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Wrongful Conviction Day: Every Story Counts



Johnetta Carr is one of the exonerees featured in the Registry's [new video](#) "Every Story Counts."

September was a busy month at the Registry.

Hopefully, you've had a chance to see our collaborative work with members of the Innocence Network for Wrongful Conviction Day, which was this past Saturday. Our research provided much of the data used by Network members to show the true impact of wrongful convictions.

And if you haven't seen our new video on the Registry and the pivotal role we play in the efforts to improve our criminal justice system, you can watch it [here](#).

20 Exonerations Posted in September

The Registry published 20 exonerations in September. Browse our [recently posted](#)

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In 2011, [Jerome Loach](#), of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was sentenced to up to 50 years in prison for criminal conspiracy. He was exonerated in 2021 after he uncovered telephone records that contradicted the police testimony at his trial.

[Julian Hernandez](#), of Los Angeles, California, received probation after pleading guilty to drug possession in 1998. He was exonerated in 2000 after one of the arresting officers said they had entered the apartment without a search warrant and Hernandez denied possessing drugs.

In 1987, [James Allen](#) was sentenced to life in prison for a murder in Chicago, Illinois. He was exonerated in 2021 after the real killer confessed to the crime.

In 1991, [Corey Atchison](#) was sentenced to life in prison for a murder in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was exonerated in 2021 after a witness recanted and police reports pointing to other suspects were discovered.

In 1990, [Ronald Jacobsen](#) was sentenced to life in prison for the kidnapping and sexual assault of a convenience store clerk in Covington, Georgia. He was exonerated by DNA testing in 2021.

In 1999, [Clarence Jones III](#) was sentenced to 30 years in prison for the murder of his infant son in Baltimore, Maryland. He was exonerated in 2021 based on evidence that discredited the prosecution's theory that the baby died of Shaken Baby Syndrome.

In 1990, [Tony Hopps](#), of Tampa, Florida, was sentenced to life in prison for

In 2018, [Wilson Begay](#), a member of the Yakama Nation, was sentenced to probation, a \$1,000 fine and loss of his hunting license for three years for unlawfully killing a deer on private land in Oregon. He was exonerated in 2021 based on evidence that the land was open and unclaimed and could be hunted on under the Yakama Treaty of 1855.

In 2017, [Sharron Rocquemore](#) was sentenced to probation after pleading guilty to possession of drugs. She was exonerated in 2021 based on evidence that she was among dozens of people who were framed by two Chicago police officers, both of whom were subsequently convicted and sentenced to prison.

In 1992, [Daniel Batista](#) was sentenced to two to six years in prison for illegal possession of a handgun in Manhattan, New York. He was exonerated in 1996 based on evidence that police planted the weapon.

In 1987, [Hoc Nguyen](#) was sentenced to 15 years to life for murder in Manhattan, New York. His conviction was reversed and the case was dismissed in 1989. In 1993, he was declared innocent by the New York Court of Claims.

[Michael Williams](#), of Los Angeles, California, was convicted of weapons possession in 1996 and sentenced to 25 years to life in prison as a repeat offender. He was exonerated in 2000 after an officer involved in his arrest said the arresting officer had falsified the police report and testified falsely at Williams's trial.

[Jamie Spates](#), of Rockford, Illinois, was convicted of murder and mob action in 2018. After receiving a new trial in

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reinvestigation of the case found new evidence to support his alibi.

In 2003, [Paul Garrett](#) was sentenced to 15 years in prison for killing a sex worker in Nashville, Tennessee. He was exonerated in 2021 after DNA testing identified another suspect, who was then charged with the crime.

In 2006, [James Davis](#) was sentenced to 18 years to life in prison for a murder at a party in Brooklyn, New York. He was exonerated in 2021 after witnesses his defense lawyer failed to call at trial testified that Davis left the party before the shooting occurred.

In 1986, [Emerson Stevens](#), of Lancaster County, Virginia, was sentenced to life in prison for murder and abduction. Paroled in 2017, Steven was granted an absolute pardon in 2021 after his attorneys presented new evidence that contradicted the state's theory of the crime and the testimony of key witnesses.

evidence that the victim had been the aggressor.

In 1996, [Cesar Natividad](#) and [Raul Munoz](#), both of Los Angeles, California, pled guilty to assault on an officer. They were exonerated in 2000 after one of the officers involved in his arrest said that neither man ever hit the officers.

[Allan Lobos](#), of Los Angeles, California, received a sentence of one year in jail after pleading guilty to possession of a firearm by a felon in 1996. He was exonerated in 2000 after one of the arresting officers said that other officers had falsified part of the arrest report.

[Tonia Miller](#), of Battle Creek, Michigan, was convicted in 2003 of murder in the death of her infant daughter. She was exonerated in 2021 after new evidence contradicted the autopsy and said that the child died from pneumonia, not Shaken Baby Syndrome.

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