

Won't somebody please hear my plea?
Won't somebody please set me free?

Lyrics from "Chasing a Dream",

Written & Performed by William Dillon, Florida DNA Exoneree

Who We Are

Established in 2003, the Innocence Project of Florida (IPF) is a non-profit organization that advocates for persons imprisoned in Florida whose innocence can be confirmed by DNA testing or who otherwise have credible claims to legal relief. IPF also helps those proven innocent to ease back into a changed society and works to reform the criminal justice system to prevent future wrongful convictions.

IPF receives no funding from the State of Florida and is supported solely by grants and donations.

Finding and Freeing the Innocent

The inmates represented by IPF have exhausted the appeals process and have no other recourse to

obtain their release. They are moms and dads, sons and daughters - many have spent decades in prison locked away from their families while the real perpetrators remain free.

IPF receives dozens of inquiries monthly from inmates and their families seeking assistance. Our litigation team:

- Screens and investigates cases to identify credible innocence claims,
- Secures DNA testing through litigation when biological evidence exists, and
- Advocates for the release of each inmate proven innocent by this highly reliable scientific analysis or other newly discovered evidence.

We are litigating dozens of cases with hundreds more in various stages of document collection, investigation and review.

Making the Transition to Freedom Easier

IPF was first innocence project in the nation to have a full-time social worker to provide transitional assistance for exonerees, who return to a world very different from the one they left behind.

We coordinate an array of transitional services including medical, psychological, and social support; job training and assistance; housing assistance; family support; and education. IPF also helps the exonerees buy groceries and gas, pay bills, and purchase clothes for work. We also work to ensure the restoration of their civil rights.

Fixing a Broken System

The number of imprisoned innocents will continue to grow unless we create a system that corrects the most common causes of wrongful convictions:

- Eyewitness misidentification
- Unreliable or limited science
- False confessions
- Forensic science fraud or misconduct
- Government misconduct
- Disingenuous jailhouse informants
- Bad lawyering

In addition to spearheading policy initiatives in these areas of reform, IPF was instrumental in advocating for legislation and court rules expanding

access to DNA testing in Florida and assisted in the creation of the Florida Innocence Commission.

Help Unlock the Truth

There is much work yet to be done and many more innocent individuals to be freed. Please join us on this extraordinary journey to unlock the truth for the wrongfully imprisoned.

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