Biden's death row commutations draws chorus of mixed reactions

A chorus of supporters and critics have emerged following the commutation of nearly every federal death row inmate by President Biden, whose decision came at a time when he's trying to frame a so-far troubled legacy.

The president on Monday commuted the sentences of 37 federal death row inmates, reclassifying their sentences from execution to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

The move leaves only three "hard cases" behind — that of two notorious mass shooters who carried out their killings in a church and synagogue and one of the brothers responsible for the Boston Marathon bombing.

Biden said in a written statement announcing the move that the discrepancy between who was and was not commuting was in line with his administration's stance to impose a moratorium on federal executions, with the exception of terrorism cases and those of hate-motivated mass murder.

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