

INNOCENCE  
NETWORK  
EXONERATIONS  
2013



THE INNOCENCE NETWORK

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Erika Applebaum  
*Innocence Project of Minnesota*
- Shawn Armbrust  
*Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project*
- Justin Brooks  
*California Innocence Project*
- Tucker Carrington  
*Mississippi Innocence Project*
- Maddy deLone  
*Innocence Project*
- Marissa Bluestine  
*Pennsylvania Innocence Project*
- Keith Findley  
*Wisconsin Innocence Project*
- Mark Godsey  
*Ohio Innocence Project*
- Lisa Kavanagh  
*Committee for Public Counsel Services Innocence Program*
- David Love  
*Witness to Innocence*
- Jackie McMurtrie  
*Innocence Project Northwest Clinic*
- Nick Vilbas  
*Innocence Project of Texas*
- Seth Miller  
*Innocence Project of Florida*
- Katie Monroe  
*Innocence Project*
- Theresa Newman  
*Duke Center for Criminal Justice and Professional Responsibility*
- Barry Scheck  
*Innocence Project*
- Robert Schehr  
*Arizona Innocence Project*
- Linda Starr  
*Northern California Innocence Project*
- Rob Warden  
*Center on Wrongful Convictions*
- Lynne Weathered  
*Griffith University Innocence Project*

# CONTENTS

- I. LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT ..... 3
- II. THE CASES .. ..... 4
  - 1. BENNIE STARKS..... 4
  - 2. KRISTINE BUNCH..... 4
  - 3. GEORGE ALLEN..... 5
  - 4. RONALD ROSS ..... 6
  - 5. GARRY DIAMOND..... 6
  - 6. JOHNNY WILLIAMS..... 7
  - 7. RANDY ARLEDGE ..... 7
  - 8. JERAMIE DAVIS ..... 8
  - 9. JOSEPH FREY..... 9
  - 10. NICOLE HARRIS..... 9
  - 11. URIAH COURTENEY..... 10
  - 12. ROBERT NELSON ..... 10
  - 13. DANIEL TAYLOR ..... 11
  - 14. PAUL STATLER..... 11
  - 15. TYLER GASSMAN ..... 11
  - 16. ROBERT LARSON..... 11
  - 17. ANDREW JOHNSON..... 12
  - 18. DEVON AYERS ..... 12
  - 19. CARLOS PEREZ..... 12
  - 20. MICHAEL COSME ..... 12
  - 21. DAVID BOYCE ..... 13
  - 22. JERRY JENKINS ..... 13
  - 23. DEBRA BROWN..... 14
  - 24. JOHN GREGA..... 14
  - 25. LARRY LAMB ..... 15
  - 26. DERRICK DEACON ..... 15
  - 27. NOZAI THOMAS ..... 16
  - 28. ANDY MELAAAN..... 16
  - 29. CHEYDRICK BRITT..... 16
  - 30. GERARD RICHARDSON..... 17
  - 31. JONATHAN MONTGOMERY..... 18
- III. NETWORK MEMBERS ..... 19

**COVER: ROCKY MOUNTAIN INNOCENCE CENTER CLIENT DEBRA BROWN. READ MORE ABOUT HER CASE ON PAGE 14.**

# A RECORD NUMBER OF EXONERATIONS IN 2013

As the Innocence Network reflects upon its achievements during the past twelve months, it would be safe to say that 2013 was an extraordinary year for justice. The Network celebrated the largest number of exonerations in the five years that it has been reporting on its exonerations: 31 people were freed from prison and declared innocent of crimes that they did not commit. Cumulatively, they served 451 years in prison. This report features a snapshot from each of these complex and inspiring cases.

The stories featured in this report offer telling accounts of how a perilously flawed criminal justice system, sometimes compounded by acts of misconduct, can upend lives. Take the case of George Allen, Jr. of St. Louis, Missouri, who served more than 30 years in prison for a 1982 murder he did not commit. Shortly after arresting Allen, police realized they had arrested the wrong person yet decided to interrogate him anyway. Allen, who is a diagnosed schizophrenic, made a false confession that showed little relationship to the actual crime and that an interrogating officer has since conceded they questioned. Despite a strong alibi and serological and fingerprint evidence excluding Allen as the perpetrator (but that was never disclosed to his attorneys), law enforcement built a case that nearly landed Allen on death row. After a 30-year struggle, the Missouri courts finally exonerated Allen, reuniting him with his 81-year-old mother.

Fortunately, the stories in this report also serve as symbols of a system that is progressively addressing its failures by passing new legislature and reforming policies that are aimed at bringing about true justice. For example, in July, Andrew Johnson, 63, was the first person in Wyoming to be exonerated based on post-conviction DNA testing that was possible because of a new law that the state passed in 2008.

In 2013, there were 17 non-DNA exonerations. It's noteworthy that Debra Brown of Utah was the first person to be exonerated through a 2008 law passed by the Utah Legislature that allows for non-DNA innocence claims. She was cleared of a 1993 murder. (Brown was just one of three cases in which women were exonerated this year — another record for the Innocence Network in 2013.) Nozai Thoma and Andy Meelan, clients of the Knoops Innocence Project in the Netherlands, were exonerated of murder when a digital forensics expert produced evidence that provided Thomas and Melaan with credible alibis, pointing to an exciting new tool for clearing people who are wrongly convicted.

But with DNA evidence contributing to nearly half of the exonerations (14), it is clear that DNA evidence will continue to play an important role in helping to free innocent people for many years to come. Misidentification was the leading contributor to the DNA exonerations, but faulty forensics, false confessions and incentivized informant testimony also contributed to these wrongful convictions.

The Innocence Network is tremendously proud of each person exonerated in 2013, and it commends all the exonerees for the tenacity they demonstrated in their struggles for freedom. And as they regain their lives and face the victories and challenges that lie on the other side of their wrongful convictions, we will remember their stories and look forward to 2014 — a new year in the pursuit of truth and justice.

— KEITH FINDLEY  
WISCONSIN INNOCENCE PROJECT CO-DIRECTOR,  
CLINICAL PROFESSOR UNIVERSITY  
OF WISCONSIN LAW SCHOOL,  
INNOCENCE NETWORK BOARD PRESIDENT

# THE CASES

## 1 **Bennie Starks** *Innocence Project*

Bennie Starks was fully exonerated and cleared of all charges on January 7, 2013 after a 25-year battle to clear his name of a rape and battery he didn't commit. Starks, who was convicted based in part on eyewitness misidentification and erroneous bite mark analysis, spent 20 years in prison.

In January 1986, a 69-year-old woman was out for a walk when she was beaten, bitten and raped in a ravine. Investigators discovered a black coat, watch, scarf and gloves at the crime scene. Starks became a suspect because his name was on a dry cleaning slip that was found inside the recovered coat.

Starks did not match the description of the assailant that the victim had given the police. Furthermore, he had an alibi; he had visited two bars that evening, which witnesses confirmed. Also, Starks said he had been mugged on the way home at around 11 p.m. and that his coat, watch, and gloves were stolen.

At the trial, two forensic experts testified. A forensic odontologist said that the bite marks found on the victim belonged to Starks. A serologist testified that Starks could not be excluded as the source of semen found on the evidence. A jury found Starks guilty. He was sentenced to 100 years in prison.

Starks contacted the Innocence Project in 1996. The Innocence Project discovered that the serologist's testimony at trial had been false; Starks should have been excluded based on his blood type alone. The Innocence Project also requested DNA testing, which, in 2000,

excluded Starks and implicated another male. Also, Starks requested a new trial, but he was denied.

In 2004, the Innocence Project secured additional DNA testing that excluded Starks and matched to the same person previously implicated. In 2006, the Illinois Appellate Court for the Second District overturned Stark's conviction, and he was released on bond. In May 2012, the rape charges were dropped, and in January 2013, the remaining battery charge was dropped.

Schiff Harden LLP and Lake County attorneys Lauren Kaeseberg, John Curnyn and Jed Stone provided critical legal assistance.

## 2 **Kristine Bunch** *Northwestern University Center on Wrongful Convictions*

In September 2012, Kristine Bunch walked out of an Indiana state prison after she served more than 17 years for murdering her son, a crime which evidence would later reveal she did not commit.

Bunch was arrested and charged in 1995 with arson and felony murder after a fire swept her Indiana home and claimed the life of her three-year-old son, Anthony, on June 30 of that year.

Shortly after the fire, a state arson investigator concluded that the fire had been started in two places by a liquid accelerant. Days later, based almost entirely on the investigator's conclusion, Bunch was charged with arson and felony murder.

At trial, the arson investigator's testimony was corroborated by a forensic analyst, who

also testified that he had identified a “heavy petroleum distillate” in the floor samples recovered from Bunch’s home. In March of 1996, the jury found Bunch guilty of murder and arson. She was sentenced to two concurrent prison terms of 60 and 50 years.

In 1998, the Indiana Supreme Court affirmed the murder conviction but vacated the arson conviction. In 2006, Bunch’s case was taken up by the Center on Wrongful Convictions (CWC) at Northwestern University. The CWC subpoenaed files from the original investigation, which revealed that contrary to the analyst’s testimony at trial, no heavy petroleum distillate had been found anywhere in the home. There was only kerosene present in the living room, where Bunch used a kerosene heater which occasionally spilled. The sample from the room where three-year-old Anthony died came back completely negative.

In March 2012, the court reversed the conviction and ruled that Bunch was entitled to a new trial. In August of that year, the Indiana Supreme Court declined to appeal the Court of Appeals decision. Bunch was released less than a month later. She spent over 17 years wrongfully incarcerated. Eight days before Christmas 2012, the prosecution dropped the charges.

### **3** **George Allen** *Innocence Project*

George Allen, Jr. was exonerated in January 2013, in St. Louis, Missouri, after serving more than 30 years in prison for murder. Allen was convicted based in part on a false confession, police “tunnel vision” and blood type evidence that was said to include Allen, but actually eliminated him as a possible contributor.

One night in February of 1982, Mary Bell, a young court reporter, was discovered dead in her home by her live-in boyfriend. The autopsy showed that the cause of death was multiple stab and incised wounds to the victim’s back and neck, and there was evidence consistent with

sexual assault.

Nearly a month after the murder, police approached George Allen several blocks from the victim’s house and — mistaking him for another suspect — brought him in for questioning. Detective Herbert Riley later realized the mistake, but interrogated Allen nevertheless. Allen, who has an extensive history of severe mental illness, including hospitalizations for schizophrenia, eventually confessed to raping and murdering the victim.

Prosecutors’ primary evidence at trial was the confession and serological semen evidence that was later proven to be false and actually excluded Allen as the perpetrator. Allen presented an alibi defense and three witnesses testified that he was snowed in at home at the time of the murder.

Allen’s first trial was deadlocked at ten-to-two in favor of an acquittal. At his second trial, he was convicted on capital murder, rape, sodomy, and first degree burglary and was sentenced to 50 years for capital murder and 15 years consecutively on each of the other three charges. Allen narrowly escaped the death penalty. A juror was relieved of duty due to a family emergency, and as a result the sentencing hearing could not be held and the state was forced to waive the death penalty.

On September 27, 2011, the Innocence Project filed a petition to overturn Allen’s conviction based on the serological evidence excluding Allen and other evidence that was never turned over to Allen’s lawyers that pointed to his innocence. That evidence included fingerprint evidence excluding Allen, a drawing that Allen was asked to draw of the victim’s apartment that did not match her apartment and evidence that a witness who was called to verify a detail from Allen’s statement had been subjected to a police-organized hypnosis session in order to recall the incident.

In November 2012, a Missouri court granted Allen’s petition and overturned Allen’s conviction, and the Attorney General’s Office responded by filing a meritless appeal of that

decision. On December 26, 2012, a Missouri appeals court denied that appeal, clearing the way for Allen’s exoneration.

On January 18, 2013, the St. Louis Circuit Attorney Jennifer Joyce filed a motion dismissing the indictment against George Allen Jr. After a 30-year struggle to clear his name, Allen finally became a free man. Allen was represented by the Innocence Project and Ameer Gado, Dan Harvath and Tim O’Connell with Bryan Cave, LLP. Rosa Greenbaum of Sarasota, Florida, also provided pro bono investigation assistance.

## **4** **Ronald Ross** *Northern California Innocence Project*

On November 8, 2006, Ronald Ross was wrongfully convicted of the attempted murder of his West Oakland, California, neighbor, Renardo Williams.

Prior to his attempted murder, Williams had confronted another neighbor, Nikisha Stuart, about a fight between her son and his daughter. Stuart told Williams she would “send her man” to talk to him, and the next day, two men, accompanied by Stuart’s son, shot Williams in his home.

Ronald Ross lived in the neighborhood, but had never met Stuart or Williams. Despite there being no evidence implicating Ross and no motive linking him to the crime, Oakland Police included Ross’s photo in a lineup (he had prior convictions for narcotics possession) “for public relations purposes” and witnesses — including the victim — misidentified him as the shooter. A jury convicted him of attempted murder and assault with a firearm, and he was sentenced to 25 years to life.

In 2008, the Northern California Innocence Project at Santa Clara University Law School took on Ross’s case and was later joined by the law firm of Kecker and Van Nest. In 2012, a petition seeking to vacate Ross’s conviction was filed.

The petition stated that Williams had recanted his identification of Ross, saying that he only identified Ross because the Oakland detective who conducted the lineup told him to identify Ross and because Williams “owed a favor” to the detective. Stuart’s son recanted his identification as well, stating that the true perpetrator was his father. Ultimately, the actual perpetrator acknowledged that he was at the shooting and that Ronald Ross had no part whatsoever and he had, in fact, never met Ross.

On February 22, 2013, the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office dismissed all charges and Ross was released. He was wrongfully incarcerated for more than six years.

## **5** **Garry Diamond** *Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project*

Garry Diamond was exonerated earlier this year when his writ of actual innocence was granted by the Virginia Supreme Court after DNA testing excluded him as the perpetrator of a crime that happened 27 years ago.

In 1977, Diamond was wrongfully convicted of a July 1976 abduction of a woman and her two children. The woman was raped and sodomized in her car with her children present.

During the investigation, the victim’s three-year-old son identified Diamond from a book of mug shots presented by the police. The victim, however, said that Diamond did not fit the description of the attacker. Diamond’s mug shot was included in the photo array because he had been accused of a similar attack that happened in October 1976.

Although Diamond had an alibi, he was convicted of two counts of abduction and one count of abduction with intent to defile. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison for both the July and the October attacks. Diamond was released from prison on parole in 1979.

In 2005, evidence from the July 1976 crime was tested as part of an ongoing review by the Virginia Department of Forensic Science of old case files that contain biological evidence. The

tests excluded Diamond. A re-investigation of the case, however, was difficult because most of the court files had been lost or destroyed.

Diamond contacted the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project in 2012. Along with the Institute for Innocence at the University of Richmond Law School, the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project filed a petition with the Virginia Supreme Court, seeking a writ of actual innocence. The Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Virginia joined in the petition. The writ of innocence was granted in March 2013.

6

### **Johnny Williams**

*Northern California Innocence Project*

Johnny Williams was exonerated early this year after new DNA testing secured by the Northern California Innocence Project and the California DNA Project proved his innocence.

Williams was convicted of raping a nine-year-old girl in 1998 in Oakland, California. The victim said that a man forced her and one of her friends behind a building, where he sexually assaulted her and then ejaculated on her shirt. The girl said that her attacker was named Johnny. The girl's mother concluded that the attacker must have been Williams, whom she knew from the neighborhood. A day later, the girl identified Williams from a photo lineup. Although he did not fit the earlier description of the man she had described to the police, she was aware by that point that her mother believed Williams to be the attacker.

Williams was arrested on traffic violations and taken into the police department for a lengthy interrogation. He maintained his innocence for nearly the entire interrogation until investigators told him that there were dozens of witnesses who confirmed that he was the assailant. At that point, he said, "I guess I did it. I guess I did it. I did everything," but immediately thereafter, he recanted, and again declared his innocence. At the conclusion of the questioning, the investigators told him that they did not consider his statement a confession.

At the trial, however, the prosecution played the portions of the recorded interrogation in which Williams said he had "Did everything," as well as other statements he made to the police that they argued implicated him. Although the Oakland Police Department and the Alameda County District Attorney's Office submitted the victim's T-shirt for testing, the crime lab was unable to find semen on the shirt. The jury found Williams guilty. He was sentenced to 16 years in prison.

Williams wrote a letter to the Northern California Innocence Project seeking assistance, which began an investigation through its sister organization, the California DNA Project.

They re-tested the victim's t-shirt and found enough biological material to yield a complete male DNA profile that conclusively excluded Mr. Williams as the perpetrator. In light of the new evidence, the District Attorney's Office conceded that Williams was actually innocent, and once the Alameda County Superior Court overturned the conviction, the DA moved to dismiss charges against Williams. Williams had been paroled in January after wrongfully serving 14 years behind bars.

7

### **Randy Arledge**

*Innocence Project*

Randy Arledge was wrongfully convicted of a Corsicana, Texas, rape and murder based almost entirely on informant testimony. He served 14 years in prison before he was exonerated through DNA testing on May 3, 2013.

On August 30, 1981, 21-year-old Carolyn Armstrong was found on a dirt road off of Highway 22 in Navarro County, Texas. She had been stabbed 40 times in her neck and chest. Her abandoned car was found with the keys in the ignition several miles away. A black hair net and partially smoked joint were also found in the car.

Arledge was in Corsicana visiting family at the time of the crime but left the following day

for his home in Houston. There, he met up with Bennie Lamas and Paula Lucas and went on a road trip in a stolen van. The three were apprehended in Tennessee in connection with an armed robbery charge.

Pursuant to a plea deal, Lamas and Lucas testified at Arledge's Texas murder trial that Arledge told them he had murdered a woman in Corsicana. In return, Lucas received favorable consideration at sentencing for the armed robbery and was given probation. Despite a lack of physical evidence connecting Arledge to the crimes and alibi testimony from several witnesses, he was convicted of murder and sentenced to 99 years in prison.

In 2011, the Innocence Project secured DNA testing of the physical evidence with the cooperation of the Navarro County District Attorney's Office. The testing, conducted by Cellmark Forensics, included hair samples from the hairnet and washings from the victim's pubic hairs. Every item of evidence excluded Arledge, and revealed a match to felon David Sims.

On February 11, 2013, Judge James Lagomarsino and the Navarro County District Attorney's Office agreed to release Arledge on bond during the process of overturning his conviction. Arledge was officially exonerated of Armstrong's murder by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals on May 3, 2013.

## 8

### **Jeramie Davis**

#### *Innocence Project Northwest*

Jeramie Davis served nearly six years of a 40-year sentence for a crime he did not commit. He was found guilty by a jury in 2008 for murdering the owner of an adult book store in 2007. Although Davis admitted to robbing the store, he did not kill the owner.

Early in the morning of June 18th, 2007, police received a call from Jeramie Davis reporting that John Allen, the 74-year-old owner of an adult bookstore, was unconscious. Davis had entered the store at around 10 p.m. on June

17, and saw the victim lying on the floor, but thought that he had heard him snoring and assumed he had passed out drunk. Davis left the store and then returned with a friend and stole checks and pornographic materials before going to his sister's house. After talking with his sister, who had some medical training, they became concerned that the owner may have had a seizure. Davis returned to the store with his sister at 2 a.m., at which point they realized he was bleeding and called 911.

Police responded and found Allen bleeding from the back of the head, with a baseball bat under his knees. He died the next day of blunt force head trauma. The cash register from the store and the victim's truck were missing. The truck was later found nearby with the empty register inside.

At trial, prosecutors claimed that Davis remained at the store from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. before calling 911, which would have given him ample time to stage the crime scene and alter the evidence. Davis' sister and several friends testified that they had been with Davis during those four hours, providing his alibi defense. No fingerprints or DNA from Davis were found at the crime scene or in the victim's truck. DNA testing on the bat showed the victim's DNA on the top portion and DNA from an unknown male on the remainder. A matching partial profile was also found on material from Allen's stolen truck.

Despite the lack of direct evidence linking Davis to the murder, a jury found Davis guilty and was sentenced to 40 years in prison and almost \$3,000 restitution.

In 2011, Spokane police requested that the unidentified DNA profile found on the bat and in the victim's stolen vehicle be uploaded to the federal DNA database. A match was found to Julio Davila, who was arrested for the crime in July 2011 and was convicted of the murder in 2012. Meanwhile, Davis remained in prison.

The Innocence Project Northwest began reviewing Davis' case, and over the objections of the prosecution, secured a new trial for him.

Prosecutors argued that he and Davila must have committed the crime together despite the fact that both Davila and Davis denied knowing each other. Finally, a lengthy police investigation revealed no connection between the two. In April 2013, the parties reached a settlement that resulted in dismissal of the murder charge. Davis entered a plea to the robbery charge and was released.

## **9** **Joseph Frey** *Wisconsin Innocence Project*

After serving eight years of a 102-year sentence for a 1991 rape, DNA evidence exonerated Joseph Frey on July 12, 2013.

In 1994, Joseph Frey was convicted for the 1991 rape of a University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh college student. The young woman was sleeping in her apartment when she awoke to find a stranger standing over her bed. Initially, when the woman called the police after her attack, she said that she thought her landlord was the perpetrator.

Over several months during the investigation, the victim was asked to identify her assailant from several photo arrays. During each line-up, she refused to make a positive identification but did find that there were similarities between Frey and the assailant. Eventually, in a fourth line-up, she did identify Frey but said that she was unsure whether he was actually the man who attacked her.

Frey had become a suspect because he was implicated in two similar crimes in Green Bay. He was convicted of these crimes, but said he was not involved in the rape of the college student. The case went to trial in 1993. The state presented testimony of a jailhouse informant who said that Frey had admitted to raping the Oshkosh woman. Despite the fact that the police had destroyed nearly all of the physical evidence, the defense was able to introduce

results from DNA tests that excluded Frey as the source of stains found on the bed sheets. Frey was found guilty and sentenced to 102 years in prison.

With help from the Wisconsin Innocence Project, evidence was recovered and submitted for DNA testing. Results from the DNA tests implicated a deceased man who had been sentenced to 30 years in prison for sexually assaulting two sisters.

Life has presented Frey with challenges since his exoneration. He has been confronted with homelessness and has serious health problems. But, Frey says he is determined to bring awareness to the pitfalls in the justice system.

## **10** **Nicole Harris** *Northwestern University Center on Wrongful Convictions*

In February 2013, Nicole Harris was released from prison after her conviction for murder was overturned by a federal appeals court. She had served more than eight years in prison after being wrongfully convicted of murdering her young son.

On May 14, 2005, Nicole Harris's four-year-old son Jaquari Dancy was found dead in his Illinois bedroom, choked by an elastic band that had come loose from a fitted bed sheet. In an autopsy completed the next day, the medical examiner ruled Jaquari's death an accident.

Despite the autopsy results, police interrogated Harris for over 27 hours, eventually eliciting a false confession through physical and psychological abuse. Although police had the equipment to record the entire interrogation, the only part that was videotaped was Harris stating that she had strangled Jaquari with the elastic piece.

At trial, her attorney attempted to introduce the

testimony of Harris' other son Diante, then 6, who said that Jaquari liked to wrap the elastic band around his neck and wear the sheet as a cape, pretending to be Superman. Diante was barred as a witness, and Harris was convicted and sentenced to 30 years.

Harris sought the help of Northwestern University's Center on Wrongful Convictions. After multiple denials of motions for a new trial, in 2012 the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals reversed Harris's conviction and ordered a new trial. On February 25, 2013, Harris was released on bond. The prosecution appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which refused to hear the appeal. On June 17, 2013, the prosecution dismissed the case.

## **11** **Uriah Courtney** *California Innocence Project*

After serving more than eight years for a wrongful conviction, Uriah Courtney was exonerated on June 23. Courtney told ABC-10 News in San Diego: "When I got out, I felt I could fly."

In 2005, Courtney was arrested for the kidnapping, sexual assault and false imprisonment of a teenage girl. She was walking to see a friend when a man attacked and assaulted her on the side of an expressway in Lemon Grove, California.

Courtney became the prime suspect when the victim told investigators that immediately before she was attacked, she'd seen a truck and that a man was staring at her from the window. Initially, the victim did not identify the man in the truck as her attacker, but later decided that the man in the truck and the attacker were perhaps one in the same.

Ultimately, the victim told police she was more confident in her ability to identify the truck than the perpetrator, so the cops started looking for a truck that matched her description.

Based on the description of the truck, investigators were led to Courtney's step-father,

who owned a truck similar to that seen by the victim and the witnesses. The victim, when showed a picture of the truck belonging to Courtney's family, said that she was about 80 percent sure that it was the same truck she'd seen on the day she was attacked.

In a photo line-up, the victim was unable to make a positive identification. She had a challenging time deciding between three people in the photo array, eventually choosing Courtney, but not without hesitation. One of the witnesses, who had also helped police to create a composite sketch, also identified Courtney as the perpetrator.

At the trial, Courtney maintained his innocence. His boss testified that Courtney was at work at a construction site during the time of the attack. Regardless of his alibi, the jury found Courtney guilty. He was sentenced to life in prison.

In 2010, Courtney began to work with the California Innocence Project. The organization worked with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office to get evidence submitted for new DNA testing. The results pointed to another man, who actually lived only three miles from the crime scene and resembled Courtney.

## **12** **Robert Nelson** *Midwest Innocence Project*

On June 12, 2013, Robert Nelson was exonerated after spending 30 years of his life in prison after he was wrongfully convicted based on misidentification by investigators and the victim.

In 1983, a 25-year-old woman was raped and robbed in her Kansas City, Missouri, home by two men. As part of the investigation, the victim was shown a photo array of potential suspects, but she did not identify her attackers. The following month, investigators received an anonymous call informing them that the rapists were two brothers with the last name of Ramsey. They were allegedly in jail for robbery. Though Nelson and his brother had different last names from that reported on the phone call, they became suspects of the rape and robbery

because they were in jail at the time for robbery. The victim later identified Nelson as one of her attackers based on a voice identification. While she did not identify Nelson's brother, both men were charged with the rape and robbery. Charges against Nelson's brother were eventually dropped.

At the trial, the victim again identified Nelson as one of her attackers. Nelson had an alibi; he was with his family during the time of the crime, but the alibi was not presented at the trial. Nelson was convicted and was sentenced to 98 years.

Midwest Innocence Project was contacted by the court to take the case after Nelson filed his third pro se motion for DNA testing. His first two motions had been denied.

In 2012, DNA results were matched to two convicted felons and excluded Nelson. In 2013, both the Midwest Innocence Project and the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office filed a motion to vacate Nelson's conviction and dismiss the charges. The judge granted that motion and Nelson was released that same day.

## **13** **Daniel Taylor** *Northwestern University Center on Wrongful Convictions*

In June 2013, Daniel Taylor was released from prison after 20 years of wrongful incarceration. Taylor had been convicted of a 1992 double murder despite records showing he was in police custody at the time the murders took place.

In November 1992, a drug dealer and a prostitute were murdered on Chicago's South Side. Police eventually arrested eight juveniles for the crimes. After lengthy interrogations all the teens confessed and implicated each other for the murders.

Of the eight youth, two had their charges dismissed before trial. Another was acquitted, and five — including Taylor — were convicted.

At Taylor's trial, the prosecution presented testimony from police officers who were at the station where Taylor was held on the night of the murders, as well as the bond slip, signed by

Taylor, which was time-stamped at 10 p.m. — more than an hour after the murders occurred. The officers testified that Taylor had signed the bond slip and was released prior to the shooting, and that the time stamp must have been put on after his release. He was sentenced to life in prison.

In February, Taylor's attorneys from the Center on Wrongful Conviction at Northwestern University School of Law filed a petition with the Cook County Circuit Court that confirmed there were five police employees who have sworn the records accurately indicate that Taylor was behind bars at the time of the murders. The petition also claimed that a prosecutor's notes and other documents supporting Taylor's innocence were withheld pre-trial.

On June 28th, 2013, prosecutors for Chicago's Cook County dropped murder charges against Taylor.

## **14** **Paul Statler** *Innocence Project Northwest*

## **15** **Tyler Gassman** *Innocence Project Northwest*

## **16** **Robert Larson** *Innocence Project Northwest*

In December 2012, a Superior Court Judge in Washington vacated the convictions of Paul Statler, Tyler Gassman and Robert Larson — all wrongfully incarcerated for robbery based off of the testimony of a co-defendant who received a deal for implicating the three young men. All three spent nearly five years in prison.

The then-17-year-old informant, Matthew Dunham, implicated Statler, Gassman, and Larson in a spree of robberies he had committed with Anthony Kongjunchi. Pre-trial, Kongjunchi told defense lawyers that Statler, Gassman, and Larson had nothing to do with

the crimes. However, Kongjunchi also said that if called as a witness, he would invoke his right against self-incrimination and refuse to testify.

On the first day of the trial, the prosecution amended the charges and said that the crime occurred on April 17, 2008, not April 15, as they had initially said, since Larson's attorney had found records showing that Larson was at work when the crime had been committed on the 15th. Dunham's testimony was the only evidence against the three. Witnesses identified Dunham and Kongjunchi, but none identified Statler, Gassman, or Larson. Regardless, a jury convicted the three in 2009.

The Innocence Project Northwest at the University of Washington began investigating the case after all three convictions were upheld on appeal. A trial court vacated the men's convictions in June and ordered a new trial. The prosecutor dropped against Larson on June 3, 2013 and Stalter and Glassman on July 24.

## **17** **Andrew Johnson** *Rocky Mountain Innocence Center*

Andrew Johnson was the first person in Wyoming to be exonerated of a crime based on post-conviction DNA testing. In July, a Wyoming district court judge declared Johnson innocent of a 1989 rape. Andrew Johnson, 63, maintained his innocence from the start and served 23 years behind bars.

In 1989, Johnson was working as a construction worker in Cheyenne, Wyoming, and was engaged to be married when he was accused and later convicted of raping an acquaintance. A woman said that Johnson attacked her at her house after the two of them had spent the evening together, bar-hopping. While Johnson's eyeglasses and identification were found at the victim's apartment, Johnson insisted that they were left when he had visited earlier that day. Johnson was convicted of sexual assault and aggravated burglary based largely on the victim's testimony at trial.

Johnson's attorneys at the Rocky Mountain Innocence Center fought for his freedom for more than a decade and played a major role in changing the state's law in 2008 to allow for post-conviction DNA testing, knowing it could help win Johnson's release. As a cooperating attorney with the Rocky Mountain Innocence Center, Aaron Lytle also played an important role in Johnson's exoneration.

In April 2013, Johnson was released on bond after new DNA testing excluded him as the source of the semen found in the victim's rape kit. In July 2013, Laramie County District Attorney Scott Homar announced that all charges against Johnson were being dismissed.

## **18** **Devon Ayers** *The Exoneration Initiative*

## **19** **Carlos Perez** *The Exoneration Initiative*

## **20** **Michael Cosme** *The Exoneration Initiative*

In 1995, Denise Raymond was found murdered in her Bronx apartment. Less than a day after her body was found, Baithe Diop, a taxi driver, was killed a block away from Raymond's home. Two neighborhood women told police that they had heard a group of young men discussing the murder in a local park. Based off of these two women's statements, police arrested six people: Carlos Perez, Devon Ayers, Michael Cosme, Israel Vasquez, Eric Glisson, and Cathy Watkins.

Ayers, Cosme, Perez, and Vasquez were charged with murdering Raymond at the behest of her former boyfriend, Charles McKinnon, and then going on to murder Diop in collaboration with Glisson and Watkins.

One of the witnesses told police that they heard Diop being shot and saw a number of people

flee from his car after the shots were fired. She later identified them as Ayers, Cosme, Perez, Vasquez, Glisson, and Watkins.

Ayers, Cosme and Perez were convicted of the murders of both Diop and Raymond in 1997 and each was sentenced to 50 years to life for both murders. In 2003, federal authorities were investigating a Bronx gang, and two members independently confessed to the murder of a livery car driver in 1995. Based off of their confessions, in December of 2012 Ayers, Cosme, and Perez were exonerated of Diop's murder. Newly discovered evidence also pointed to their innocence in the murder of Raymond. Security footage from a camera in Raymond's apartment building contradicted the statement of one of Raymond's friends, who testified at the original trial that Raymond left her work with McKinnon the night before the murder.

On September 20th, 2013, the prosecution ultimately consented to dismiss charges against Ayers, Cosme, and Perez, who were represented by the Exoneration Initiative, along with the Legal Aid Society, Center for Appellate Litigation, Roman and Kuan, Emory Celli Brinckerhoff and Abady.

## 21

### **David Boyce** *Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project*

David Boyce was wrongfully convicted of the murder of a housekeeper at a Virginia Beach motel in 1991. He spent 23 years in prison before he was exonerated.

Boyce, then 19, was sharing a room with the 35-year-old victim, Timothy Askew, at the motel where the two both worked. Boyce repeatedly told police that Askew had gone out partying the night of his death, and that Boyce had not seen him past 2 a.m.. Despite his account of the night remaining consistent, on the 3rd interview with police, Boyce was arrested.

His conviction rested on a litany of bad evidence, including the account of another

employee of the hotel who testified that he saw Boyce furtively ducking out of the room where Askew was killed (not the room he shared with Boyce) around 3 a.m., a jailhouse informant who claimed Boyce confessed, and testimony from a police officer who claimed that his scent-tracing dog had tracked the bloody towels found at the scene of the murder back to the room that Boyce and Askew had been sharing. Boyce was given two life sentences.

Post-conviction DNA testing of the many crime scene items revealed the DNA of an unknown person and no trace of Boyce. Additionally, the informant recanted his claims that Boyce had confessed. Boyce filed a petition for a writ of actual innocence, which was denied, soon after the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project took on his case. State and federal petitions for writs of habeas corpus were filed, and in March of 2013, a federal judge vacated his convictions and ordered a new trial. On September 18, 2013, the prosecution dismissed the charges, and Boyce was exonerated.

## 22

### **Jerry Jenkins** *Innocence Project Northwest*

In June 2013, Jerry Jenkins was exonerated of sexual assault after being wrongfully convicted in 1987. He spent more than 26 years in prison for a crime that he did not commit.

In February 1986, a woman was sexually assaulted in a model home in Waldorf, Maryland. Immediately following the attack, the victim called police and gave a partial description of her attacker. Investigators first theorized that the attack was the work of a serial rapist; multiple attacks with similarities had been committed in the area over a number of years.

The investigation had stalled when police decided to interview Jerry Jenkins, who was being held in jail on unrelated charges. Police took a picture of Jenkins, but chose to use a five-year-old photo of him in the photo lineup for the witness, who claimed that Jenkins "looked

like” her attacker, but could not positively identify him. Police eventually realized that Jenkins didn’t commit the earlier crimes but charged him for the 1986 crime anyway.

A break in the case came when DNA testing in one of the earlier assaults hit to a convicted rapist, Norman Derr, who was already incarcerated for a sexual assault that occurred in 1988. In 2007, the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project began representing Jenkins. Thanks to their investigation, the original rape kit was located and tested. The results hit to Derr’s CODIS profile, and on June 7, 2013, the case was dismissed, and Jenkins was freed.

## **23** **Debra Brown** *Rocky Mountain Innocence Center*

In July 2013, the Utah Supreme Court upheld a district court ruling that found Debra Brown “factually innocent” of murder. Debra Brown was the first person to be exonerated through a 2008 law passed by the Utah Legislature that allows for non-DNA innocence claims.

Debra Brown spent 17 years in prison for the murder of her boss and family friend, 75-year-old Lael Brown, who she discovered dead in his home on November 7, 1993. She had gone to his home to check on him because he was ill. When she entered his house, she found him with three gunshot wounds to his head. The weapon was missing from the crime scene, as was Lael Brown’s wallet.

Debra Brown was not considered a suspect until investigators discovered that she had forged Lael Brown’s signature on \$3,600 worth of checks from his account. The prosecution reasoned that Debra Brown killed Lael Brown because he had discovered that she had forged the checks.

At the trial, the prosecution said that Debra Brown’s lack of alibi indicated that she was guilty. According to the prosecution, the victim was murdered in the early morning hours of Saturday, November 6, 1993. Also, Debra Brown

had a key to the victim’s home, which, according to the prosecution, explained why there were no signs of forced entry at the crime scene. A jury convicted Debra Brown in October 1995. She was sentenced to life in prison.

The Rocky Mountain Innocence Center took on the case in 2002. In 2011, Debra Brown’s attorneys presented evidence which revealed that Lael Brown actually died sometime between 9 p.m. Saturday, November 6 and 3 a.m. Sunday, November 7. Also, two witnesses said that they had seen Lael Brown alive later in the day on Saturday, November 6, a time for which Debra Brown had an alibi. One of the witnesses had actually spoken to the prosecutors pre-trial, but he was never called to testify and Debra Brown’s attorney’s had not been made aware by the prosecution about the witness’s statement.

On May 2, 2011, a district court judge ruled that based on the new evidence, Debra Brown was factually innocent of the crime and she was freed from prison a week later. The Utah Attorney General’s office appealed the district court ruling, but in July 2013, the Utah Supreme Court upheld the district court ruling, finalizing Debra Brown’s exoneration.

## **24** **John Grega** *New England Innocence Project*

Prosecutors dismissed Grega’s aggravated murder charge on August 21, 2013, one year after new DNA evidence proved that John Grega was innocent of murdering his wife. Grega wrongfully served 18 years behind bars. He is the first person in Vermont to be released from prison based on DNA testing.

John Grega was vacationing with his wife and young son in West Dover, Vermont, in 1994 when his wife’s body was found strangled and sexually assaulted. There were no witnesses to the crime. Despite Grega having no criminal record or history of violence, police considered him the prime suspect.

At the trial, no witnesses or physical evidence were introduced. Prosecutors relied on circumstantial evidence and on Grega's own conflicting statements that some of his wife's injuries may have been caused by rough sex they had before her death. Grega was convicted in 1995. He was the first person ever in Vermont's to receive a life sentence without the possibility of parole.

Vermont law firm Goodwin Procter took on the case as a member of the New England Innocent Project's pro bono network. In May 2012, new DNA testing of evidence excluded Grega and revealed skin cells from an unknown male.

Grega was released from prison on August 22, 2012 and was granted a new trial. One year later, he was exonerated. Gretchen Bennett, the Executive Director of the New England Innocence Project, credited Grega with contributing to his own exoneration; he worked on his own case and with lawyers to secure new DNA testing.

## **25** **Larry Lamb** *North Carolina Center on Actual Innocence*

Larry Lamb spent 20 years in prison for a murder he did not commit before being exonerated in August 2013.

In 1987, Leamon Grady was found murdered in his North Carolina home. The case was cold for three years until police issued a reward for any information about the case. A woman named Lovely Lorden told police that her former boyfriend, Levon Jones, was the perpetrator. She gave multiple conflicting stories about what had happened the night of the crime, but ultimately testified that she, along with Jones, Larry Lamb and another man, went to Grady's home to rob him. Lorden testified that she stayed in the car while the three men went in.

All three men were convicted of first degree

murder, despite there being no witnesses — other than Lorden — and no physical evidence. All three claimed to be innocent.

The North Carolina Center on Actual Innocence began investigating Lamb's case in 2007. In 2008, Lorden recanted her testimony and Jones' charges were dismissed. Soon after, the Center on Actual Innocence discovered sworn statements from two other men, one of whom claimed responsibility for the murder. Based on this new evidence, along with Lorden's recantation, they filed a petition for a new trial. A judge dismissed Lamb's convictions on August 8, 2013, and the prosecution dropped all charges on August 13.

## **26** **Derrick Deacon** *The Exoneration Initiative* In November 2013, Derrick Deacon became a free man when a Brooklyn jury acquitted him of a robbery and murder for which he wrongly spent 24 years in prison.

In 1989, a 16-year-old, Anthony Wynn, was shot to death in the hallway of his apartment building in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York. An eyewitness described the gunman as 19 years old and approximately five foot, seven inches tall. Despite being 34 years old and six feet tall, Deacon was arrested when a resident of the building called the police and reported that he had seen Deacon yank a necklace off of Wynn's neck and then heard gun shots. Residents were familiar with Deacon because he regularly did odd jobs around the building.

At the trial, the eyewitness was expected to testify on behalf of Deacon's innocence, but instead, said that she was unsure as to whether Deacon was the shooter. Deacon maintained his innocence throughout the trial and provided an alibi, but he was convicted and sentenced to 25 years to life.

In 2001, Trevor Brown, a federal cooperating witness, told prosecutors that Wynn was not the shooter; the actual perpetrator was a local gang member who confessed to Brown. It was not until three years later that the information was finally passed on to Deacon, through another gang member.

Glenn Garber and Rebecca Freedman of the Exoneration Initiative took on Deacon's case in 2007. In 2009, lawyers from Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton and Garrison assisted with the litigation of a motion for a new trial. The motion was denied, but in 2012, Deacon's conviction was vacated on appeal. In 2013, Deacon was given a new trial. The Exoneration Initiative acted as trial counsel. Brown testified, reiterating that it was a gang member who had killed Wynn. The eyewitness from the first trial also testified. She told the jury that she was pressured by the Kings County District Attorney's Office to lie at the first trial, and this time admitted that Deacon was not the shooter. On November 18, 2013, the jury acquitted Deacon after only nine minutes.

## **27** **Cheydrick Britt** *Innocence Project of Florida*

Cheydrick Britt was wrongfully convicted of rape after his girlfriend's 15-year-old daughter claimed that he had assaulted her in their Tampa, Florida, home. He served more than nine years in prison.

While the girl's account of events changed several times, she eventually testified that while she was raped, she was unsure whether or not Britt had ejaculated inside her. She had a rape kit done the day of the purported attack, but there was no evidence of semen on the vaginal or oral swabs, or on the victim's underwear that she put on after the alleged incident. The sheets tested positive for semen, but they were taken from the bed that Britt shared with the girls' mother, his girlfriend, so the results were not surprising. Most importantly, the victim stated that she had only had sex once before, a year prior to the alleged incident and that there

was no ejaculation during that previous sexual experience.

Britt was convicted of sexual battery and sentenced to 30 years. The Innocence Project of Florida secured post-conviction DNA testing of the evidence in 2010, and in 2013, DNA tests of the victim's underwear identified semen and a male DNA profile that excluded Britt. Based on these results, the circuit court vacated Britt's conviction on September 24, 2013 and he was released from custody. On November 20, 2013, because the victim maintained that her trial testimony regarding her previous sexual history was accurate and the prosecution, therefore, could not provide an explanation for the unknown semen on the victim's underwear, the prosecution dismissed all charges against him. Cheydrick Britt currently resides in Tampa, Florida.

## **28** **Andy Melaan** *Knoops' Innocence Project*

## **29** **Nozai Thomas** *Knoops' Innocence Project*

On November 20, 2013, Andy Melaan and Nozai Thomas were acquitted of murder by the High Court of Justice for the Dutch Antilles. Melaan served eight years of a 24-year sentence after being wrongfully convicted based on a false confession made by Thomas, which implicated them both in the murder of two brothers. Thomas served five years of an eight year sentence.

In 2005, a group of men allegedly lured two brothers, Lisandro and Wendell Martis, to a secluded spot and then killed them. The prosecution claimed that Melaan was involved and that Thomas served as the lookout. Both young men were convicted based on an incriminating statement made by one of the other men involved in the case as well as by Thomas' false confession, which the defense team would later reveal was the result of extreme pressure by the investigators who were

involved in the case as well as by Thomas' false confession, which the defense team would later reveal was the result of extreme pressure by the investigators who were conducting the investigation.

The Knoops Innocence Project took on the case and was able to secure a November 2013 hearing, at which a digital forensics expert produced evidence that Thomas was at his desk, logged in to his computer and downloading music at the time of the murder. Call phone records show that Melaan was on the other side of the island when the crime took place, providing Melaan with an alibi. The public prosecutor said that there was no evidence that connected Thomas and Melaan to the crime. Based on the new evidence, Melaan and Thomas were exonerated of their murder convictions. On behalf of the public prosecution service, Attorney General S. Lukowski offered his apologies to Melaan and Thomas.

## **30** Gerard Richardson *Innocence Project*

In December 2013, Gerard Richardson was exonerated of murder nearly two months after a Somerset County Superior Court Judge overturned his conviction and ordered his release from prison. Richardson served more than 19 years for a wrongful conviction.

Late one night in February 1994, Monica Reyes, a 19-year-old from Elizabeth, New Jersey, disappeared. Five days later, her small, 83-pound body was found partially covered in snow in a road-side ditch. She had been bludgeoned and strangled. During her autopsy, the medical examiner found a bite mark on the lower left part of her back.

Richardson became a suspect because Reyes, who was addicted to heroin, occasionally sold drugs for Richardson and owed him \$90. There

was no physical evidence tying Richardson to the crime.

It was expert testimony regarding a bite mark comparison that helped to persuade a jury to convict Richardson of the murder at the 1995 trial. A forensic odontologist testified that the bite mark left on the victim was indisputably made by Richardson. In closing arguments, the prosecutor said: "Mr. Richardson, in effect, left a calling card. . . . It's as if he left a note that said, 'I was here,' and signed it because the mark on her back was made by no one else's teeth." Richardson was pronounced guilty and sentenced to 30 years in prison without the possibility of parole.

Richardson was granted the right to submit a swab recovered from the bite mark to DNA testing, but testing was inconclusive. His attorneys eventually sought help from the Innocence Project, which took over his representation. The remaining evidence was submitted once again for testing, and the lab detected a complete male DNA profile from the evidence that excluded Richardson. After Somerset County Prosecutor Soriano conceded that the new evidence entitled him to a new trial, Judge Marino granted Richardson's motion on October 28, 2013. On December 17, 2013, the indictment was dismissed.

## **31** Jonathan Montgomery *Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project*

On December 20, 2013, Jonathan Montgomery of Virginia was exonerated after serving three years for a sexual assault that never actually happened.

In 2007, a 17-year-old woman reported that Montgomery sexually assaulted in her backyard in Hampton, Virginia, seven years prior, when she was 10 years old and Montgomery was 14 years old. The accuser identified Montgomery in a photo lineup using his high school yearbook photo.

On October 15, 2007, Montgomery was arrested. Police said that Montgomery had committed the crime on approximately January 12, 2001, but upon discovering that Montgomery had actually moved out of state by that date, they issued a new warrant which stated that the crime happened between September 2000 and December 2000.

Montgomery was tried and convicted in a one-day trial in June 2008. At the trial, the accuser testified that she did not report the assault in 2000 because she was embarrassed and afraid of how her parents might react. She said that she was prompted to contact the police seven years later because she thought she had recently seen Montgomery at a store in town. In 2009, Montgomery was sentenced, based entirely on the accuser's testimony, to 45 years in prison, with 37 years and 6 months suspended.

In 2012, the accuser contacted a friend who worked for the local police department and recanted her accusation and testimony; she said that Montgomery had never sexually assaulted her. In a voluntary confession, she explained that a few days prior to her accusing Montgomery, her mother had found her looking at internet porn. Out of fear, she told her mother that she was looking at the adult material because she had been molested years prior, and reluctantly named Montgomery as the attacker.

On November 19, 2012, Montgomery requested that Governor Robert McDonnell grant a conditional pardon, releasing him during the period in which he could file a Writ of Actual Innocence. The governor granted the conditional pardon and Montgomery was immediately released from prison.

On December 20, 2012, Montgomery filed a petition with the court for a writ of actual innocence. Based on new testimony from the victim that she lied about being sexually assaulted by Montgomery, the court declared Montgomery innocent on December 20, 2013, exactly one year to the day that he filed his petition to the court.

# NETWORK MEMBERS

Alaska Innocence Project  
Arizona Innocence Project  
Arizona Justice Project  
Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted (AIDWC)  
California Innocence Project  
Center on Wrongful Convictions  
Committee for Public Counsel Services Innocence Program  
Connecticut Innocence Project  
Thomas M. Cooley Law School Innocence Project  
Duke Center for Criminal Justice and Professional Responsibility  
France Innocence Project  
Georgia Innocence Project  
Griffith University Innocence Project  
Hawaii Innocence Project  
Indiana University School of Law Clinic, Wrongful Conviction Component  
Idaho Innocence Project  
Illinois Innocence Project  
Innocence and Justice Project at the University of New Mexico School of Law  
Innocence Network UK  
Innocence Project  
Innocence Project at the University of Virginia  
Innocence Project New Orleans  
Innocence Project New Zealand  
Innocence Project Northwest Clinic  
Innocence Project of Florida  
Innocence Project of Iowa  
Innocence Project of Minnesota  
Innocence Project of Texas  
Irish Innocence Project at Griffith College  
Kentucky Innocence Project  
Knoops and Partners Innocence Project  
Life After Innocence  
Michigan Innocence Clinic  
Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project  
Midwest Innocence Project  
Mississippi Innocence Project  
Montana Innocence Project  
Nebraska Innocence Project  
New England Innocence Project  
North Carolina Center on Actual Innocence  
Northern California Innocence Project  
Office of the Ohio Public Defender, Wrongful Conviction Project  
Office of the Public Defender, State of Delaware  
Ohio Innocence Project  
Oklahoma Innocence Project

**Osgoode Hall Innocence Project**  
**Pennsylvania Innocence Project**  
**Reinvestigation Project**  
**Resurrection After Exoneration**  
**Rocky Mountain Innocence Center**  
**Texas Center for Actual Innocence**  
**The Exoneration Initiative**  
**The Sellenger Centre Criminal Justice Review Project**  
**The University of Leeds Innocence Project**  
**Thurgood Marshall School of Law Innocence Project**  
**University of Baltimore Innocence Project Clinic**  
**University of British Columbia Law School Innocence Project**  
**University of Miami Law Innocence Clinic**  
**Wake Forest University Law School Innocence and Justice Clinic**  
**Wesleyan Innocence Project**  
**West Virginia Innocence Project**  
**Wisconsin Innocence Project**  
**Witness to Innocence**

# INNOCENCE NETWORK

**T**he Innocence Network is an affiliation of 63 member organizations dedicated to providing pro bono legal and investigative services to individuals seeking to prove innocence of crimes for which they have been convicted and working to redress the causes of wrongful convictions.

For more on the Innocence Network and for information on how to contact member organizations, please visit [www.innocencenetwork.org](http://www.innocencenetwork.org).

BENNIE STARKS  
KRISTINE BUNCH  
GEORGE ALLEN  
RONALD ROSS  
GARRY DIAMOND  
JOHNNY WILLIAMS  
RANDY ARLEDGE  
JERAMIE DAVIS  
JOSEPH FREY  
DEBRA BROWN  
NICOLE HARRIS  
URIAH COURTNEY  
ROBERT NELSON  
DANIEL TAYLOR  
PAUL STATLER  
TYLER GASSMAN  
ROBERT LARSON  
ANDREW JOHNSON  
DEVON AYERS  
CARLOS PEREZ  
MICHAEL COSME  
DAVID BOYCE  
JERRY JENKINS  
JOHN GREGA  
LARRY LAMB  
DERRICK DEACON  
NOZAI THOMAS  
ANDY MELAAAN  
CHEYDRICK BRITT  
GERARD RICHARDSON  
JONATHAN MONTGOMERY

THE **INNOCENCE** NETWORK

[WWW.INNOCENCENETWORK.ORG](http://WWW.INNOCENCENETWORK.ORG)