

By the Brook Productions, LLC
P.O. Box 187
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919.795-2140
www.lovelivedondeathrow.com

For Immediate Release

Special screening of “*Love Lived on Death Row*” documentary invites public to join discourse on forgiveness, healing from violence and capital punishment.

Catholic Social Concerns Committees Co-sponsor Event
September 18th, 7 p.m. at the Halle Cultural Arts Center in downtown Apex.

APEX, NC – The St. Andrew and St. Michael Social Concerns committees are co-sponsoring a screening of the documentary *Love Lived on Death Row*, produced and directed by Linda Booker. A Question and Answer will follow featuring filmmaker Linda Booker, Sister Joan Jurski from Catholic Charities Office of Peace and Justice and Tina Walker, a member of Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation. Admission is free and the public is invited.

The 84-minute documentary chronicles the four Syriani siblings powerful journey from hate and anger to love and forgiveness for their father Elias who was sentenced to North Carolina’s death row for the 1990 murder of their mother Teresa. After reconciling, the Syrianis engaged in a public campaign including appearances on CNN’s Larry King Show and Good Morning America to make their case for their father’s clemency to North Carolina’s Governor Easley. The film illustrates the healing that can come from forgiveness but also questions the role capital punishment plays in serving justice when family members of the victim are also family of a death row inmate with an impending execution for the crime.

Woven into the story is the friendship between Meg Eggleston and Elias Syriani who began a letter correspondence with him in 2001. Eggleston was inspired to write a death row inmate after attending a lecture by Sister Helen Prejean, internationally known advocate for abolition of the death penalty and the author of “*Dead Man Walking*” that was made into a feature film in 1995. Prejean’s interview with comments about the Syriani case is included in the documentary.

Love Lived on Death Row has screened at film festivals across the U.S. and is being used in community screenings to discuss the issues of restorative justice, healing from domestic violence and capital punishment in America. Tina Walker, whose brother was executed in 2005 for the murder of her father and stepmother, will be in attendance for the post-screening discussion. She is a member of Murder Victims’ Families for Reconciliation, an organization of murder victim family members and families of the executed who oppose the death penalty.

For more information on the screening event, contact Frank Baldiga at baldiga@earthlink.net

For more information on the film or to schedule an interview with the filmmaker, contact Linda Booker at info@lovelivedondeathrow.com or 919 795 2140. www.lovelivedondeathrow.com

###