An *Inside Justice* Guide

Advice for Victims of Miscarriage of Justice

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1. Introduction

This booklet provides a brief guide for persons accused and/or convicted of crimes they did not commit. The guide is intended for miscarriage of justice victims and those working to overturn the wrongful conviction. For ease of reading, much of the information is directed to the person suffering the miscarriage of justice but it equally applies to anyone seeking to help the person such as relatives, friends and other supporters.

The guide covers adults aged 18 and over tried for an indictable offence in the Crown Court in England and Wales.

It would be impossible to cover every aspect of wrongful convictions in a booklet this size. If you find yourself in any of the situations described, you should seek further advice specific to the circumstances of your individual case.

2. Trial

Your best chance to avoid a miscarriage of justice is before and during your trial. This presents a ‘one off’ opportunity to put your case. If you’re convicted, appeal procedures provide much more limited opportunities for achieving justice.

Many innocent prisoners report that – knowing they'd done nothing wrong – they assumed the accusations against them would somehow be sorted out without any involvement on their part. Adopting such an outlook is very unwise.

The fact that you've been charged means police and prosecution believe there's enough evidence to convict you.

- Don't leave everything to your lawyers
- Make sure you're fully involved at every stage of the trial process
- If the police charge you with a serious 'indictable' offence, you'll be sent for trial at the Crown Court
- Many offences (such as theft) are classified as 'either way' with a magistrates' court deciding whether you'll be tried summarily (i.e. in the magistrates' court) or – in more serious cases - passed to the Crown Court for trial before a jury.

Finding a solicitor

It's very important that you choose a competent, experienced solicitor to represent you. If you've never been in trouble before, the chances are you won't know who to approach:

- Ask around for 'word of mouth' recommendations. If you're remanded in custody, other prisoners may be able to advise you
- Look up firms who specialise in criminal law on the Law Society's website at www.lawsociety.org.uk/find-a-solicitor/
- Research individual firms' websites

Don’t fall into the trap of going straight to the firm of solicitors you used before for a house purchase or domestic legal advice. You need a specialist, experienced criminal defence solicitor. Enquire about cases an individual has worked on. You need a solicitor with experience of cases similar to yours in terms of the allegation and offence. If you have a legal firm your family always uses but which doesn’t have an experienced criminal department ask them who they recommend.

Once you’ve chosen a solicitor, work closely with her/him in the lead-up to your trial:

- Obtain a copy of the trial papers from your solicitor
- Participate as much as possible in preparing your defence
- Make sure you know every aspect of your case thoroughly
- Ask your solicitor for regular reports. Check your solicitor has done what s/he promised. If you’re unhappy, don't let matters drag on. Raise your concerns and even change your solicitor if absolutely necessary
- Pass any relevant information including names and addresses of possible witnesses etc. to your solicitor
- Ensure your solicitor and barrister press for maximum disclosure of the prosecution material
- Pay attention to prosecution ‘unused material’ (i.e. material they don’t intend to put forward at trial) in case there’s anything which might assist your defence.

Alleged ‘confessions’ supposedly made to another prisoner or prison staff have featured in several past miscarriage of justice cases. If you’re remanded in custody, **under no circumstances** discuss any aspect of your case with anyone in prison.

Legal Aid

If you’re sent to the Crown Court for trial, you’ll automatically qualify for legal aid although eligibility depends on assets and income. You can check whether you are likely to qualify for Legal Aid by going to the Government website https://www.gov.uk/legal-aid/eligibility

If your disposable income is above a set level, you’ll have to contribute towards the cost of your defence. You won’t have to make such contributions if you receive certain welfare benefits.

- If you’re found not guilty, your contributions will be returned with interest
- If you’re found guilty and have capital, you may be asked to pay a contribution from your capital.

Trial Procedure

Many people believe the aim of a criminal trial is to establish the truth about the charges facing the accused. The English trial system (known as an ‘adversarial’ system) sets itself the seemingly more modest task of deciding whether the prosecution has proved its case ‘beyond reasonable doubt’ or so that a jury ‘can be sure’ of guilt. In selecting which evidence to present at trial, the prosecution builds its best case in support of a defendant’s guilt. The defence responds to the case chosen by the prosecution. Some prosecutors may regard criminal trials as contests they must win irrespective of the truth. The adversarial

trial system may explain why prosecution non-disclosure of evidence potentially helpful to the defence has featured in so many miscarriage of justice cases.

For example, in the case of Judith Ward wrongly imprisoned for the M62 coach bombing, prosecutors didn't disclose a series of outlandish 'confessions' which indicated she was suffering severe psychosis while under police questioning. In the case of Prem Sivalingham and Sam Kulasingham (the East Ham Two), the Metropolitan Police withheld a statement made by a serving police officer who said he'd witnessed suspects being beaten during investigation of the murders for which they were wrongly convicted.

- Before your trial starts, there may be legal argument about which evidence will be admitted
- When the arguments are resolved, the jury is sworn in
- The 'indictment' - i.e. the charge(s) - is read out
- The prosecution opens its case outlining the case against you and what evidence the jury will hear
- The prosecution brings forward evidence to show you're guilty. This may include oral testimony from witnesses. The prosecution will question its witnesses first ('examination in chief') after which the defence ask questions ('cross examination'). Depending on what was said under cross-examination, the prosecution may question their witness again ('re- examination')
- Other prosecution evidence may be brought forward such as case exhibits (e.g. CCTV footage) and - providing both sides agree - written statements and admissions.

Half Time

At the close of the prosecution case, the defence may – in the jury's absence – submit that there's insufficient evidence to allow the jury to convict you (usually known as a 'half time submission'). At this point, the trial judge may direct the jury to acquit you or s/he will refuse the application and the case for the defence is now made.

Defence case

The defence in turn calls its witnesses who are then cross-examined by the prosecution. The defence may also put forward exhibits and agreed written statements.

- It's your decision – in consultation with your lawyers - whether you give evidence
- If you don't testify, however, the trial judge may permit the jury to hold this against you when considering their verdict.

Speeches and Summing Up

After all the evidence has been heard, prosecution and defence lawyers make closing speeches.

The judge sums up the case to the jury who then retire to consider their verdict.

Trial do's and don'ts

Many wrongly convicted prisoners complain their barrister and solicitor didn't listen to them during their trial. Don't be intimidated by them. Bear in mind it's your trial and they must heed your instructions.

If you're concerned about the way the trial is going, speak to your barrister. If s/he claims it's going well for you, don't necessarily take her/his word for it. Ask for explanations. Listen closely to what is said in court. Note down anything which concerns you and pass it to your solicitor e.g. 'the witness can't have seen what he says because there's no view of the alleyway from that window"

Relatives and friends should try to attend your trial as this lets the court know you have support. You and/or your supporters, however, must not sneer, laugh or otherwise interrupt when evidence is being given. This will **not** impress the jury and may even make them more likely to convict you.

If you're convicted, ask family or friends to secure and retain as much of the documentation relating to your trial as possible. Don't rely solely on your solicitor to do this. There have been several past cases where papers were lost during office moves, re-organisations etc.

3. Conviction and Appeal

If you're convicted for a crime you didn't commit, you'll be in deep shock, confused and disorientated. Your family and friends will be similarly devastated. If you can, try to:

- Tell as many people as possible that you intend to challenge the conviction.

- Ensure that all case material available to you is kept and stored securely.

Your barrister is supposed to advise you within fourteen days of sentencing whether s/he thinks you have grounds to appeal against your conviction. In many instances, this doesn't happen. If no such advice is forthcoming, contact your barrister to ask that s/he explain in writing whether or not you have grounds to appeal.

- Written applications for leave to appeal must be lodged within 28 days of sentencing

- Applications lodged out of time are only allowed in exceptional circumstances.

If fresh evidence comes to light, pass it to your solicitor. It's highly unlikely that significant new evidence will emerge within 28 days. For this reason, most appeals focus on alleged defects in the trial itself such as errors in the judge's summing up.

- If you're dissatisfied with your lawyers (or they say you've no grounds to appeal) you may seek new legal representation. Dispensing with your current legal team has drawbacks. New lawyers must start from scratch. Delays in submitting grounds of appeal over the 28 day limit must be satisfactorily explained and you may be denied a full hearing.

- If you dismiss your solicitor, you can lodge an application to appeal yourself. Ask a relative or friend to download Form NG available on the Ministry of Justice website. Complete and post it within the 28 days of sentencing to the Crown Court where you were convicted.
  Say why you think you have grounds of appeal.

The rules governing appeals against conviction are highly restrictive. The Court of Appeal will not hear arguments which attempt to re-run evidence already heard at your trial. Nor will grounds such as 'the jury got it wrong' or 'the judge didn't like me' be considered.

Minor procedural defects occur frequently in criminal trials. The Court of Appeal won't overturn convictions if such errors occurred except in very rare instances where there's been a major abuse of the courts' processes. The popular myth of convictions being quashed on grounds of procedural technicalities is just that – a myth.

Major defects which have occurred include the prosecution's closing speech (or trial judge's summing up) introducing allegations for which no evidence was presented in the course of the trial.

New evidence The Court applies a narrow definition of what evidence is regarded as 'new'. Evidence which was potentially available to the defence at your trial (but not used or pursued for whatever reason) won't usually be considered at any appeal unless you can put forward a good explanation why it was not used.

Examples of evidence which the Court of Appeal might accept as 'new' include:

- Material not disclosed by the police/prosecution
- A fresh witness whose existence could not have been known at the time of your trial
- Recent advances in scientific knowledge.

It may come as a surprise to you but the Court of Appeal will not usually regard trial witnesses subsequently changing their stories as new evidence.

The new evidence must also be sufficiently significant that there's a realistic prospect the trial jury would have reached a different verdict had they known about it.

Legal Incompetence You may feel (and may well be right) that your trial lawyers were incompetent and that this caused your wrongful conviction. You should bear in mind, however, that appeals submitted on grounds of inadequate legal representation almost never succeed.

Appeal application Legal aid provisions don't cover work by solicitors at appeal stage. In exceptional cases, your barrister can apply to the Registrar of Criminal Appeals for legal aid to allow a solicitor to carry out further investigations but this is rarely granted.

If your legal team is considering drafting Grounds of Appeal, they'll obtain a copy of the trial judge's summing up which set out the evidence at trial. It's important for you to get a copy of this document even if your barrister believes there are no grounds of appeal as any new representative or journalist you persuade to take up your case will want to see it.

- Some months after you submit your grounds of appeal, a single judge will consider your application together with relevant trial documents.
- The single judge may refer your appeal to a full court of appeal or may refuse your appeal.
- If leave is refused, you can appeal the decision before the full court of three judges. You must renew your application within 14 days of the single judge turning you down. Otherwise, the normal appeal process is at an end.
- If you renew your application and the full court refuses leave, that's also the end of the normal appeal process.

Appeal Hearing

A Court of Appeal hearing is not a repetition of matters raised at your trial. The appeal judges confine their consideration to a limited range of issues such as:

- Was your trial conducted properly within the rules?
- Did the trial judge sum up the facts fairly and did s/he interpret the law correctly?
- Does fresh evidence now exist which couldn't have been available at your trial and which might have caused the jury to reach a different verdict?
- You don't have an automatic right to call witnesses on your behalf at appeal hearings. Witnesses may only give oral evidence with the Court's permission. The Court of Appeal often rejects requests for witnesses to be heard
- If you're in prison, you're entitled to be present at your full appeal hearing but not any hearing seeking leave to appeal.

Preparing for your Appeal

As with your Crown Court trial, make sure you're involved and kept informed at every stage of your appeal preparation. In the run-up to your hearing, prison staff can make things difficult by – for instance – delays in giving you mail.
Make your solicitor aware of any such difficulties.

- Think about why your trial went wrong and write down your thoughts
- Try to identify which aspects of your case need further investigation
- Look for anomalies and contradictions in prosecution witness statements and testimony
- Tell your lawyer if you, your family or friends discover any new evidence
- If new witnesses come forward, ensure that their statements are taken by someone properly trained and/or qualified to do so.

As a general rule, it's not wise to approach prosecution witnesses. If they change the story they told at trial, the Court of Appeal is likely to be very suspicious and will not regard their changed account as new evidence. There's also a major risk you, your family or friends will be accused - either by the witnesses themselves or the Court of Appeal - of having intimidated or coerced them into changing their story (this has happened in several past cases).

Appellants are required to lodge a 'skeleton argument' with the Registrar of Criminal Appeals setting out the basic arguments to be put forward at your appeal within fourteen days of leave being granted. Make sure you see (and can comment upon) a copy of the skeleton argument and the prosecution response prior to your appeal hearing. Several wrongly convicted prisoners report that the first time they saw their grounds of appeal was at the hearing itself.

Bear in mind that appeal rules are restrictive. You may come across important evidence pointing to your innocence only to have your barrister inform you that it's inadmissible and can't be put forward. This will be highly frustrating for you but you must heed your barrister's advice.

Likewise, there may be complex legal arguments submitted which are difficult for you to comprehend. Don't be afraid to ask your legal team for a clearer layperson's description of such arguments.

Appeal Outcome

At the end of the hearing, the Court will either announce their verdict straight away or there may be a 'reserved judgment' to be delivered at a later date. The possible outcomes are that the Court will:

- Quash your conviction and order your release
- Quash your conviction and order a re-trial
- Dismiss you appeal and uphold your conviction.

In all cases the Court issues a judgment setting out the reasons for its decision. If your conviction is upheld, make sure you retain a copy of the Court's judgment as you will need this if you make an application to the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

4. The CCRC

If the Court of Appeal upholds your conviction, the only way of getting your case back before the courts is through referral from the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC). This is a statutory body established in 1997 to examine alleged wrongful convictions following recommendations made by the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice set up in the wake of the Birmingham Six case and other notorious miscarriages of justice.

The CCRC is empowered to refer cases back to the Court of Appeal where 'there is a real possibility that the conviction, verdict, finding or sentence would not be upheld' [1]. In practice, the Commission only refers a small percentage of convictions (just 3.4% of all applications since 1997) if important new evidence - not put forward at your trial or appeal - has been discovered or there's a significant legal point which has not previously been raised. Any new evidence must:

- Be capable of belief
- Provide a ground for allowing an appeal
- Have been admissible if available at your trial

If the evidence existed at the time of your trial, there must be a good reason why it wasn't put forward then. This latter condition has proved problematic in a number of cases where, for example, defence lawyers failed to contact potential witnesses but the Court of Appeal refused to consider their evidence 'new'.

1.S13(1) Criminal Appeal Act 1995

Finding a solicitor

Research [2] carried out for the Legal Services Commission shows that CCRC applicants who are legally represented are more likely to have their convictions referred to the Court of Appeal. You should make every effort to find a solicitor to take your case. Unfortunately, most of the work involved in making submissions to the CCRC is not covered by legal aid provisions. You may have difficulty finding a solicitor able and willing to work for no payment on top of already heavy caseloads. A note of caution, however. The same research found more than a third of lawyers did nothing more than act as a 'post- box' merely forwarding material prepared by the convicted person and others or made poor quality submissions which didn't raise any potential grounds of appeal. Any solicitor you approach should have experience in criminal appeal work (and ideally be able to show a 'track record' of successful appeals).

Inside Justice is aware of a small number of instances where innocent prisoners and their families paid substantial sums to solicitors with little discernible results. If you're asked for money, you've every right to know in detail how it will be spent in advance.

2. Hodgson J. and Horne. Juliet The Extent and Impact of Legal Representation on Applications to the Criminal Cases Review Commission 2009

You'll probably have to approach and write to many solicitors before you find one who can take your case (and many won't even reply to you). Try not to be discouraged and keep writing.

- Send a brief written account of your conviction, what you were charged with, where your trial took placed and the sentence you received
- Say why you're innocent including any new evidence you think might be discovered
- Hold on to your case papers. If a solicitor shows any interest, s/he'll want to see – before deciding whether to take on your case and as an absolute minimum – a transcript of the trial judge's summing up (which should have been available at your appeal) and the Court of Appeal's judgment.

Finding New Evidence

It's never easy finding new evidence. Among many obstacles, you and your solicitor won't be allowed to examine police computer systems which may contain vital information. The police and other agencies may refuse access to exhibits and other relevant material. Samples and other forensic material may have been destroyed. Your solicitor may tell you s/he's been unable to find any evidence on which an application to the CCRC might be based.

Organisations like *Inside Justice* may help with identifying fresh evidence as may journalists and broadcasters who may take an interest in your case.

CCRC Procedure

To ask for your conviction to be investigated and referred to the Court of Appeal, an application pack must be obtained from the CCRC. This includes an application form which should be completed and sent with a written submission and any other relevant documentation.

- Your written submission should include matters not put forward at your trial or appeal which could form the basis of arguable grounds before the Court of Appeal. A submission which merely reads ‘my client says he’s innocent - please investigate’ might well not make it beyond the CCRC’s Stage One screening process (see below)
- The CCRC conducts ‘Stage One’ screening on all applications to decide whether or not your case should be allocated for further review
- In addition to your application, Commission staff examine various documents including the trial judge’s summing up, the single judge’s leave to appeal ruling and the full Court’s judgment
- Your application may be rejected at this stage if you’ve not tried to appeal before or you’ve not raised any significant new points which might justify referral to the Court of Appeal
- If your application is rejected at any stage, you may subsequently reapply to the Commission if you’re able to raise new additional points.

Investigation phase

At Stage Two, your case awaits allocation to a Case Review Manager (CRM). Applications are divided into persons currently imprisoned and those at liberty with the former being allocated more quickly.

- The CRM sets about reviewing your case with the guidance of a Commissioner acting as a 'Nominated Decision Maker' (NDM) where appropriate. The NDM may make key investigative decisions in the course of the review
- The content of (and time taken to complete) the review phase varies enormously depending on the complexity of each case but may include commissioning of expert opinion evidence, interviewing witnesses, examining police computer/paper records and case exhibits
- The CCRC has wide-ranging powers to secure material held by public and private agencies. It can also issue directions that such material 'must not be destroyed, damaged or altered' [3]. In a small number of cases, the CCRC may appoint an investigating officer from an outside police force to conduct inquiries.

Decision-making phase

On completion of the investigative phase your case progresses to the 'decision-making phase'. The case reviewer may recommend whether your conviction should be referred to the Court of Appeal or s/he may make no recommendation.

Rejection

If the recommendation is that your conviction will not be referred, a single Commissioner makes an initial decision to uphold the recommendation or s/he sends your case to a panel of three Commissioners.

Where there is an initial decision not to refer the conviction, a Provisional Statement of Reasons (PSOR) is issued either to you or your representative setting out the grounds on which the CCRC is minded to refuse your application. You'll be given 20 working days (or longer in more complex cases) in which to make written representations challenging.

Don't despair if the CCRC issues a PSOR. There have been several cases where the Commission has changed its stance after receiving representations.

Where there is a final decision not to refer the conviction, a Statement of Reasons (SOR) is issued either to you or your representative setting out the grounds on which the CCRC has refused your application. You'll be given 20 working days (or longer in more complex cases) in which to make written representations challenging the decision.

Referral

Decisions to refer convictions must be made by a panel of three Commissioners.

A Statement of Reasons (SOR) setting out the grounds on which the decision to refer was taken will be sent to your representative and to other relevant parties such as the Crown Prosecution Service.

Your case is then treated the same as any criminal appeal.

[3] S17(2) Criminal Appeal Act 1995

Some figures

The CCRC has a very heavy workload.

- Since 1997, less than 0.3% of applications made to the CCRC have resulted in referral to the Court of Appeal
- Two thirds of convictions referred by the CCRC were subsequently quashed by the Court of Appeal
- You will probably wait at least 12 months for your case to start and in complex cases the review can take many months if not years.

5. Campaigning

Before the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC) was created, claims of wrongful conviction were assessed by the Home Office's C3 Division. Case decisions by C3 (or more typically lack of them) were frequently irrational, secretive and arbitrary. Public campaigns on behalf of innocent prisoners such as the Birmingham Six and Guildford Four gained national and international attention. These campaigns helped win major changes to the system for investigating alleged miscarriage of justice most notably the creation of the CCRC itself.

Some argue there's no longer any need for public campaigns on behalf of wrongly convicted prisoners. This view is mistaken. If you've enough relatives, friends and other supporters, consider asking them to form a campaign group on your behalf.

Reasons for establishing a public campaign may include:

- Effective campaigning has acted as a focus for the discovery of new evidence in many past cases. For example, fresh witnesses have come forward as a result of campaign publicity and activity
- Campaign activity helps maintain the morale of innocent prisoners during the many years it may take to overturn the conviction
- Campaigning on individual cases helps remind the general public that miscarriages of justice still happen
- Reforms necessary to prevent wrongful convictions may also be highlighted.

Getting started

- Decide where you'll meet as a campaign group
- Hold regular meetings preferably at fixed intervals (e.g. first Monday of each month)
- Set up email address, Facebook group, Twitter account etc. for the group
- Establish a campaign bank account and appoint a treasurer to oversee funds
- Maintain a database of campaign supporters
- Prepare and distribute a simple leaflet explaining why the person is innocent
- Organise a few initial activities e.g. vigil, public meeting, fundraising event. Pace yourselves and don't try to do everything all at once
- Create a website detailing the case and campaign activities.

Campaign publicity

No matter how strong your feelings about the injustice, try to stick to the facts when producing campaign publicity. Don't rant or theorise – it puts potential supporters off.

There may be difficult or uncomfortable aspects to the case eg the person has previous convictions or witnesses with no reason to lie said they saw something. Don't avoid or ignore such issues in your publicity but try to answer them.

Don't lay yourself open to actions for defamation by asserting witnesses and/or the police lied and/or were corrupt. Let people make up their own minds about such issues based on the facts you present.

Dealing with the media

Your aim as a campaign group is to get the case better known, to encourage those who can help to become involved and ultimately to secure the innocent person's exoneration. Media coverage can assist significantly with these aims.

The media's interest in miscarriages of justice has declined in recent years.

The situation is not, however, completely bleak. Television and radio programmes about wrongful convictions continue to be made (albeit less frequently). Local and national newspapers can be persuaded to cover cases.

- Choose someone to act as the campaign's media spokesperson and maintain a media contact list
- Send out clear media releases about via email and the post. Keep the information brief and to the point (ideally no more than one side of A4 paper). Provide mobile phone contact numbers, When appropriate include short quotes from the prisoner, relatives etc.

- Only contact the media when there's something new to say. Don't turn journalists off by issuing the same information over and over again
- Look out for relevant news opportunities to publicise your case e.g. if broader issues are receiving media attention which have a bearing on your case.

Relations with solicitor and CCRC

Solicitors agreeing to take on miscarriage of justice cases largely work for no payment. They must earn their living by working on other cases/issues and will only have limited time and resources to devote to you. Contrary to popular myth, most defence solicitors are poorly paid in relation to the hours they're obliged to work. Bear this in mind when approaching the solicitor and don't expect them to drop everything to deal with developments in your case.

- Ensure that the solicitor is kept informed of planned campaign activities in case these might adversely affect her/his dealings with the CCRC
- The CCRC has a clear policy that it only deals with one representative per applicant. They'll often refer you to the solicitor if you seek information about how the case is progressing. Make sure you maintain sufficiently good relations so that the solicitor keeps you fully informed of case developments
- The CCRC also makes clear it will refuse contact with persons who are abusive, offensive or threatening towards Commission staff. There's absolutely no point in pressurising the CCRC in this way and such behaviour will not help the person whose conviction you're trying to overturn.

6. Inside Justice

The difficulties of identifying new evidence which is sufficiently compelling to convince the Court of Appeal to quash your conviction have been highlighted in this booklet.

Inside Justice was launched in July 2010 as a division of the national prisoners' newspaper *Inside Time* to investigate alleged miscarriages of justice. It was registered as a charity in 2018 and is now independent of *Inside Time,* although we maintain close links.

We assist prisoners protesting their innocence by reinvestigating their cases. We can assess trial evidence, revisit witnesses, identify and commission new forensic work and trawl through unused material in order to find that elusive piece of evidence to get the case back to the Court of Appeal.

We work with existing solicitors and other legal representatives or we can provide legal support *pro bono* if you do not have the means to hire lawyers . We encourage collaboration with external organisations in the support of an individual's pursuit of justice.

Inside Justice was founded by Louise Shorter who for 10 years was a producer/director of the BBC's long-running miscarriage of justice series *Rough Justice* . Our core strength comes from our Advisory Panel of experts from a rich range of disciplines.

The current Advisory Panel members include:

Tracy Alexander, Forensic Scientist specialising in cold-case reviews

Jill Battley, former Senior Detective, New Scotland Yard

Tom Conti, Actor, Director & Writer

Rachel Darby, Barrister

John Devitt, Senior Policing Oversight Specialist & Investigator

Siobhan Grey KC, Barrister

Lorna Hackett, Barrister

Mark Harries KC, Barrister

Dr Steve Heaton, Academic

John Kennedy, Forensic Scientist specialising in digital forensics

Dean Kingham, Solicitor

Jo Millington, Forensic Scientist specialising in blood pattern analysis

Dr Ann Priston OBE, Forensic Scientist specialising in fibre analysis

Sam Robins, Intelligence Manager

His Honour John Samuels KC, Retired Circuit Judge

Nasreen Shah, Barrister (non-practising)

Professor Denise Syndercombe-Court, Forensic Scientist specialising in DNA analysis

We have a budget to commission new forensic work on individual cases, if you are unable to pay for vital work yourself, and strive to support and facilitate academic research on key issues affecting the criminal justice system.

The unit is now a registered charity, number 1178336.

If you'd like your case to be considered by us, please write to:

Inside Justice , One Business Village, Emily Street, Kingston upon Hull, East Yorkshire HU9 1ND tel: 020 3961 8790

email info@insidejustice.co.uk www.insidejustice.co.uk

Ask for an application form to be sent. When returning the form, try to send a copy of the trial judge's summing-up and the Court of Appeal's judgment if you have them, or any other official court record of your case so we can see what evidence may need to be challenged.

Useful addresses

- Registrar of Criminal Appeals, Criminal Appeal Office, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL.
- Criminal Cases Review Commission, 23 Stephenson Street

  Birmingham, B2 4BH

- Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL (for directory of defence solicitors)