



**Supreme Court of Georgia**  
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## **COURT STAYS EXECUTION OF CARLTON GARY**

**Atlanta, December 16, 2009** – In a 5-to-2 vote, the Supreme Court of Georgia today granted Carlton Gary’s motion for a stay of execution and ordered the Muscogee County Superior Court to conduct a hearing on his request for DNA testing. Gary, who was convicted and sentenced to death in 1986 for the rapes and strangulation murders of three elderly women in Columbus, was due to be executed tonight at 7:00 p.m. by lethal injection. Gary’s attorneys have claimed that DNA testing of hair, semen and fingernail scrapings found on his alleged victims was not available at the time of his conviction.

All justices concurred in today’s decision except Chief Justice Carol Hunstein and Presiding Justice George Carley, who dissented. [View the order.](#)