



October 2019

Exoneree Kristine Bunch Public Discussion 10/23 at UIS

Exoneree Kristine Bunch will discuss her wrongful conviction at a public forum next Wednesday, October 23, at the UIS Student Union Ballroom at 12:00 pm.

Kristine, a client of the Center on Wrongful Convictions and a close friend of IIP, was wrongfully arrested and charged for setting a fire that claimed the life of her 3-year-old son, Anthony, in their Indiana home. She spent 17 years in prison as an innocent woman until her conviction was reversed in 2012 based, in part, on advancements in fire science. ([Read her case ...](#))

Join us with Kristine at the UIS Student Union Ballroom at 12:00 p.m. on October 23.

Update: Marilyn Mulero Clemency Hearing

Last week, Chicago Legal Director Lauren Kaeseberg and attorneys from the California Innocence Project and Exoneration Project argued for the full pardon of Marilyn Mulero in front of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board.

Marilyn was convicted of a 1992 double murder based on evidence fabricated by now-disgraced former Chicago Detectives Reynaldo Guevara and Ernest Halvorsen, who conducted a widespread and well-established practice of abuse. If granted clemency, Marilyn would be the 20th person and first female victim of Guevara and Halvorsen to be exonerated.

During a 20-hour interrogation, Marilyn was threatened with lethal injection, told her children would be taken from her and physically threatened. She was denied sleep and a lawyer, and eventually signed a statement "confessing" responsibility for one of the murders. The true perpetrator has now admitted responsibility for both murders.

Governor J. B. Pritzker will receive the Board's clemency recommendation and make the final decision.

Springfield Journal-Register: [Board will make recommendation to governor on IIP case](#)

Chicago Sun-Times: [Woman seeks pardon in murder case ...](#)

Student Volunteer Inspired to Help Fix Criminal Justice System

UIS Senior Tyler Brown of Quincy, IL, recently went on his first prison legal visit and finally got to meet an IIP client whose case he has been working on over the past year.

"It was incredible to meet him. He was nervous but sat calmly while the attorneys talked to him about every detail of his case. It was definitely a learning experience for me."

Tyler was inspired to volunteer for IIP when he learned about prosecutorial misconduct in UIS' Conviction of the Innocent class, taught by Project attorneys.

"I was shocked by how some prosecutors choose to use false testimony by 'jailhouse snitches' to make a case against an innocent person."

Tyler will learn about another aspect of the criminal justice system by joining IIP's policy team. He will track legislation emerging in the 2020 General Assembly that may threaten the prevention of wrongful convictions. After graduation in May, Tyler plans to take the LSAT with the goal of beginning law school in fall 2021.