Justice: Denied - Issue 52, Fall 2012

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Message From The Publisher

Steven Avery's 1985 convictions illustrate the power of police and prosecutors to frame an innocent person for a crime based on little more than tainted testimony, suspicion and innuendo, and his 2007 convictions follow that same pattern. See p. 3.

The ongoing saga of the Beatrice Six's multiple lawsuits against the government agencies and employees responsible for their wrongful convictions is an object lesson of how difficult it is to hold the parties responsible for such atrocities financially accountable. See p. 7.

Susan Finkelstein's exoneration shows the level to which prosecutors will stoop to portray a legal activity as illegal so they can obtain a wrongful conviction. See p. 8.

Jailhouse snitch testimony is perhaps the single most unreliable source of evidence in a prosecutor's bag of tricks, and Missouri's appeals court recognized that in overturning Reginald Griffin's 1988 murder conviction. See p. 9.

Payments to a person deemed to be actually innocent by the states that have a compensation statute runs the gamut from being fairly generous by Texas, to being anemic by Wisconsin, as demonstrated by the \$15,000 paid to Christopher Burrowes for his three years of wrongful imprisonment for sexual assault. See p. 12.

The inadequate degree of relief by state and federal appeals courts in the U.S. is demonstrated by a report on the New South Wales Court of Criminal Appeals (Australia's largest state), which shows that the relief of a new trial or acquittal was granted in 36% of the criminal appeals heard by that court. See p. 13.

Hans Sherrer, Editor and Publisher

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Information About Justice: Denied

Justice: Denied promotes awareness of wrongful convictions and their causes. It provides information about convicted people claiming innocence, exonerated people, and compensation awards, and provides book and movie reviews, and reports about court decisions, and law review and journal articles related to wrongful convictions.

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Justice: Denied's logo represents the snake of evil and injustice climbing up on the scales of justice.



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