

Ohioans to Stop Executions

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://otse.org/ohio-ready-move-sick-inmate-ahead-execution/>

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[Hannah Kubbins](#) / November 14, 2017

Ohio was starting final preparations Tuesday for executing a sick inmate who will be provided a wedge-shaped pillow to help him breathe as he's put to death this week.

Death row prisoner Alva Campbell, who has said he is too ill for lethal injection, became mildly agitated when officials tried lowering him to a normal execution position during an exam last month, according to a medical review by a physician contractor for the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Dr. James McWeeney noted there were no objective findings such as increased pulse rate or breathing to corroborate Campbell's anxiety. Nevertheless, he recommended allowing Campbell to lie in a semi-recumbent position during the execution.

The same exam failed to find veins suitable for inserting an IV on either of Campbell's arms.

The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction planned to move Campbell Tuesday from death row in Chillicothe to the death house at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville, about 85 miles (137 kilometers) south of Columbus.

He is set to die by injection Wednesday.

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