**Abs: Ort, Datum:**

 **An:**

Botschaft der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika
Frau Robin Suzanne Quinville
Geschäftsträgerin a.i.
Clayallee 170
14195 Berlin

Dear Governor Parson,

Ernest Johnson is scheduled for execution on 5 October for the 1994 murder of three individuals despite evidence that he has an intellectual disability, in violation of the US Supreme Court Decision in Atkins v. Virginia and international law.

Ernest Johnson has an intellectual disability and has been diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Improper jury instructions during his third resentencing rehearing incorrectly placed the burden on him to demonstrate his disability rather than on the state to prove he did not have one, as required under Atkins’ Supreme Court decision.

Furthermore, Johnson had surgery to remove a brain tumour that left him with seizures which can be triggered by the lethal injection drugs used by Missouri during executions, these may cause great pain and potentially violate the US Constitution’s prohibition of cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment.

I urge you to stay the 5 October execution of Ernest Johnson and grant him clemency.

Yours sincerely,