

## MATTHEW G. BEVIN GOVERNOR

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

Secretary of State Frankfort Kentucky 2019-919 November 22, 2019

#### **PARDON & COMMUTATION**

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

WHEREAS, Paul Donel Hurt was convicted in Jefferson County in 2001 of three counts of sodomy in the first degree and two counts of sexual abuse in the first degree; and

WHEREAS, Hindsight is never truly 20/20, but it appears to me, and to many others including the judge who sentenced him, that Paul Donel Hurt has been wrongly convicted and imprisoned for nearly 20 years. In light of all that is known and all that will forever remain unknown, it does not seem possible that justice can be truly served in this instance. Nonetheless, with the power vested in me as Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, I believe it is my moral duty to commute the remaining sentence of Paul Donel Hurt and to grant him the full and unconditional pardon that he has requested; and

WHEREAS, It is my fervent hope and prayer that Mr. Hurt will find his faith in God and in his fellow man restored, and that he and his family will be abundantly blessed as he experiences the restoration of his freedom in the years ahead;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Matthew G. Bevin, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, in consideration of the foregoing, and by the virtue of the authority vested in me by Sections 77, 145, and 150 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby commute the sentence of Paul Donel Hurt to time served and simultaneously grant him a full and unconditional pardon and return to him all rights and privileges of a citizen of this Commonwealth.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Frankfort, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen and in the year of the Commonwealth the Two Hundred Twenty Eighth.

MATTHEW G. BEVIN, Governor Commonwealth of Kentucky

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Secretary of State

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