

# Justice:Denied - Issue 33, Summer 2006

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### Message From The Publisher

Clyde Kennard’s story on page 5 illustrates that the involvement of an impassioned lay person is essential for someone’s exoneration. That person can be a reporter, a friend or relative, a concerned “stranger”, a law or journalism student, or as in the case of Kennard — high school students. While an exonerated person’s lawyer often gets the publicity, behind the scenes that may not have been the key person indispensable to the outcome.

Myrlie Evers wrote in her 1967 book, *For Us, The Living*, that her husband, Medger Evers, thought Kennard’s 1960 prosecution was one of the greatest travesties of the budding civil rights movement in Mississippi. In May 2005 three female suburban Chicago high-school students began working on a documentary about Kennard. After a year of effort and inspiring individuals and organizations in Mississippi and around the country to join their cause of clearing his name, they succeeded in accomplishing what would likely have been described as a fools errand when they started: a Mississippi Circuit Court judge declared Clyde Kennard’s innocence and vacated his conviction in May 2006. That would not have happened without those three young women’s effort and passion, and their teacher’s encouragement.

Ten other articles in this issue also show the importance of lay persons to an exoneration: Nino Lyons (p. 6), Ken Marsh (p. 12), Grace Sherwood (p. 17), Jeffrey Moldowan (p. 18), Prestonpans “witches” (p. 20 ), Colin Ross (p. 23), George Kelly (p. 24), Malik Taj Mohammad (p. 28), Chief Leschi (p. 31), and Iva Toguri (p. 37).

Whether a high school student or a retired 70-year-old, all it takes to embark on the seemingly impossible task of undoing a plainly wrongful conviction is heart and fortitude and a near blind belief that it is a worthwhile endeavor.

Hans Sherrer, Publisher

*Justice:Denied* - the magazine for the wrongly convicted  
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*Justice: Denied’s* logo represents the snake of evil and injustice climbing up on the scales of justice.



### Information About *Justice:Denied*

Six issues of *Justice:Denied* magazine costs \$10 for prisoners and \$20 for all other people and organizations. Prisoners can pay with stamps and pre-stamped envelopes. A sample issue costs \$3. See order form on page 39. An information packet will be sent with requests that include a 37¢ stamp or a pre-stamped envelope. Write: Justice Denied, PO Box 68911, Seattle, WA 98168.

#### **DO NOT SEND JUSTICE:DENIED ANY LEGAL WORK!**

*Justice:Denied* does not and cannot give legal advice.

**If you have an account of a wrongful conviction that you want to share, please read and follow the Submission Guidelines on page 38.** If page 38 is missing, send a SASE or a 37¢ stamp with a request for an information packet to, Justice Denied, PO Box 68911, Seattle, WA 98168. Cases of wrongful conviction submitted in accordance with *Justice:Denied’s* guidelines will be reviewed for their suitability to be published. *Justice:Denied* reserves the right to edit all submitted accounts for any reason.

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