



April 2017

CONVICTION VACATED, NEW TRIAL ORDERED FOR IIP CLIENT BILL AMOR!

This morning a DuPage County judge vacated the 1997 murder conviction of IIP client William (Bill) Amor and ordered a new trial in the arson murder case.

Bill's case is believed to be the first of its kind in the state of Illinois regarding changes in fire investigation.

"It is undisputed by the experts in this case that fire science has evolved, and it has changed to such an extent that the original findings in this case are unreliable," said **Lauren Kaeseberg**, legal director of IIP's Chicago office, who represents Bill Amor. "In fact, the evidence points to an accidental fire – which is what we believe occurred here. Bill Amor did not murder anyone and the science finally supports that which he has claimed for 22 years – he is innocent."

IIP recognizes the excellent work of Bill's legal team, consisting of, in addition to IIP's Lauren Kaeseberg: **Erica Nichols Cook**, formerly of the Illinois Innocence Project, now pro bono counsel for Amor and currently Director of the Wrongful Conviction Division for the Iowa State Public Defender; **Tara Thompson**, staff attorney, the Exoneration Project; and **Kevin Caraher**, of the law firm Cozen O'Connor and pro bono attorney for Amor. IIP will award Caraher its "Defender of the Innocent" Award at its April 29 Defenders of the Innocent Event.

For more on this breaking development...

UIS press release - IIP Client Granted New Trial

Chicago Tribune - Judge Vacates Conviction

IIP needs your support to free innocent people like Bill who are imprisoned for crimes they did not commit. Please join us at our annual [Defenders of the Innocent](#) Event or [pledge a contribution](#) now!

GET YOUR SEATS NOW!

IIP 10th Annual Defenders Event

April 29, 2017, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Springfield