APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE

INNOCENCE PROJECT AT WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY P.O. Box 6130 Morgantown, WV 26506 (304) 293-7249

To determine if we can take your case, you must fill out this Application for Assistance. Also, you must fill out the Authorization Form on the last page. <u>Please show how DNA or other forensic evidence can prove your innocence</u>. Please answer the questions below as completely as possible. If you need more space, attach extra sheets. If you don't know the answer, write "D/K". If the question doesn't apply to your case, write "N/A." Then, return the form to the address above.

Please note that just by filling out this form, that does not mean we are representing you. If we can take your case, we will be in touch with you.

Send us this completed form <u>only</u>. <u>Do not</u> send us any other documents or materials. If we need other information, we will contact you.

Inmate Name:		-
Inmate Address:		
Inmate Number:		
Inmate Date of Birth:		
Inmate Social Security	Number:	

About Your Case:
Date of Crime:
Date of Your Arrest:
Date of Your Conviction:
Indictment/Case Number:
Date of Sentencing:
Place of conviction (city, state):
Charges (list all charges brought against you):
Convictions (list all charges you were convicted of):
Sentence(s) received:
Time is left on your sentence(s):

Basic facts of the case. Please provide a brief description of the crime.
How did you become a suspect?
Are there co-defendants involved in this case? If so, please list their names and give a brief description of their alleged involvement.
Are you claiming that you're innocent of this crime? Answer yes or no. If no, please explain

<u>Defense:</u> What type of defense was used at trial (for example, identification, alibi, self-defense, consensual sex, etc.)?
Evidence: What physical or forensic evidence was collected? (Examples of forensic evidence are: items from a rape kit like vaginal, oral, anal swabs; semen stains from the crime scene or on clothing; blood; hairs; saliva; and skin.)
What physical or forensic evidence was used at trial?
What physical or forensic evidence was collected from the victim(s) and/or the scene?
What physical or forensic evidence was collected from you?

What physical or forensic evidence was introduced at trial?
Describe all other evidence that used to convict you.
Is there any <u>new</u> physical, biological, or other forensic evidence? If so, what is it? If you know, where it is located?



For each item or kind of evidence, please list the type and results of testing performed before or during the trial phase of your case (For example: ABO testing and testing for semen was performed on the swabs in the rape kit. The laboratory found the presence of semen and A and H antigens).

Was there any testing performed on items of evidence after you were convicted? If so, please list which items were tested, what type of testing was performed, and the results of each test. If DNA testing was performed, please pay attention to what kind of testing was performed (for example, RFLP, PCR, STR, Mitochondrial).

Theory of Innocence:
What items of evidence, if subjected to DNA or other forensic testing, would prove your innocence?
innocence:
Do you think you know who actually committed the crime for which you are incarcerated? If so, who do you think did it, and why?
<u>Case Materials</u> Please indicate if any of the documents listed below are in your possession or if you have access to them. Do not include copies at this time:
Pre-trial documents (grand jury proceedings, motions, etc.):
The trial documents (grand jury proceedings, motions, etc.).
Trial transcript:
Police Reports (Please provide a brief description. For example, defendant's statement,
investigator's notes, evidence):

Laboratory reports (Please provide a brief description and date of report, if possible. F	For
example, serology report, autopsy report.)	

Appellate Briefs - Direct Appeal: Defense briefs Prosecution briefs Decision/Opinion

Appellate Briefs - Secondary or Post conviction Appeal: Defense briefs Prosecution briefs Decision/Opinion

Other Post conviction Motions: Defense Prosecution Decision/Opinion

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Statements and Confessions

When was the	first time voi	u spoke with v	your lawver?

Did the police or an investigating detective ever interview you? If yes:
How many times were you interviewed?
How long were the interviews?
Did you ask to speak with a lawyer during the interview(s)?
Did you sign papers during the interview? If yes, what did you sign?
Did you sign papers after the interview? If yes, what did you sign?
Did you give a statement or a confession? If yes, who did you give it to?
If you gave or signed a statement or confession, was your lawyer with you when you did so?
If you gave or signed a statement, why did you do so?

<u>Guilty Pleas</u> – Complete this section <u>ONLY</u> if you pled guilty
Did your attorney talk to you about the plea agreement?
If English is not your native language, did an interpreter help explain the plea agreement to you?
Did you understand the plea agreement? What did the plea agreement mean to you?
Was the plea in writing?
If the plea was in writing, did you sign it? If so, was your attorney with you when you signed it?
Did you understand what you were signing? If not, what did you think you signed?
When did you go to court and plead guilty?
Did the judge ask you if you understood the plea agreement?

Was your attorney with you in court when you pled guilty?
Why did you plead guilty?
Did you try to withdraw your guilty plea?
Other Innocence Projects Have you contacted any other innocence projects or organizations? If so please list the organization and date you contacted them:
Other Information If there is any other information that you think would help us better understand your case, please explain it here:

Other Charges and Convictions Have you previously been convicted of other offenses? If so, please provide dates, charges, sentence(s), and location:
Do you have any other outstanding sharpes manding against you? If so places mayide details
Do you have any other outstanding charges pending against you? If so, please provide details.

Innocence Project at West Virginia University P.O. Box 6130 Morgantown, WV 26506

INNOCENCE PROJECT AT WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY CASE EVALUATION AUTHORIZATION FORM

This document authorizes and directs any persons or government agencies including, but not limited to, police, prosecution, sheriff, probation, and parole officers and officials, to release to the Innocence Project at West Virginia University and any attorney, staff member, student attorney, or other person working under its purview, any and all documents and other materials in their possession pertaining to me or my case.

This document authorizes and directs attorneys who have previously represented me or from whom I have sought legal advice and their agents, to release to the Innocence Project and any attorney, staff member, student attorney, or other person working under its purview, any documents pertaining to me or my case and to disclose to the Innocence Project any confidential information or privileged communications

This document authorizes any attorney, staff member, student attorney, or other person working with the Innocence Project at West Virginia University to communicate with any persons or government agencies having information relevant to the evaluation of my case, including, but not limited to, attorneys who have previously represented me or from whom I have sought legal advice, as well as police, prosecution, sheriff, corrections, probation, and parole officers and officials. This document further authorizes the Innocence Project at West Virginia University to examine, receive, and/or photocopy any and all documents pertaining to me or my case that are in the possession of such persons or agencies.

This document authorizes any attorney, staff member, student attorney, or other person working with the Innocence Project at West Virginia University to communicate with any persons or organizations regarding the evaluation, progress, and/or status of my request for legal assistance. In all other respects, my interactions with the Innocence Project at West Virginia will remain privileged and confidential.

This document serves as authorization for the Innocence Project at West Virginia University's
evaluation purposes only. I understand that the Innocence Project at West Virginia University
does not represent me. I understand that should the Innocence Project conduct an initial
investigation, the Innocence Project is not agreeing to represent me. I further understand that at
any point the Innocence Project, at its sole discretion, may decide not to continue any
investigation.

Name (Pri	nt)	 	
Signature_			
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Date			