



## TEXAS INNOCENCE NETWORK

100 LAW CENTER  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77204-6060

Thank you for your letter requesting legal assistance. In order to determine whether the Texas Innocence Network (“TIN”) may be of assistance, we require additional information regarding your case. Please complete and return the enclosed questionnaire, so that we may begin looking into your claim of actual innocence.

Also, we must make sure you understand that our willingness to conduct an investigation into your case *does not establish an attorney-client relationship between you and TIN or any of its agents*. In other words, neither the TIN staff nor Professor David R. Dow nor any of the students assigned to your case is agreeing to serve as your attorney.

Finally, please be advised that due to limited resources, TIN does not have the resources to take on cases where the sentence has already been served or where the defendant has been granted parole. In the event you receive parole or are discharged prior to the completion of TIN’s investigation, TIN will automatically terminate its investigation into your case at that time.

If you are willing to permit us to conduct an investigation based on the terms of the preceding paragraphs, then please complete the enclosed questionnaire and authorization for release of confidential records and information, sign and date a copy of this waiver letter (in the space below), and return the completed waiver letter, release form, and questionnaire to:

Texas Innocence Network  
University of Houston Law Center  
100 Law Center  
Houston, Texas 77204-6060

TIN will not begin an investigation into your case file until a waiver letter is signed and returned. By signing this waiver letter, you agree to give the Innocence Network the right to contact any and all attorneys connected with your case. You also agree to give TIN the right to use your name in their database, which may include publication on a network website, accessible to all Innocence Programs.

*Do not send any additional materials along with the completed letter and questionnaire.* We will contact you at a later time if we require additional documents. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Texas Innocence Network

---

Inmate Name

Date

**AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE  
OF CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS AND INFORMATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, (Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_, Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_), by this release hereby authorize the attorneys, staff, or any representative of the **Texas Innocence Network** to obtain copies of any and all records and information in the possession of the \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of State) Department of Criminal Justice Correctional Institutions Division, Custodian of Medical Records, Unit Classification, or any other state or federal penal institution, including juvenile facilities or mental health or medical facilities, rehabilitation clinics or centers, and any court or probation department, including juvenile. I authorize the release of any documents in the possession of the Federal Bureau of Investigation or any other federal, state, or local law enforcement agency. I also authorize the release of any and all military records.

I also authorize the release of any and all information and records from public or private schools, medical or mental health institutions, or other such institutions, including all prison reports and records, all medical and psychiatric or mental health records, notes, nursing sheets, hospitalization records, physician notes or prescriptions, or any other type of report or record maintained by any of the above institutions, including records concerning substance abuse. I also authorize release of any and all employment records. I also authorize release of any and all records made by or in the possession of any and all attorneys.

Such records should be released immediately upon request by the above named person(s) or their representative.

This Authorization to Release Records and Information is to remain in effect until such time as I revoke it in writing. A photocopy of this document shall have the same effect as the original.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name:



Sworn to and subscribed before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, State of \_\_\_\_\_

## UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON: TEXAS INNOCENCE NETWORK QUESTIONNAIRE

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Answer the following questions to the best of your ability. If you do not know the answer to a question but know somebody who does know the answer, give the name and address or phone number of the person who you think knows the answer in the space provided. Please attach additional pages if needed.

1. Date of Arrest:
2. Investigating/arresting law enforcement agency and Officer(s)/Detective(s) (*Name, Address*):
3. What were the charges initially brought against you?
4. Name(s) of Victim(s):
5. Date and Place of Conviction (*Town, County and State*)
6. What were you convicted of? What was your sentence imposed?
7. Who was your Trial Attorney (*Name, Address, Telephone*)?
8. What was the name(s) of the Prosecuting Attorney (*Name, Address, Telephone*)?
9. Judge (*Name*):
10. What was the trial/cause number in your initial trial?

11. What Court heard your first appeal?

12. What was the appeal/cause number in your direct appeal?

13. What Court heard your second appeal (if any)?

14. What was the name of your Appellate Attorney (*Name, Address, Telephone*)?

15. Check those documents you can make available to us. *Please do not send anything until we specifically request it.*

Hearing Transcript(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Trial Transcript(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Police Report(s) (*Please describe*) \_\_\_\_\_

Laboratory Report(s) (*Please describe*) \_\_\_\_\_

Appellate Brief - Appellant (defense) \_\_\_\_\_

Appellate Brief - Respondent (prosecution) \_\_\_\_\_

Post-Conviction Brief - Appellant (defense) \_\_\_\_\_

Post-Conviction Brief - Respondent (prosecution) \_\_\_\_\_

16. What is your date of birth?

17. What was your Driver's License number at the time of conviction (even if now currently invalid)?

18. What is your first language?

19. What was the highest grade you completed in school?

20. List any other schools you attended:

21. What new evidence exists in your case that would lead to proof of innocence?

22. Why do you think the "victim(s)" made complaints against you?

23. Do you have an alibi that proves you could not have committed the crime? Yes  No   
If "Yes,"  
A. What is it?

B. Do you have some way to prove the alibi? Yes  No   
If "Yes," how?

24. When was the first time you spoke with your lawyer?

25. Did the police or investigating detective ever interview you? Yes  No   
If "Yes,"  
A. How many times were you interviewed?

B. How long were the interviews?

C. Did you ask to speak with a lawyer during the interview? Yes  No

26. Did you sign papers during the interview? Yes  No   
If "Yes", what did you sign?

27. Did you sign papers after the interview? Yes  No   
If "Yes", what did you sign?

28. Did you give a statement/confession? Yes  No   
If "Yes",  
A. Who did you give the statement to?  
  
B. Was your lawyer with you when you signed the statement? Yes  No   
C. Was it a written statement? Yes  No   
If "Yes," did you sign it? Yes  No   
D. Why did you give a statement?
29. How did you plead: Not guilty  Guilty  Nolo Contendere (no contest)   
If "guilty" or "nolo contendere" (no contest), why did you plead guilty or no contest?
30. Did you testify at your trial? Yes  No   
If "No," why didn't you testify?
31. Did the "victims" testify? Yes  No
32. Did an expert(s) testify for the defense? Yes  No   
If "yes," what kind of expert(s) testified (*for example: doctor, handwriting expert, scientist*)?  
(*Name, Address, Telephone*):
33. Did an expert(s) testify for the prosecution? Yes  No   
If "yes," what kind of expert(s) testified (*for example: doctor, handwriting expert, scientist*)?  
(*Name, Address, Telephone*):

34. Who else testified at your trial?

A. Defense (*Name, Address, Telephone*):

B. Prosecution (*Name, Address, Telephone*):

35. Did the "victim" identify you?

Yes  No

If "Yes," When? Where? (*Example: At the scene of the crime; During a line up; In court; Other*)

36. Did anyone else identify you?

Yes  No

If "Yes," When? Where?

37. If someone other than the victim identified you, did that person testify?

Yes  No

(*Name, Address, Telephone*)

38. Was any physical and/or biological evidence recovered during the investigation of your case?

Yes  No



**If physical and/or biological evidence was recovered, please answer the following questions; otherwise, you have completed this questionnaire:**

39. Were any bodily fluids or hair samples obtained from the victim? Yes  No   
*For example: vaginal swabs, anal swabs, blood, or saliva*  
If "Yes," What samples were obtained?

40. Were any bodily fluids or hair samples obtained from you? Yes  No   
*Example: blood, saliva, hair*

41. Were bodily fluids or hair found at the crime scene? Yes  No   
If "Yes," What was found?

42. Were bodily fluids or hair found on your clothing? Yes  No   
If "Yes," What was found?

43. Were any bodily fluids found on the victim's clothing (*e.g. – Blood or semen stains*)? Yes  No   
If "Yes," What was found?

44. Was any testing done on the bodily fluids or hair samples? Yes  No

45. What kind of testing was done?

46. Who arranged to have the testing done? Prosecution  Defense

47. Who actually did the test?  
(*Name, Address, Telephone*)

48. Was a second test done? Yes  No

If "Yes,"

A. What type of testing was done?

B. Who arranged to have the second test done? Prosecution  Defense

C. Who actually did the test?

49. Was testing done on all of the physical/biological evidence recovered during the investigation of your case? Yes  No

50. Were the results of the tests used at trial? Yes  No

If "No," Why Not?

51. Were the results of the tests used on appeal? Yes  No

If "No," Why Not?

52. List what item or items of evidence that you think can be subjected to a DNA test [and how that test will show that you are innocent]:

53. Is there any physical evidence that is still available (other than bodily fluids or hair)? Yes  No

If "Yes,"

A. What is it? Where is it? Who has it?

B. Was it used at trial? Yes  No

If "No," Why was it not used at trial?