

Sheriff's Office, Boston, August 23<sup>rd</sup> 1850.

Sir:

The Revised Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts contain the following provisions in relation to the execution of Sentences of Death, viz: "The Sheriff of such County shall be present at the execution, unless he shall be prevented by sickness or other casualty, and also two of his deputies, to be designated by him, and he shall request the presence of the District Attorney, Clerk, or Clerks of the County Courts, and twelve reputable citizens, including a Physician or Surgeon; and he shall permit the Counsel of the Criminal, such Ministers of the Gospel as the Criminal shall desire, and his relations, to be present, and also such Officers of the prison, Deputies and Constables, Military Guard or other assistants as he shall see fit." R. S. chap. 139, sect. 14.

In accordance with these requirements, I respectfully request your presence at the execution of John W. Webster, on Friday, the thirtieth instant, at eight o'clock, A. M. at the Jail in Leverett Street, in Boston.

Your obedient Servant,

Joseph E. ... } Sheriff of  
Suffolk County.

P. S. You will confer a favor by an early reply, (addressed to me, at my office, Court House, No 21, third story,) by mail or otherwise.