Newsweek
Every Death Row Prisoner Executed in the U.S. in 2022 (Dec. 26, 2022)

Newsweek
Robert Fratta Fears Expired Drugs Will Lead to Another Botched Execution (Jan. 10, 2023)
https://www.newsweek.com/robert-fratta-fears-expired-drugs-botched-execution-1772687
Note: Cites report's statistics and quotes Robert at close of article.

Reuters
Botched executions in United States reach record high in 2022, report says (Dec. 16, 2022)

UPI
2022 was year of 'botched execution,' with 6 states carrying out death penalty (Dec. 16, 2022)

USA Today
Tennessee official out after scathing report on lethal injection execution errors (January 19, 2023)
Note: This story was written in 2023, references YER and botched executions.

Washington Post*
A third of executions went wrong in 2022, watchdog says (Dec. 16, 2022)

Washington Post
The death penalty is a red-state response to crime (Dec. 16, 2022)
https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/12/16/death-penalty-states-republicans/

The Week
Death penalty: U.S. carried out historically few executions in 2022, but 1 in 3 were 'botched' (Dec. 16, 2022)

Yahoo News*
2022 saw a record number of 'botched' executions, report finds (Dec. 16, 2022)

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
Note: According to one analysis, Yahoo News is the number one most popular news website in the U.S. with 175 million unique monthly visitors.

Editorials and Op Eds (in alphabetical order)

**Baptist News Global**
The faithful understand how those harmed commit harm by Jamila Hodge, Executive Director of Equal Justice USA (Dec. 21, 2022)
[https://baptistnews.com/article/the-faithful-understand-how-those-harmed-commit-harm/#.Y6SmfuzMJK0](https://baptistnews.com/article/the-faithful-understand-how-those-harmed-commit-harm/#.Y6SmfuzMJK0)

**The Hill**
GOP governor's study offers backstage view into negligence and cruelty of lethal injection process by Austin Sarat (Jan. 10, 2023)
Note: Leads with DPIC's report before discussing Tennessee's lethal injection's failures.

**Indy Star**
Op/Ed: Capital punishment in Indiana is declining. Is it even necessary at this point? (January 15, 2023)
Note: This article was written in 2023.

**Justia's Verdict**
As America's Death Penalty Declines, Let’s Not Lose Sight of the Glaring Injustices that Remain by Austin Sarat (Dec. 28, 2022)

**Lewiston Tribune (Idaho)**
Editorial: By sparing Pizzuto, Little would spare others
[https://lmtribune.com/opinion/by-sparing-pizzuto-little-would-spare-others/article_035538c3-5d59-5b95-a917-88f744ec8642.html](https://lmtribune.com/opinion/by-sparing-pizzuto-little-would-spare-others/article_035538c3-5d59-5b95-a917-88f744ec8642.html)
Note: Methodically lists each of the seven executions that went wrong in 2022.

**Los Angeles Times**
Editorial: Death penalty’s retreat is excruciatingly slow (Jan. 2, 2023)
Slate
Botched Executions Aren’t New – but Americans Finally Seem to Be Noticing Them by Austin Sarat (Dec. 21, 2022)

Local and Regional Coverage (in alphabetical order)

**AL.com; The Birmingham News; Huntsville Times; Mobile Press-Register**
Alabama leads the nation in death row inmates per capita (Dec. 20, 2022)
Note: This is original reporting.

**AL.com; The Birmingham News; Huntsville Times; Mobile Press-Register**
Alabama’s troubled death penalty attempts added to America’s ‘Year of the Botched Execution’ (Dec. 16, 2022)
Note: This is the AP story.

**AL.com; The Birmingham News; Huntsville Times; Mobile Press-Register**
Could Alabama model its execution laws after states that don’t have executions? (Dec. 20, 2022)
Note: Mention of execution and sentencing data from the year end report.

**AL.com; The Birmingham News; Huntsville Times; Mobile Press-Register**
Alabama faces uncertainty in 2023 after year of death penalty troubles (Dec. 28, 2022)
Note: Cites report, quotes Robert in a section on national trends.

**Arizona News**
US hangs 18 in 2022 as support for death penalty reduction (Dec. 17, 2022)
Note: This article is based on the Washington Examiner story.

**Georgia Public Broadcasting**
More than a third of executions in 2022 were 'botched', a report finds (Dec. 21, 2022)
https://www.gpb.org/news/2022/12/21/more-third-of-executions-in-2022-were-botched-report-finds

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.*
Local Today (Louisiana News)
Missed executions are nothing new — but Americans finally seem to be acknowledging them (Dec. 21, 2022)
https://localtoday.news/la/missed-executions-are-nothing-new-but-americans-finally-see-to-be-acknowledging-them-98544.html

Local Today (Oklahoma News)
The annual report on the use of the death penalty highlights the pace of executions in Oklahoma (Dec. 20, 2022)

Local Today (Oklahoma News)
One-third of US executions in 2022 ‘botched’ (Dec. 18, 2022)

Local Today (Oregon News)
The US carried out 18 executions in 2022 as support for the death penalty dwindles (Dec. 18, 2022)

Local Today (Pennsylvania News)
Botched executions will hit an “amazing” peak in 2022, the report says (Dec. 25, 2022)

NY Daily News
35% of U.S. executions ‘botched’ in 2022 as use of capital punishment remains near 50-year lows: report (Dec. 16, 2022)
Note: This story was carried by Tribune News Service, which provides content to more than 2,000 publishers in nearly 100 countries.

NY Daily News
Arizona pauses executions amid review of death penalty process (January 21, 2023)
Note: This story was written in 2023. References botched execution mentioned in YER.

Ohio Capital Journal*
GOP law-and-order pitch didn't win many converts, expert says (Dec. 16, 2022)

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
Pennsylvania Capital-Star  
Botched executions reached ‘astonishing’ high in 2022: report  
Note: This article was carried by States Newsroom, a network of nonprofit, nonpartisan news outlets focused on coverage of state government and public policy.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch*  
Pointing to ‘flaw’ in Missouri death penalty, judges ask to stop execution (Dec. 21, 2022)  
Note: Brief mention of states that carried out executions in 2022, according to DPIC. This story also ran in the Kansas City Star (behind a paywall).

Tennessee Associated Press  
Gov. Lee: Execution report complete, will release later (Dec. 16, 2022)  
Relevant portion of article: Tennessee’s independent review comes as many of the executions carried out this year were “botched” or highly problematic. The Washington, D.C.-based Death Penalty Information Center has described 2022 as the “Year of the Botched Execution” as seven of the 20 execution attempts in the U.S. were visibly problematic or took an inordinate amount of time. This has led to some states, like Tennessee, to put executions on hold so processes and protocols could be reviewed.

Washington Examiner  
US carried out 18 executions in 2022 as support for death penalty dwindles (Dec. 18, 2022)  
Note: This outlet is conservative-leaning.

Wisconsin Public Radio  
More than a third of executions in 2022 were ‘botched,’ a report finds (Dec. 21, 2022)  
https://www.wpr.org/more-third-executions-2022-were-botched-report-finds  
Note: This is a reprint of the national NPR story.

**Specialty Coverage (in alphabetical order)**
ABA Journal
2022 could be called 'the year of the botched execution,' new report says (Dec. 16, 2022)

America: The Jesuit Review
The death penalty's 2022 lowlight: a record number of botched executions (Dec. 16, 2022)

Balls & Strikes
Just 34 Counties Account for Half of Death Sentences In the United States (Jan. 4, 2023)
https://ballsandstrikes.org/scotus/death-penalty-counties-dpic-report/
Note: Balls & Strikes publishes original commentary and reporting about courts, the judges who preside over them, and the legal system they uphold.

Baptist Standard
Death penalty diminishing in Texas but disparities remain (Dec. 19, 2022)

Catholic News Service*
Oregon commutations, Oklahoma scheduling pace key death penalty report
https://catholicnews.com/oregon-commutations-oklahoma-scheduling-pace-key-death-penalty-report/
This story ran on Our Sunday Visitor, the Catholic Spirit, Catholic Review, and elsewhere.

Davis Vanguard

Governing
The Long Decline of the Death Penalty (Dec. 22, 2022)
https://www.governing.com/now/the-long-decline-of-the-death-penalty
Note: Data from the report and Robert quoted in a story about governors granting pardons.

Huffington Post
More Than A Third Of U.S. Executions This Year Were 'Botched,' Report Finds (Dec. 22, 2022)
https://huffpost.netblogpro.com/entry/botched-execution-attempts-us-report_n_63a4dba2e4b0d6724fb52430

Independent Catholic News
USA: New report shows 2022 was 'year of botched executions' (Dec. 18, 2022)

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
Jurist
Report highlights declining but problematic use of death penalty across US (Dec. 16, 2022)

Law & Crime: A Dan Abrams Production
‘The Year of the Botched Execution’: Monitor Finds Death Penalty Was ‘Visibly Problematic’ 35 Percent of the Time in 2022

The Marshall Project
Report and NYT coverage listed as “Pick of the News” in Opening Statement e-newsletter (Dec. 19, 2022.) Link not available, but copy is in our files.
Note: Opening Statement has nearly 64,000 subscribers.

The New Republic
The Death Penalty Is Unpopular Everywhere but the Supreme Court (Dec. 22, 2022)

Newser
2022 Will Go Down as the 'Year of the Botched Execution' (Dec. 26, 2022)
Note: Newser is a news aggregator that was founded by Michael Wolff, a prominent journalist and author.

OSV News
Catholic activists renew calls to abolish capital punishment after ‘year of the botched execution’ (Jan. 8, 2023)
Note: OSV News is a national and international wire service reporting on Catholic issues and issues that affect Catholics.

Politico*
https://www.politico.com/newsletters/playbook-pm/2022/12/16/republicans-contemplate-how-to-win-again-00074383
DEATH KNELL — The death penalty continued to shrink this year, with 18 executions carried out nationwide and 20 new death sentences given, per a new report from the Death Penalty Information Center. Other than a pandemic blip, the number of executions was fewer than any year since 1991, and the number of sentences was the lowest in 50 years. But the report deemed this the “‘Year of the Botched Execution,’ as seven of the 20

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
execution attempts in the U.S. were visibly problematic or took an inordinate amount of time.” More from the AP

Reason
2022 Was a Year of Bad, Botched Death Row Executions (Dec. 28, 2022)
https://reason.com/2022/12/28/2022-was-a-year-of-bad-botched-death-row-executions/
Note: Libertarian outlet.

Relevant Magazine
One-Third of All Execution Attempts Were Botched in 2022 (Dec. 16, 2022)
https://relevantmagazine.com/justice/one-third-of-all-execution-attempts-were-botched-in-2022/
Note: Outlet targeted toward twenty- and thirtysomething Christians.

Wonkette
US Government Simultaneously Very Good And Very Bad At Killing People (Dec. 20, 2022)
Note: “Wonkette is woman-owned and truly independent … We rely only on the kindness of liberal strangers to pay our writers a living wage …”

International Coverage (in alphabetical order)

ABC (Australia)
Annual report labels 2022 the 'Year of the Botched Execution' as more than a third of United States death penalty attempts go wrong (Dec. 16, 2022)

AFP
2022 'Year Of Botched Executions' In US: Report (Dec. 16, 2022)
Note: The AFP story ran on Yahoo News, Barron’s, and other outlets.

Al Jazeera
US 'botched' executions reach all-time high, report finds

BBC News

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
**BBC News**
Tennessee fires officials after damning death penalty report (January 22, 2023)
Note: This story was written in 2023. References YER and botched executions

**China Daily**
A third of US executions 'botched' in 2022 (Dec. 19, 2022)
http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202212/19/WS639fa513a31057c47eba4f9b.html

**Globe Echo World News**
Death Penalty: In The United States, The Year Of “Botched” Executions (Jan. 2, 2023)
Note: English newspaper based in London.

**Jerusalem Post**
Over a third of all US executions in 2022 were botched - report (Dec. 16, 2022)
https://www.jpost.com/international/article-725075

**Modern Ghana**
The Year of the Botched Execution (Dec. 18, 2022)

**Pakistan Point News / Sputnik**
US Botched Over 1 In 3 Executions In 2022 (Dec. 17, 2022)

**Radio Jamaica News**
More than a third of US executions 'botched' in 2022 - report (Dec. 16, 2022)

**Sputnik**
US Failed 35% of Death Penalty Executions in 2022, Watchdog Reveals (Dec. 16, 2022)
Note: Sputnik is a Russian state-owned news agency and radio broadcast service.

**TRT World**
Watchdog says 2022 'year of botched executions’ in US
Note: Turkish Radio and Television Corporation is the national public broadcast of Turkey.

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
**UrduPoint**  
US Botched Over 1 In 3 Executions In 2022 - Death Penalty Information Center  
UrduPoint.com reports news from Pakistan and the Middle East.

**Vision Times**  
Note: Vision Times was founded in 2001 as an outlet to provide the overseas Chinese-speaking community a source of information free from the “one voice” propaganda of the Chinese Communist Party.

**World Journal**  
The death penalty in the United States continued to decrease, and there are many mistakes in executions (Dec. 19, 2022)  
https://www.worldjournal.com/wj/story/121172/6849645  
Note: World Journal is a Pan-Blue Taiwanese broadsheet newspaper published in North America. It is the largest Chinese language newspaper in the United States and one of the largest Chinese language newspapers outside of Greater China, with a daily circulation of 350,000.

**Television and Radio (in alphabetical order)**

**BBC World News Service**  
http://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRlZmFscHg%2FVXNlcGlEPTE2MTQwMSZNREIEPT4Nzc0Njc4Jk1EU2ZD05NiU4JjR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D  
Note: This piece features a Washington Post reporter speaking about the report. It ran on over 200 NPR stations across the country between December 16 and December 20.

**CBS Radio News**  
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRlZmFscHg%2FVXNlcGlEPTE2MTQwMSZNREIEPT4NjYyMzgyJk1EU2ZD03MTUzJR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D  
Note: One of two different pieces done by CBS that ran on over 100 radio stations across the country.

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.*
Note: One of two different pieces done by CBS that ran on over 100 radio stations across the country.

KBOI (CBS), Boise, ID
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRld2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRElEPTE4Nzl4MTk2Jk1EU2VlZD0zOTgmVHlwZT1NZWIpYQ%3D%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 15,230

KCBS (CBS), San Francisco, CA *
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRld2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRElEPTE4Nzl4MjAwJk1EU2VlZD0yMzc5JlR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 19,486

KLAS-LV (CBS), Las Vegas, NV
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRld2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRElEPTE4Nzl4MTk5Jk1EU2VlZD0yMDc3JlR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 20,639

KNXV-PHX (ABC), Phoenix, AZ
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRld2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRElEPTE4NzU2MTkyJk1EU2VlZD0zOTY2JlR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 10,026

KRCG (CBS), Columbia, MO
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRld2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRElEPTE4NzgyMzE5Jk1EU2VlZD0zNDg4JlR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 10,262

KRNV (NBC), Reno, NV
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRld2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRElEPTE4NzU2MTQ3Jk1EU2VlZD0zOTg0JlR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 7,108

KSNV (NBC), Las Vegas, NV
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXllcy5jb20vZG93bmxvYXRld2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRElEPTE4Nzl4MjEwJk1EU2VlZD0xMjU1JlR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 37,318

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
KSNV (NBC), Las Vegas, NV
Note: Interview with Robert aired on Dec. 19, 2022.

KTNV-LV (ABC), Las Vegas, NV
https://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXIlcy5jb20vZG93bmxyYWJvd2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRlEIEPTE4NzU2MTI0Jk1EU2VlZD0zMzA4JlR5cGU9TWVkaWE%3D
Note: Local Viewership: 5,990

National Public Radio*
http://mms.tveyes.com/MediaCenterPlayer.aspx?u=aHR0cDovL21lZGlhY2VudGVyLnR2ZXIlcy5jb20vZG93bmxyYWJvd2F5LmFzcHg%2FVXNlcklEPTE2MTQwMSZNRlEIEPTE4Nz0Nig4Jk1EU2VlZD04NDImVHlwZT1NZWRpYQ%3D%3D
Note: Robert was interviewed on NPR and the story aired in different variations on 1,000 NPR stations across the country on December 17 and 18.

National Public Radio’s 1A*
https://the1a.org/segments/the-future-of-the-death-penalty/
Note: Robert was a guest discussing botched executions on Jan. 11, 2023. 1A reaches more than 4.6 million listeners each week and airs on more than 435 radio stations across the U.S.

National Public Radio’s All Things Considered
NPR uncovered secret execution tapes from Virginia. More remain hidden (January 19, 2023)
Note: Article cites the 2022 Year End Report in reference to botched executions

NewsNation
Note: This is the website for a national news and entertainment cable network reaching 75 million television households across the United States.

Public News Service / Kentucky News Connection*

WFTS-TB (ABC), Tampa Bay, FL

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.
WFTX-FTM (FOX), Fort Myers, FL
Note: Local Viewership: 10,038

WHNT (CBS), Huntsville, AL
Note: Local Viewership: 17,033

*Indicates that this story came from an original interview.