

INNOCENCE PROJECT

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Thank you for your interest in the Innocence Project. The Innocence Project works to free the innocent, prevent wrongful convictions, and create fair, compassionate, and equitable systems of justice for everyone. Our work is guided by science and grounded in antiracism.

The Innocence Project **ONLY considers post-conviction DNA cases where:**

1. The trial has been completed, an appeal has taken place and the person is serving their sentence.
2. There is physical evidence that, if subjected to DNA testing, will prove that the applicant is innocent. This means that physical evidence was collected – for example blood, bodily fluids, clothing, hair – and if that evidence can be found and tested, the test will prove that the applicant could not have committed the crime. The applicant must have been convicted of a crime. We do not review claims where the applicant was wrongfully suspected, arrested or charged, but not convicted.
3. The crime occurred in the United States, but not in: Arizona, California, Illinois, Michigan, or Ohio. Our intake is currently closed to these states. Please write to the local innocence organizations in those States for assistance.

The Innocence Project only reviews a limited number of cases where DNA testing cannot prove innocence. Further the Innocence Project does NOT handle the following types of cases:

1. **Consent / Transaction:** The applicant claims that there was no crime because the victim consented to the events (e.g. consensual intercourse) and/or received some form of payment in exchange for the activity (e.g. prostitution, drug transaction)
2. **Self-defense / Justification:** The applicant admits to causing the injury/death but believes the acts were justified because the applicant acted in self-defense or to protect other people.
3. **Sustained Abuse:** The applicant is accused of crime against the victim(s) that happened more than once and over a period of time (e.g., allegations of long-term sexual abuse of a family member).

4. **Illegal Possession / Distribution of any controlled substance:** The applicant is only challenging a possession or distribution charge.
5. **RICO / Hobbs Act:** The applicant has been charged under the *Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act* (RICO) or the Hobbs Act.
6. **DWI or DUI:** The applicant was convicted of driving while intoxicated (DWI) or driving under the influence (DUI).
7. **Fraud / Identity Theft / Forgery:** The applicant was only convicted of one or more of these crimes.
8. **Stalking / Harassment:** The primary charges against the applicant involve stalking and/or harassment.
9. **Sentencing Reduction / Overcharged:** The applicant wants to challenge the charge or length of sentence but does not claim innocence.

To have your case considered, please complete the attached Intake form and mail it to:

Innocence Project Intake Department

40 Worth St, Suite 701 New York, NY 10013

No other documents should be submitted for initial review. The Innocence Project cannot accept telephone or e-mail applications. Should you have any questions or require further information, please write to our office at the above noted address. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Innocence Project Intake Team

Innocence Project: Request for Assistance

Directions: All requests for assistance should come directly from the applicant, when possible. Please print this form, ask the applicant to answer ALL of the following questions and send it to the address below.

Innocence Project Intake Department

40 Worth St, Suite 701 New York, NY 10013

Name of applicant:	Inmate number:
Current address of applicant:	Crime(s) convicted of:
Date(s) of the crime(s):	Date of arrest:
Date crime was reported:	Date of conviction:
City, county, and state of conviction:	Sentence received:

In your submission, please also provide answers to the following:

1. The basic facts of the crime. What happened? When? Where? What were you accused of doing?
2. Where were you at the time of the crime(s)? What were you doing?
3. Do you know the victim(s)? If so, how do you know the victim(s)? What did the victim(s) say happened?
4. Are you claiming innocence of all the charges/convictions? If not, please explain.