

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF INDIANA'S DEATH PENALTY

Indiana's **Death Penalty** has been shaped by a century of case law, legislative updates, and public opinion.

● 1992

Enacted **Criminal Rule 24** which set forth mandatory standards for the appointment and compensation of trial and appellate counsel in death penalty cases.

● 1993

**Life Without the Possibility of Parole** was added as a sentencing option in capital murder cases.

● 1994

General assembly made individuals with **intellectual disabilities ineligible** for the death penalty and life without the possibility of parole.

● 1995

Changed the method of execution from electrocution to **Lethal Injection**.

● 2002

Prior to 2002, a trial judge was free to disregard a **Capital Jury's** sentencing recommendation, but after 2002 the trial court **MUST** follow the **Capital Jury's** sentencing recommendation.

● 2002

**Minimum Age** of eligibility for the death penalty raised to 18.



Indiana Public Defender Council