

PENNSYLVANIA INNOCENCE PROJECT



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BREAKING NEWS...

New Trial for Teri Smallwood!! 43 Years Imprisoned

We are thrilled to share that our client, Teri Smallwood, was granted a NEW TRIAL today in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Ms. Smallwood has been in prison for over 4 decades not for a crime she didn't commit, but for what was not even a crime: a tragic fire that took the lives of two Cumberland County residents in August 1972. Today, Cumberland County Judge Edward E. Guido granted Ms. Smallwood's request to vacate her conviction and hold a new trial, where a jury would hear the evidence they could not have 43 years ago: that the fire had no discernable cause and could very well have been an accident.

Teri, her sister Lisa, Pa IP Staff Attorney Nilam Sanghvi and volunteer lawyer Josh Snyder from Boni & Zack

Ms. Smallwood joins two other Pennsylvanians who saw their arson convictions vacated because of unreliable evidence. Late last year, Han Tak Lee saw his 24-year-old conviction vacated, and earlier this year Dauphin County resident James Hugney's 34 year nightmare ended when he accepted a deal with prosecutors and walked out of prison. Both men had been wrongly convicted of killing their own children in what were erroneously believed to be intentionally set fires.

Ms. Smallwood has been imprisoned at SCI - Muncy serving two consecutive life sentences. Judge Guido set a bail hearing for Friday, April 24.

CONGRATULATIONS, TERI!

And THANK YOU to Pa IP Staff Attorney Nilam Sanghvi and volunteer lawyer Josh Snyder and the law firm of [Boni & Zack](#) for your tremendous work!

As always, we appreciate your help and generous support so we can continue fighting for the convicted innocent.

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Mission of Pennsylvania Innocence Project

The Pennsylvania Innocence Project works to exonerate those convicted of crimes they did not commit and to prevent innocent people from being convicted.

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