



May 2017

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who came out last weekend to support the Illinois Innocence Project at our 10th Annual Defenders of the Innocent event! Your support means the world to our staff and exonerees, and is critical to continuing our work on behalf of the innocent.

IIP offers a special thanks to [WSEC/PBS Springfield](#), for filming the Defenders Event at no cost to IIP.

Watch a special broadcast of the April 29 Event on

Sunday, 5/7 at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, 5/8 at 9:00 p.m

Congratulations to this year's Defender of the Innocent awardees

Mike Schlosser, director of the University of Illinois [Police Training Institute](#); award presented by Gwen Jordan, part-time IIP staff attorney and UIS associate professor of legal studies

Kevin P. Caraher, attorney at [Cozen O'Connor](#) and pro bono attorney to IIP client Bill Amor; award presented by Erica Nichols-Cook, former IIP staff attorney, pro bono attorney to Amor and Director of the Wrongful Conviction Division for the Iowa State Public Defender

Sheila Stocks-Smith, president of [Urban Action Network](#); award presented by Larry Golden, founding director of IIP

Thank you

Exoneree Yusef Salaam and his mother, Sharonne Salaam, for sharing their stories of Yusef's wrongful conviction and imprisonment (along with four other teenagers, later referred to as the "[Central Park Five](#)") for a crime he did not commit.