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Message From The Publisher

In spite of the large number of wrongful convictions in the United States there has been no serious political effort in this country to either prevent them or ensure their correction. See the *JD* Editorial on page 16.

Unlike the head in the sand attitude that prevails throughout the U.S., Fritz Moen’s saga illustrates that Norway is dealing with the problem of wrongful convictions head-on. See the article on page 17.

Likewise, the Scottish town of Prestonpans doesn’t bury its sordid past, but has an annual Remembrance to honor the many people convicted of witchcraft and executed, and as a reminder that without vigilance hysteria could again triumph over reason. See the article on page 20.

JD first reported in 1999 on Thomas Arthur’s conviction of Troy Wicker’s 1982 Alabama murder. Three days before Arthur’s scheduled July 31, 2008 execution a man imprisoned for life for another murder confessed to Wicker’s murder. Based on the new evidence the Alabama Supreme Court voted 5 to 4 to indefinitely stay Arthur’s execution. See the article on page 11.

JD editorially opposed the confirmation of Michael Mukasey as U.S. Attorney General because of his documented contempt for the presumption of innocence. Mukasey’s guilty until proven innocent mentality was once again on display in his public statements denouncing the Supreme Court’s June ruling in *Boumediene v Bush* (2008) that Guantanamo Bay detainees have the right to challenge in a federal habeas petition their indefinite imprisonment without charges. Mukasey is the top law enforcement officer in the U.S., and his attitude is close to believing suspicion a person committed a capital crime is sufficient proof of their guilt to justify their summary execution. Mukasey is a former U.S. District Court judge, and one can only cringe at the thought of being an innocent person in his courtroom with as much chance as a condemned person with a noose around their neck.

Hans Sherrer, Publisher

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Justice: Denied’s logo represents the snake of evil and injustice climbing up on the scales of justice.

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