

## 2015 Innocents Database Exoneration Report

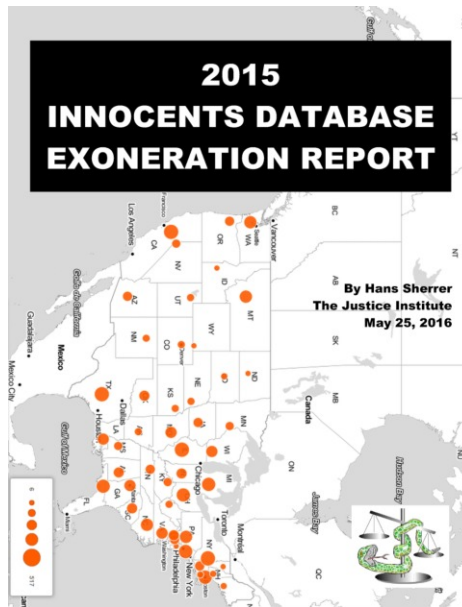
The 2015 Innocents Database Exoneration Report [is now available online!](#) The Report is a PDF document. The following is from the [Report's Introduction](#):

This is the first yearly report of information recorded in the Innocents Database through the last calendar year – 2015. The Innocents Database is an ongoing independent non profit project begun in 1997 that records every documentable exoneration in the United States and every other country. The Innocents Database is online at [www.justicedenied.org/innocentsdatabase.htm](http://www.justicedenied.org/innocentsdatabase.htm) and it can be accessed from Justice Denied's website at [www.justicedenied.org](http://www.justicedenied.org). This Report is compiled from information available in the database online.

The database includes 6,181 cases – 3,819 U.S. cases and 2,362 international cases – that were concluded through December 31, 2015.

Since the Innocents Database was founded there has been a continuing increase in the reporting of cases in accessible digital form. That has resulted in more cases being included for recent years. However, that doesn't mean more people being exonerated today than ten or twenty years ago, it is only easier to find a larger number of recent exoneration cases. For example, Table 18 lists 316 U.S. cases and 203 international cases for 2015, and 83 U.S. cases and 96 international cases for 2005. There may have been a comparable number of exonerations in 2005 as 2015 – but finding and identifying contemporary cases is less challenging than 2005 cases, much less cases in 1995 or 1975.

Nevertheless, the 3,819 U.S. cases listed in the database through 2015 – 2,939 cases from 1989 to 2015 and 880 cases prior to 1989 –



provide data that can be useful to make general observations and identify possible trends.

The Report includes 21 Tables. Most of the Tables include information about U.S. cases for the years 1989 to 2015, and pre-1989, and several include information about international cases:

- Table 1. Number of Exonerated People By State (U.S.)
- Table 2. Number of Exonerated People By Type of Crime (U.S.)
- Table 3. Number of Exonerated People By Jurisdiction (U.S.)
- Table 4. Number of Exonerated People By Sex/Type (U.S.)
- Table 5. Number of Exonerated People by Race/Ethnicity (U.S.)
- Table 6. Number of Exonerated People By Primary Types of Exculpatory Evidence (U.S.)
- Table 7. Number of Exonerated People By Conviction Method (U.S.)
- Table 8. Number of Exonerated People Convicted After More Than One Trial (U.S.)

- Table 9. Number of State Prisoners Exonerated After Federal Habeas Granted (U.S.)
- Table 10. Number of Exonerated People Convicted By Primary Types of Prosecution Evidence (U.S.)
- Table 11. Number of Exonerated Persons Involved In A Case With A Co-Defendant (U.S.)
- Table 12. Number of Exonerated People Aided By Conviction Integrity Unit (U.S.)
- Table 13. Number of Exonerated People By Years In Custody (U.S.)
- Table 14. Average Years Exonerated Person Was In Custody Before Release (U.S. & Int.)
- Table 15. Average Years Exonerated Person Was In Custody Before Release (Homicide or Sexual Assault only) (U.S. & Int.)
- Table 16. Average Years Exonerated Person Was In Custody Before Release (NON-Homicide or Sexual Assault only) (U.S. & Int.)
- Table 17. Number of Exonerated People By County (10 or more) (U.S.)
- Table 18. Number of Exoneration Cases By Year (U.S. & Int.)
- Table 19. Number of Exonerations Involving DNA Evidence By Year (U.S. & Int.)
- Table 20. Number of Exonerated People By Country – International Cases
- Table 21. Number of Exonerated People By Type of Crime (International)

The 2015 Innocents Database Exoneration Report is online at, <http://www.forejustice.org/2015innocentsdatabaseexonerationreport.pdf>

Picture: U.S. map with bubbles to relatively represent the total number of known exonerations for each state through 2015.



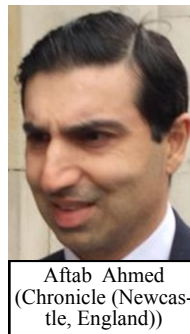
## Muslim's Conviction For Threatening To Behead British Political Candidate Tossed By Appeals Court

A British appeals court [has overturned](#) Aftab Ahmed's conviction of threatening to murder a political candidate. The appeals court ruled there wasn't enough evidence Ahmed intended to carry through with his threat to behead the man.

In April 2015 Ahmed was 44 and living

near Newcastle, England, which is about 250 miles north of London. Campaigning was underway by candidates on the ballot for England's general election scheduled for May 7.

On April 21, 2015 Ahmed received a UK Independence Party (UKIP) election leaflet at his home in the mail. The UKIP promoted its election manifesto [by stating](#):



Aftab Ahmed (Chronicle (Newcastle, England))

"If you believe that we are big enough to make our own laws, in our own parliament; if you believe we should have the sovereign right to control our own borders; if you believe that we should be fiscally responsible, and stop adding to our national debts and expecting our children and grandchildren to pay the bill, then we are the party for you."

The phone number of parliamentary candidate David Robinson-Young was on the flyer. Robinson-Young was a 62-year-old lawyer specializing in employment law and

**Muslim cont. on page 12**