Justice: Denied - Issue 43, Summer 2009

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Message From The Publisher

Events of recent months in three cases provide additional confirmation that the likely innocence of every person featured in *Justice:Denied* deserves to be seriously considered.

Justice: Denied's first article about the Norfolk Four – Derek Tice, Joseph Dick Jr., Danial Williams and Eric Wilson – was in 2000. Convicted of a young wife's rape and murder, JD's article was the first in this country that questioned the four men's guilt. Wilson was released in 2005 after serving his 8-year sentence for rape only. On August 6, 2009 Virginia Governor Tim Kaine conditionally pardoned Tice, Dick and Williams from their life sentences. They were released after more than 11 years of incarceration. On September 14, 2009 a federal judge overturned Tice's convictions. See p. 7.

Nancy Smith and James Allen were convicted in 1994 of raping children in a Lorain, Ohio Head Start program. An article in *JD's* Summer 2005 issue detailed the crimes never happened, and were apparently concocted by one of several parents who subsequently collected multi-million dollar settlements from the school. On June 24, 2009 a judge acquitted Smith and Allen, who were incarcerated for more than 15 years. See p. 6.

Bruce Lisker's case of being convicted in 1985 of murdering his mother was featured in *JD*'s Summer 2005 issue. A federal judge in Los Angeles granted Lisker's writ of habeas corpus on August 6, 2009. He was released seven days later after 26-1/2 years of incarceration. See p. 10.

The conviction of innocent persons based on speculation rather than evidence of their guilt is a significant problem. This issue has reports about the overturning of convictions in two cases that were based on speculation — Donald Sweat (p. 12) and Paul Kamienski (p. 15).

Justice Denied is proud to announce that it is publishing *System Failure:* A Critique of the Judicial System of the United States by James F. Love. System Failure will be available Nov. 30. Order information is on page 20.

Hans Sherrer, Publisher

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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

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<u>DO NOT SEND JUSTICE: DENIED ANY LEGAL WORK!</u> Justice: Denied does not and cannot give legal advice.

If you have an account of a wrongful conviction that you want to share, send a first-class stamp or a pre-stamped envelope 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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