

2015 Innocents Database Exoneration Report

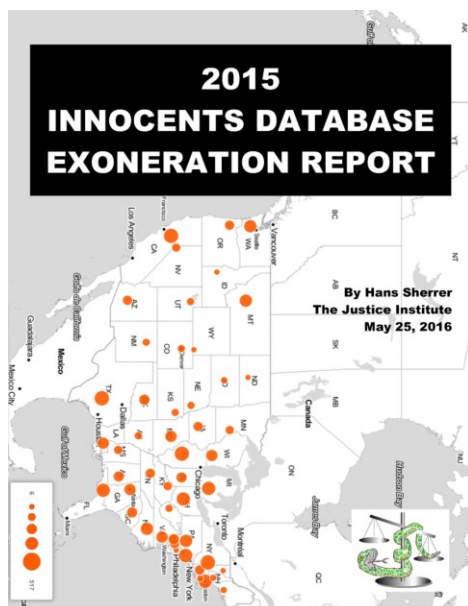
The 2015 Innocents Database Exoneration Report [is now available online!](#) The Report is a PDF document. The following is from the [Report's Introduction](#):

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 and it can be accessed from Justice Denied's website at 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.



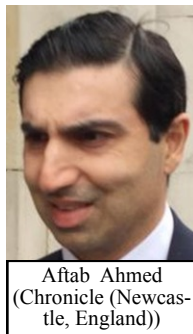
Muslim's Conviction For Threatening To Behead British Political Candidate Tossed By Appeals Court

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](#):



"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. from page 11

discrimination cases, and he was a former police officer.

The flyer angered Ahmed. He called Robinson-Young on the telephone, and identified himself using the fake name "Mr. Khan." Ahmed did most of the talking during the 20 minute call, venting his anger at the British government 'that supports bombing 'my Muslim brothers' abroad'. At the end of the call [Ahmed told](#) Robinson-Young, "you had better f*** off or you will be beheaded next."

Robinson-Young contacted the police, who were able to trace the call to Ahmed's phone.

Ahmed was charged with threatening the life of Robinson-Young, based on the threat of his beheading.

During Ahmed's trial in the Newcastle Magistrates' Court, Robinson-Young testified about the phone call and Ahmed's angry continence and his threat about Robinson-Young's beheading. Ahmed testified in his defense, denying that he made the beheading threat.

On November 2, 2015 Ahmed was convicted, and two days later he was sentenced to 20 days in jail, 12 months probation, 100 hours of unpaid community service, and ordered to



pay £1,660 court costs and a £60 victim surcharge.

After Ahmed's conviction Robinson-Young told reporters that the beheading threat left him feeling cold in light of violence by Muslims in England and the Islamic State's barbaric treatment of captives. [He said](#), "Someone phoning up like that, in the light of what was going on in the world, with what happened to that poor soldier in London, and Jihadi John, meant I had to take it seriously. Doing what I was doing at the time, knocking on doors throughout the constituency, meant I took it as a real threat."

Ahmed appealed.

On May 6, 2016 a three-judge panel in the Newcastle Crown Court allowed Ahmed's appeal and quashed his conviction. The appeals court ruled the prosecution failed to introduce evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Ahmed definitely intended to carry through on his threat to behead Robinson-Young. The Court ruled there was sufficient evidence that Ahmed had made

the threat to behead Robinson-Young. However, it wasn't enough [to sustain his conviction, because](#) "It may have been a throw away, angry line issued by him during a heated conversation, just before hanging up."

Beheadings of gentiles by Muslims is a sensitive topic in England since two Muslims [attempted to behead](#) British soldier Lee Rigby on a London street in 2013. Witnesses said the men were hacking at Rigby's body "like a butcher attacking a joint of meat" after running over him with their vehicle. A witness said the attackers were talking about religion and [one was heard to say](#), "These soldiers go to our land, kill or bomb our people, so an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth."

In the 2015 election Robinson-Young came in third in the Newcastle East constituency.

Sources:

[Newcastle businessman wins appeal over his conviction for threatening to 'behead' UKIP candidate](#), *Chronicle* (Newcastle, England), May 6, 2016

[Newcastle man who threatened to behead UKIP candidate likened to Walter Mitty by judge](#), *Chronicle* (Newcastle, England), November 5, 2016

[Aftab Ahmed sentenced for threatening to behead UKIP candidate](#), *BBC News*, November 5, 2015

The UKIP Manifesto 2015, online at www.ukip.org/manifesto2015

[U.K. soldier Lee Rigby's gruesome beheading described](#): Car driven directly at soldier, then body dragged into road and almost decapitated, court told, *CBC News*, Nov. 29, 2013

3rd Revised and Updated Edition of "Kirstin Blaise Lobato's Unreasonable Conviction" Online!

The third revised and updated edition of [Kirstin Blaise Lobato's Unreasonable Conviction](#) — *Possibility of Guilt Replaces Proof Beyond A Reasonable Doubt* is available in PDF format to be read or downloaded at no charge for personal use from [Justice Denied's](#) website.*

The book details how Kirstin Lobato has twice been convicted of a July 8, 2001 Las Vegas homicide when the prosecution doesn't deny it has no physical, forensic, eyewitness, confession, informant, surveillance video or documentary evidence she was in Las Vegas at any time on the day of the crime. The prosecution also concedes she was at her home 165 miles from Las Vegas at the time new forensic entomology and forensic pathology evidence conclusively proves the man died between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. The book also details that in 2001 the 18-year-old Ms. Lobato was prosecuted

even though the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the Clark County District Attorney's Office obtained evidence [three days after her arrest](#) she is innocent.

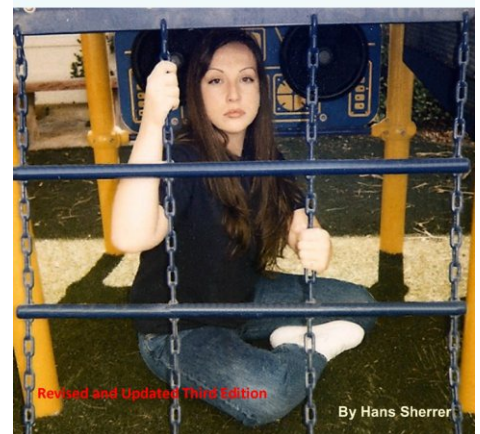
The 3rd revised edition has 57 pages of new information, that includes:

- * An updated Timeline of Ms. Lobato's case from 2001 to the present, that begins on p. 10.
- * Six new sub-chapters in the Appendix that begin on page 150. Those include a Power Point presentation of Ms. Lobato's case and the new evidence in her habeas corpus petition currently under review by the Nevada Supreme Court. Ms. Lobato's petition includes new evidence her jury didn't hear by more than two dozen expert, alibi, and third-party culprit witnesses that supports her actual innocence.

The 232-page book written by *Justice Denied's* editor and publisher Hans Sherrer is supported by 427 source endnotes. In documents filed in the Nevada Supreme Court, the Clark County District Attorney's Office and the State of Nevada don't assert there is a single factual error in the book.

KIRSTIN BLAISE LOBATO'S UNREASONABLE CONVICTION

Possibility Of Guilt Replaces Proof Beyond A Reasonable Doubt



[Click here to download at no charge](#) *Kirstin Blaise Lobato's Unreasonable Conviction* in PDF format from www.justicedenied.org/kbl.htm.

Justice Denied's webpage with information about the Kirstin Lobato case is www.justicedenied.org/kbl.htm.

* The book can be printed at no charge for non-commercial use only.