

**KATHY DILLON, Florida
Daughter of Emerson J. Dillon,
murdered in New York in 1974.**

Kathy Dillon's father, a New York State Trooper, was killed in the line of duty in 1974, when Kathy was 14. The two men responsible for the murder were sentenced to prison terms of 25 years to life and 20 years to life, respectively.

Kathy has written and spoken publicly against the death penalty since 1994 in New York, Florida, and elsewhere around the U.S. She has spoken at churches, panel discussions, conferences, and public forums of various kinds. Kathy serves as a board member of Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty.

“Perhaps if I truly believed that it protects police officers, then in some ways I might feel differently about it. But I don't believe that it does. Even in the case of my father's murder, the death penalty was in place in New York State for first-degree murder of a police officer, but it didn't protect him that day. And for me, it always comes down to my belief that humans shouldn't have the power to decide who lives and who dies. I feel that it is wrong for one person to take the life of another, either in an attack of violence or in response to violence.”

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