



Barriers to Innocence: Identifying, Investigating, and Undoing Wrongful Convictions

Friday, March 31, 2023 | 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Center for Law and Justice | 123 Washington Street | Newark, NJ 07102

This symposium will focus on recent legal and policy developments—and the need for changes to federal and state policy—related to wrongful convictions and, more specifically, claims of factual innocence. Moderated panels will feature well-known scholars and practitioners, and themes will include:

- (1) The anatomy of a wrongful conviction case, with a focus on the recent exoneration of Adnan Syed;
- (2) The impact of wrongful conviction of youth;
- (3) The role and function of Conviction Integrity/Review Units;
- (4) Academic perspectives on emerging legal issues in wrongful conviction;
- (5) Practitioner perspectives on innocence work and forensics.

Co-sponsored by Rutgers University Law Review; the New Jersey Innocence Project at Rutgers University; the Rutgers Center on Criminal Justice, Youth Rights, and Race; the Rutgers Criminal and Youth Justice Clinic; and Rutgers Institute for Professional Education.

See pages 2 and 3 for the agenda and speakers.

CLE Credit: NJ: 7.0 (incl. 1.0 diversity) | NY: 7.0 (incl. 1.0 diversity) | PA: 5.5 (incl. 1.0 ethics)

CLE Registration Fee: \$150

50% discount for public interest or government attorneys with promo code **PUBGOV**
or **FREE without CLE credit** with promo code **NOCLE951**.

See page 4 for detailed CLE information.

Register at rutgerscle.com



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Friday, March 31, 2023
AGENDA

WELCOME

9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

[Rose Cuison-Villazor](#), Interim Dean, Professor of Law, and Chancellor's Social Justice Scholar, Rutgers Law School

[Laura Cohen](#), Distinguished Clinical Professor of Law, Justice Virginia Long Scholar, Director of the Rutgers Criminal and Youth Justice Clinic (CYJC), and Director of the Center on Criminal Justice, Youth Rights, and Race, Rutgers Law School

Sarah Calderone, Editor-in-Chief, *Rutgers University Law Review*

ANATOMY OF A WRONGFUL CONVICTION: THE ADNAN SYED CASE

9:15 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.

Becky Kling Feldman, Second Look Network Director, The Sentencing Project; Former Chief of the Sentencing Review Unit, State's Attorney's Office for Baltimore City

[Laura Nirider](#), Clinical Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Center on Wrongful Convictions, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law; Co-Host, "Wrongful Convictions: False Confessions" Podcast

[Erica J. Suter](#), Professor of the Practice and Director of the Innocence Project Clinic, University of Baltimore School of Law; Attorney for Adnan Syed

YOUTH, RACE, AND WRONGFUL CONVICTION

10:35 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

[Huwe Burton](#), Social Justice Activist and Exoneree

[Steven Drizin](#), William M. Trumbull Clinical Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Center on Wrongful Convictions, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law; Co-Host, "Wrongful Convictions: False Confessions" Podcast

[Nicole Gonzalez Van Cleve](#), Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, Brown University

Joshua Perry, Solicitor General/Chief of the Division of Appeals, Office of the Attorney General of Connecticut

LUNCHEON PLENARY: WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS, RACIAL INJUSTICE, AND ECONOMIC INEQUITY

11:45 a.m.

Nicholas Dawidoff, Author of *The Other Side of Prospect: A Story of Violence, Injustice, and the American City*

[Karen Thompson](#), Senior Staff Attorney, ACLU-NJ

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CONVICTION REVIEW UNITS

1:10 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.

[Ronald S. Sullivan, Jr.](#), Jesse Climenko Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Criminal Justice Institute, Harvard Law School

Bryce Benjet, Director of the Conviction Integrity Unit, Queens District Attorney's Office

[Cynthia Garza](#), Special Fields Bureau Chief, Dallas County Conviction Integrity Unit

[Carolyn Murray](#), Director of the Conviction Review Unit (CRU), Office of the Attorney General, State of New Jersey

[Sean Washington](#), 2020 Exoneree

[Jill Friedman](#), Associate Dean, Pro Bono and Public Interest, Rutgers Law School

EMERGING ISSUES IN WRONGFUL CONVICTION LITIGATION

2:30 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

[Evan Glasner](#), Clinical Fellow, Center for Criminal Justice & Professional Responsibility, Duke Law School

[Jessica Henry](#), Professor, Justice Studies, Montclair State University

[Thomas Lininger](#), Orlando John and Marian H. Hollis Professor of Law, University of Oregon School of Law

Rosalind Major, Craig N. Yankwitt Fellow, Justice 360

[Amelia Maxfield](#), Senior Staff Attorney, Pennsylvania Innocence Project

[Alexis Karteron](#), Professor of Law, Director of the Constitutional Rights Clinic, Rutgers Law School

PURSUING INNOCENCE

3:50 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Christine Bella, Senior Attorney, The Wrongful Conviction Unit, The Legal Aid Society

[Susan Friedman](#), Senior Staff Attorney, Innocence Project

[Tamar Lerer](#), Assistant Deputy Public Defender and Forensic Practice Lead, NJ Office of the Public Defender

[Kimberlee Moran](#), Associate Teaching Professor & Director of Forensic Science, Rutgers University – Camden

[Nilam Sanghvi](#), Legal Director, Pennsylvania Innocence Project

Quincy Spruell, Community Connector, Neighborhood Associates, Baltimore, Maryland

[Nyssa Taylor](#), Managing Staff Attorney, New Jersey Innocence Project

CLE INFORMATION

Rutgers Law School is an approved New Jersey and Pennsylvania continuing legal education provider. In addition, this program qualifies for New York CLE credit pursuant to the Approved Jurisdiction policy.

NJ CLE Information: This program has been approved by the Board on Continuing Legal Education of the Supreme Court of New Jersey for 7.0 hours of total CLE credit. Of these 1.0 qualify as hours of credit for diversity, inclusion, and elimination of bias.

NY CLE Information: This program qualifies for New York CLE credit pursuant to the Approved Jurisdiction Policy. This transitional and non-transitional continuing legal education program qualifies for a maximum of 7.0 credit hours, of which 4.5 credit hours can be applied toward the areas of professional practice requirement, 1.5 credit hours can be applied toward the skills requirement, and 1.0 credit hours can be applied toward the diversity, inclusion, and elimination of bias requirement. New York attorneys must view entire segments to receive CLE credit.

PA CLE Information: This program has been approved by the Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board for 4.5 hours of substantive law, practice, and procedure CLE credit and 1.0 hour of ethics, professionalism or substance abuse CLE credit.

Other Jurisdictions: Rutgers Law School does not seek direct accreditation of its programs in other states. However, some states allow attorneys to earn credit through reciprocity or self-submission. Attorneys must research CLE rules and request accreditation on their own from their respective state/jurisdiction. Rutgers Law School will provide proof of attendance.

CLE Materials: Thorough, high-quality, and carefully written materials shall be distributed to all attendees electronically before or at the program.

Attendance Reporting: At check-in, you will receive an attendance form and evaluation. You will certify your attendance for the entire program or segments and hand in the completed form when you depart.

Rutgers Law School will submit attendance to Pennsylvania, and issue certificates of attendance for New Jersey and New York within 30 days of the program.

Format: Faculty in room with participant (questions allowed during program).

Cancellation Policy: Cancellation notices must be received by email to ipe@law.rutgers.edu at least 24 hours before the program to qualify for a refund, less a \$15 administrative fee, or a credit toward another program within a year. There are no refunds after this time except for extraordinary circumstances as determined by the director or program coordinators. Substitutions are accepted.

Financial Hardship Policy: We are strongly committed to professional development and seek to make our programs affordable to attorneys. When possible, we will provide reduced tuition, tuition waiver or scholarship to attorneys who demonstrate financial hardship. Requests should be made prior to the program date by email to ipe@law.rutgers.edu.