

A last chance to appeal death sentence

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July 17, 2008

TAVARES - Condemned killer Richard Henyard's case has returned to Lake County for last-minute, last-ditch appeals to save his life. Henyard, 34, is scheduled to die Sept. 23. Lake Circuit Judge Mark J. Hill, who imposed Henyard's death sentence 14 years ago, set an Aug. 4 deadline for appellate lawyers to file final arguments on Henyard's behalf. The judge also gave permission to Henyard's defense team to scour crime photographs, forensic reports and other case files one last time in search of new evidence or a compelling argument to spare his life. [Gov. Charlie Crist](#) signed his death warrant last week. Henyard was convicted of kidnapping, raping and shooting Dorothy Reid Lewis and murdering her daughters, Jamilya, 7, and Jasmine, 3, on Jan. 30, 1993. Henyard's conviction and sentence have been upheld more than a dozen times.