



LAW OF PARTIES OVERVIEW

Under current law, “Person A” may be sentenced to death for 3 wildly different levels of participation in an offense:

- (1) Person A **alone** causes the intentional death of another person under specified special circumstances. OR
- (2) Person A does not cause anyone’s death but A **does** intend for the death to occur. A intends to promote or assist co-defendant B who causes an intentional death of another person under specified special circumstances, and A solicits, encourages, directs, aids, or attempts to aid B in the capital murder. OR
- (3) Person A does not cause anyone’s death and A **does not** intend for the death to occur. A and B conspire to commit a felony other than murder, such as robbery. During the robbery, B alone intentionally causes the death of another person in furtherance of the robbery. A **should have anticipated** that B would commit murder as a result of carrying out the robbery.

This law is Disproportional in that It Treats Defendants Who Do Intend to Kill the Same as Those Defendants Who Do Not Have an Intent to Kill.

- Jeffrey Lee Wood received the death penalty for sitting in a truck outside of a convenience store in 1996 while a friend went into the store and killed the clerk in the process of demanding the store’s safe.
- Levi King was sentenced to life without parole for an interstate killing spree that ended at a farmhouse in Pampa where he killed 3 members of a family that were strangers to him.