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Missouri Execution

(KLZA)-- ST. LOUIS (AP) - Several former judges will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to halt the execution of a Missouri man because they say a mistake by his attorneys denied him his right to a federal court appeal.

Thirty-five-year-old Mark Christeson is scheduled to die at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday for the killing a southern Missouri woman and her two children in 1998. He would be the ninth person put to death in Missouri this year.

Fifteen former judges filed a brief Friday with the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals claiming Christeson was denied federal court review because his court-appointed attorneys missed a deadline by four months in 2005. The 8th Circuit refused the stay request.

An attorney working with the judges said Monday that the case will be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Associated Press