Resolution

Whereas, the Union League Club has a longstanding commitment to justice, and

Whereas, in Illinois individuals have been found to have been wrongfully convicted; and in Illinois since the reinstatement of the death penalty by the Supreme Court in 1976, for every prisoner who was executed, another prisoner awaiting execution was found to be innocent and released, and

Whereas, recent revelations have caused members of the Club to investigate changes in the law that would ensure that no innocent person be put to death, and

Whereas, a number of recommendations for change, including measures to ensure competent counsel for persons accused of capital crimes, have not been fully studied to date,

Therefore the Board of Directors of the Union League Club of Chicago, without expressing a position for or against the death penalty:

expresses its support for a moratorium on executions in Illinois,

calls on the Governor, the Supreme Court of Illinois, and the General Assembly of the State of Illinois to halt executions of prisoners on death row until reforms can be implemented, and

directs the Public Affairs Committee and the Director of Public Affairs to inform the Governor, the Supreme Court of Illinois, members of the General Assembly, and the general public of this position of the Union League Club of Chicago.

John J. Sulley
President

Secretary

January 6, 2000