

THE EXONERATION PROJECT

NEWSLETTER

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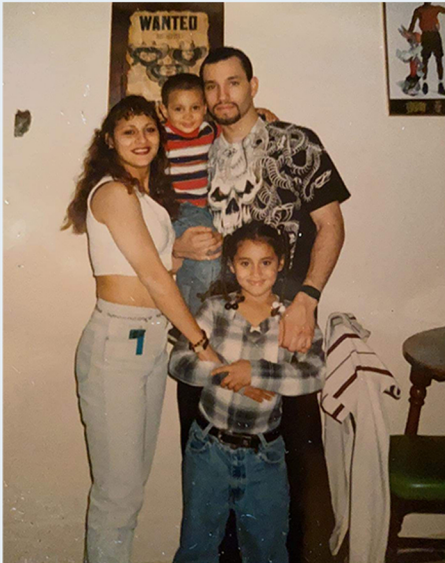
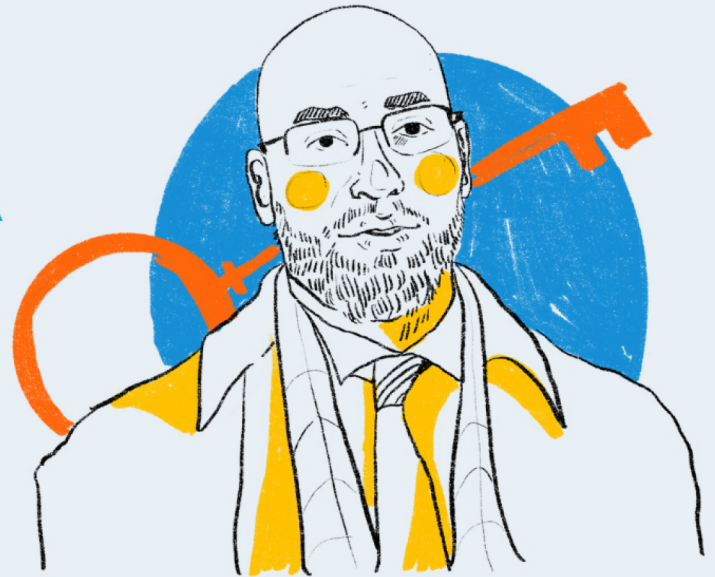


The team at the Exoneration Project wishes everyone a happy holiday season in this brief November newsletter!

Stay tuned for more in December!

EDWIN DAVILA EXONERATED:

ANOTHER WIN FOR THE EP'S GUEVARA TEAM



On November 15th, 2022, Edwin Davila was finally exonerated, with his charges dropped and his conviction vacated. Mr. Davila was framed by corrupt police officer Reynaldo Guevara in 1995 for a shooting he did not commit. After spending almost 25 years in prison and away from his family, his wrongful conviction record had prevented him from finding meaningful employment or securing housing —steps he will now be able to take as his name has been cleared.

The impact of his wrongful conviction on his life can not be wiped away with this one act. While in custody, Mr. Davila missed the birth of his son and his grandson. In addition, his grandmother, who raised him as he was orphaned at a young age, passed away while he was incarcerated. However, now Mr. Davila is reunited with his family and has successfully found employment as an electrician with the CTA .

He is the 36th person to have their murder conviction overturned as Guevara's corrupt actions come to light, and Mr. Davila leaves a poignant message for other exonerees and those who have been wrongfully convicted:

"The lesson is never give up. Never give up. That's the one thing: I never gave up."



Pictured above: Edwin Davila with his family, pre-conviction and post exoneration!

MATT DIXON:

CERTIFICATE OF INNOCENCE OBTAINED!

After a long, hard fought battle, Matt Dixon has finally received a certificate of innocence, officially clearing him of the false charges placed on him due to the corrupt actions of Officer David Salgado and Sgt. Xavier Elizondo.

In 2017, Mr. Dixon was wrongfully arrested for being in possession of cocaine when Salgado and Elizondo –without a warrant–entered the apartment building Dixon was visiting. The state offered him 24 months of probation if he pleaded guilty, and Dixon chose to take the deal rather than be sent to jail.

As new evidence arose, it was revealed that both Salgado and Elizondo have a long history of illegally raiding residences and coercing testimonies to cover up their crimes. In 2020, both were sentenced to multiple years in jail for their actions.

Thanks to the brilliant efforts of EP attorney Josh Tepfer, Innocence Project attorney Tess Thompson, and EP investigator Amy Kasper, Judge Reddick agreed to issue Mr. Dixon a COI on November 29th. This will give Mr. Dixon the opportunity to move forward with his life without his wrongful conviction hanging over his head.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

**STAY WARM DURING
THE WINTER AND HOLIDAY
SEASON**



NEED OUR HELP? FIND OUT MORE

The Exoneration Project (EP) works to correct wrongful convictions only in cases where the accused is innocent of the crimes charged, meaning they did not commit the crime(s) and had no involvement in the crime(s). We do not take cases where the claim is an affirmative defense, such as consensual sex, self-defense, or accidental death.

To request help, fill out our application and email it to intake@exonerationproject.org or mail it to us at:

*Exoneration Project Intake
311 N. Aberdeen Street, 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60607*



**FIND OUR APPLICATION BY SCANNING THE QR CODE ABOVE
OR VISITING:**

<https://www.exonerationproject.org/what-we-do/request-help/>

