



REQUEST FOR REVIEW BY CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNIT

The Conviction Integrity Unit (“CIU”) reviews claims of wrongful conviction from people who were convicted of crimes in Hennepin County. You may apply for review regardless of whether you were convicted at trial or pleaded guilty.

In order for the CIU to review your case, you must meet these requirements:

1. You must have been convicted of a crime that was prosecuted by the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office.
2. You must present a plausible claim that you are actually innocent or were otherwise wrongfully convicted of the crime charged.
3. There must be potential leads to reliable evidence that would support your claim of wrongful conviction.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU APPLY

The CIU is part of the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office, which is responsible for prosecuting adult felonies and juvenile crimes in Hennepin County. You should understand that the CIU attorneys represent the State of Minnesota. They cannot serve as your attorney or provide you legal advice, and nothing you communicate to the CIU is covered by attorney-client privilege.

The CIU can, however, cooperate with you or your attorney to investigate your claims of wrongful conviction by gathering evidence that you may not have had access to, testing evidence that may not have been tested, and talking to witnesses who may shed light on your conviction.

If you are currently represented by an attorney, please consult your attorney before you submit this application. The CIU will not communicate with you directly unless your attorney agrees.

The CIU will conduct an initial review of your application as soon as it can. The time it takes to review your application will depend on the CIU’s available resources and the number of applications we have received. Your patience is appreciated.

As part of its review, the CIU may contact the people you list in this application to learn more about what they know. The CIU may also contact the original prosecutor in your case, the victim, and witnesses who provided information or may have testified in your case.

After an initial review, if the CIU denies your application for assistance, we will notify you or your attorney, and we will explain the reasons for the denial.

If the CIU accepts your case for a more thorough review, we will cooperate with you or your attorney to fully investigate the basis of your claims. If you do not have an attorney, with your permission, the CIU may attempt to find an attorney who can assist you as the CIU conducts a more thorough review of your application and your claims.

Submitting an application to the CIU does not by itself stop any court deadlines that may apply in your case. It is your responsibility to be aware of and to follow any applicable deadlines if you are separately pursuing post-conviction or other relief.

You should understand that CIU review is not a judicial process. You are not legally entitled to any level of review by the CIU, and you do not have a right to appeal any decision of the CIU.

Send ONLY your completed application to the CIU. <u>Do not send any additional materials.</u> We cannot store additional materials, and we cannot guarantee that documents submitted to the CIU will be returned to you.
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Before you complete the application, please sign below to indicate that you read and understand “What You Need to Know Before You Apply.”

Signature

Date

INFORMATION WE NEED TO REVIEW YOUR REQUEST

*Your answers to these questions will help us decide whether the Hennepin County Conviction Integrity Unit will be able to take action on your case. Please answer each question as fully and as truthfully as you can. **If you don't know the answer to one of the questions, just say that you don't know.** Please **PRINT or TYPE** your answers as clearly as you can. If you need additional space to answer any question(s), you may attach separate pages to the application.*

ABOUT YOU:

Name: _____

Department of Corrections ID # (OID): _____

If you are not currently incarcerated:

Current street address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Please check "yes" or "no" for each question.

Can you read in English?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Can you write in English?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is someone reading this form to you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is someone writing on this form for you?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are you vision-impaired or blind?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are you hard of hearing or deaf?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you use sign language?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

If you cannot read, write, or speak in English, what language do you prefer?

Do you have any disabilities or mental health conditions that you want to tell us about?

ABOUT YOUR CASE:

What crime(s) were you convicted of? _____

How long is your sentence? _____ What is your release date? _____

List any co-defendants in this case: _____

Please check the box for every statement below that is true. You can check as many boxes as you need. If none applies, check the box saying, "None of the above statements applies to me."

- I had no role in the crime I was convicted of.
- I had a role in the crime I was convicted of, but it was a more minor role than what I was convicted of.
- I did something illegal, but it was a less serious crime than what I was convicted of.
- I did something illegal, but I was drunk or high at the time of the incident.
- I did something illegal, but I have a condition that affects my ability to act or understand right from wrong.
- I did something illegal because I was forced to do it by someone else.
- I did something illegal, but I got too much time in prison for it.
- None of the above statements apply to me.

How were you convicted?

- A jury or judge found me guilty at trial.
- I pleaded guilty or no contest.

Did you testify at trial? Yes No

WHY ARE YOU ASKING THE CONVICTION REVIEW UNIT TO REVIEW YOUR CASE?

Are you claiming that you did not commit the crime you listed above?

- Yes No

Are you claiming that you received an unlawful or unjust sentence?

- Yes No

Are you claiming that your rights were violated such that you were denied a fair trial?

Yes No

Current Representation

Are you currently represented by an attorney?

Yes No

If yes, provide your current attorney's name: _____

If you know your attorney's phone number and/or email address, please provide:

Contact with Innocence Organizations / CRU

Have you contacted any innocence organizations about your case?

Yes No

If yes, which organization(s)? _____

If yes, are they currently investigating your case?

Yes No I don't know

Have you applied to the Conviction Review Unit of the Minnesota Attorney General's Office (the "CRU")?

Yes No

If yes, are they currently investigating your case?

Yes No I don't know

Has the CRU informed you that they are rejecting your case?

Yes No

If yes, what reason did the CRU provide for rejecting your case?

Post-conviction Litigation

Have you ever filed a petition for post-conviction relief in Minnesota state court in connection with this case?

Yes No

If yes, is that litigation currently pending?

Yes No

Have you ever filed a federal habeas petition in connection with this case?

Yes No

If yes, is that litigation currently pending?

Yes No

Questions About the Alleged Crime

1. When did the crime allegedly happen? _____

Check this box if you were there when the crime happened.

2. Who was the alleged victim?

Check this box if you don't know who the victim was.

3. How do you know the alleged victim?

Check this box if the victim was a stranger to you.

Questions About the Case Against You

1. When and where were you arrested? _____

2. What police department arrested you? _____

3. Were you interviewed by police at any point? If yes, please describe any written or oral statements you provided to the police.

5. If you made a partial or full confession to the crime, which you are now retracting, please describe why you offered that confession at the time.

6. Please check the box next to any kind of evidence that was used in your case. You may check as many boxes as you need to.

- A witness picked me out of a lineup
- A co-defendant said I did the crime
- A police informant said I did the crime
- The victim said I did the crime
- I was with the victim around the time the crime occurred
- Police said I confessed
- Someone I was in jail with said I confessed
- Police said they found my fingerprint(s) at the crime scene
- Police said they found my shoeprint(s) at the crime scene
- Police said they found my hair at the crime scene
- Police said they found my DNA at the crime scene
- Police said they found my DNA on the victim
- Police said they found the victim's DNA on me or on my things
- Police said they found blood matching my blood type at the crime scene
- Police said they found my teeth marks on the victim
- Police said they matched a bullet at the crime scene to a gun tied to me
- Police or doctors said I caused injuries by shaking an infant
- Police said I had the victim's property or belongings

7. Use this space to tell us about any other important evidence that the police recovered in the investigation of your case:

8. If you went to trial, describe the basic defense(s) that your attorney presented at trial:

9. New evidence that shows I was wrongly convicted:

Please check every box for every statement **that is true**. You can check as many boxes as you need to. If none applies, check the box saying, "None of the above statements applies to me."

- A witness/informant who testified against me has recanted or changed their testimony.
Briefly explain the recantation or change in testimony:

- There is new evidence that proves my innocence that wasn't available when I went to trial or entered my plea.

Briefly explain what evidence:

- There is new evidence that shows my trial was unfair that wasn't available when I went to trial or entered my plea.

Briefly explain what evidence:

- There was scientific testimony at my trial that was wrong or has been discredited.

Briefly explain what testimony:

- There may be DNA in my case that was never tested.

Briefly explain the nature of the potential DNA evidence:

- An officer involved in my case was later found to be dishonest, biased, or corrupt.

Name of officer: _____

- None of the above statements applies to me.

Your Claim of Wrongful Conviction

1. Please tell us why you believe you were wrongly convicted of the crime or crimes:

2. Where were you at the time the crime or crimes happened?

3. Who, or what, could prove where you were at the time of the crime?

4. Do you have information about who may have committed the crime?

5. Who has information that would show that you were wrongly convicted?

Name: _____

Address and Phone number: _____

What does this person know? _____

Did this person testify at trial? Yes No I'm not sure

Name: _____

Address: _____

What does this person know? _____

Did this person testify at trial? Yes No I'm not sure

Name: _____

Address: _____

What does this person know? _____

Did this person testify at trial? Yes No I'm not sure

Name: _____

Address: _____

What does this person know? _____

Did this person testify at trial? Yes No I'm not sure

6. If you believe you received an excessive sentence, please explain why:

7. If you believe your trial was unfair, please explain why:

8. What other information would be helpful for us to know about your case?

By signing this Application, I am asking the Conviction Integrity Unit of the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office to review my conviction. I understand that I am providing this information to a prosecutor’s office. I understand that the CIU does not and cannot represent me.

I affirm that the information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Please return completed form to:

Hennepin County Attorney’s Office
Attn: Conviction Integrity Unit
300 South 6th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55487