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Lucas says he'll fight extradition

The Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE — Henry Lee Lucas says he will fight extradition to Georgia where he faces trial for capital murder because he wants to clear all of his convictions in Texas.

During an interview with *The Houston Post* on death row, Lucas said he is appealing his death sentence for a 1979 murder at Georgetown to the Texas Court of Crimi-

nal Appeals. There are 10 convictions against Lucas.

Early this week, a judge in El Paso dismissed a capital murder charge against Lucas in the May 27, 1983, ax-slaying of 72-year-old Librada Apodaca.

Lucas confessed to hundreds of killing across the country and then recanted those confessions saying they were extracted under pressure by law enforcement agencies

that were eager to solve the crimes.

The 50-year-old former drifter said a number of cases against him have been dropped in recent years. He said that in other cases pending against him, authorities "should admit to the truth and get it over with."

Lucas said he plans to fight his convictions, beginning with his appeal of the Georgetown case.

"They've been stacking cases on top of cases," he said. "They should go out there and start looking for the people who did it, but they won't."

Lucas was charged with capital murder in a Georgia killing 10 years ago, but he said he can prove through utility and telephone receipts that he was at his trailer home in Maryland.

Although he said he doesn't ob-

ject to being tried in Georgia, Lucas said he intends to fire his court-appointed lawyers because they have not corresponded with him.

Lucas praised State District Judge Brunson Moore's decision to throw out his confession to killing Ms. Apodaca at her El Paso home. In a Dec. 19 ruling, Moore granted a defense motion to suppress Lucas' confession.