

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
Governor's Office  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 25, 2016

Re: Clemency for Death Row Inmate Kevin Cooper

Dear Governor Brown:

I am writing to ask that you grant clemency to death row inmate Kevin Cooper. As you may know, I have been active for years in many important social issues, including the defense of those wrongfully accused and convicted, such as Mumia Abu Jamal.

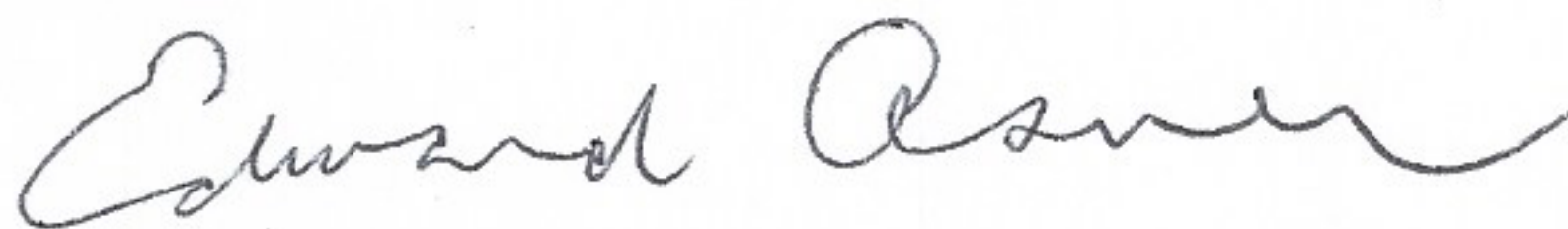
From what I have learned about Mr. Cooper's case, I believe that he is innocent of the murders of the Ryen family and Christopher Hughes. I also believe that Mr. Cooper's prosecution was racially motivated and that law enforcement destroyed exonerating evidence and planted false evidence to frame him. I feel I must speak out when it appears an innocent man may be executed based on false evidence.

As both the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the American Bar Association have requested, please exercise your clemency powers to grant a reprieve of Mr. Cooper's death sentence while your office conducts a thorough investigation of Mr. Cooper's case. Such an investigation should include forensic testing to determine once and for all whether Mr. Cooper is innocent or guilty. It should also include a review of crucial documents held by the prosecution that the State has refused to disclose to Mr. Cooper's defense team.

If you decide after your investigation that Mr. Cooper is innocent, please grant him a pardon. If you decide that there are troubling questions about the case that require a retrial, I request that you take steps so that Mr. Cooper is retried immediately in a fair trial before a fair judge.

Thank you for considering my wishes in this important matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward Asner".

Edward Asner