



# THE INNOCENCE PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT 2010

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW, YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

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# CONTENTS

## FEATURES

**2010 YEAR IN REVIEW** ..... 4

**CASE EVALUATION** ..... 6

**LITIGATION** ..... 8

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM** ..... 10

**SOCIAL WORK** ..... 12

**PUBLIC EDUCATION** ..... 14

**OUR SUPPORTERS** ..... 16

## DEPARTMENTS

**LETTER FROM THE CO-DIRECTORS** ..... 3

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION** ..... 18

**SUPPORTERS LIST** ..... 19

**LETTER FROM BOARD CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** ..... 26

On the cover: Cornelius Dupree, center, celebrates with his Innocence Project attorneys, Nina Morrison and Co-Director Barry Scheck, as a Texas judge declares him innocent on January 4, 2011.

# PLANNING THE FUTURE OF THE INNOCENCE PROJECT

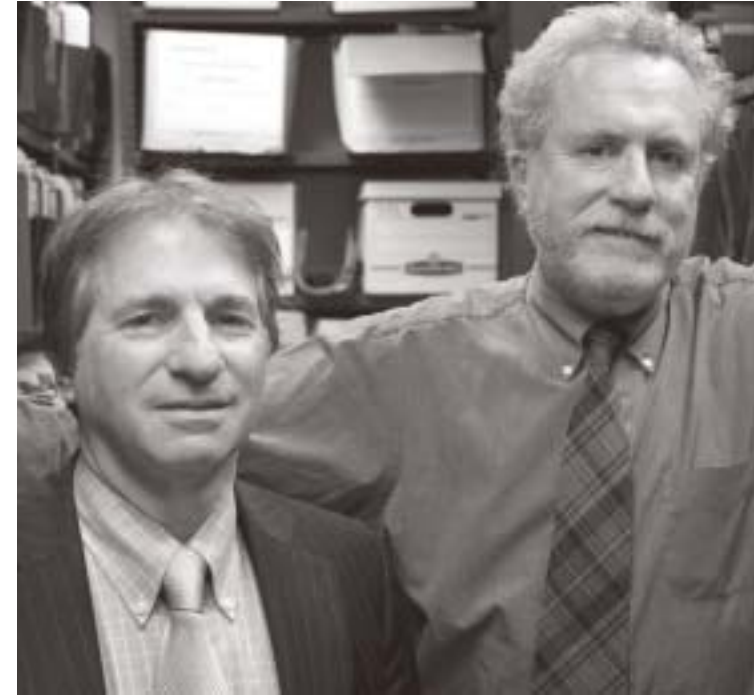
This past year, the Innocence Project celebrated the exoneration of Freddie Peacock, who became the 250th person to be cleared by DNA evidence in February 2010. But this important milestone is just a prelude, an early chapter in our young organization's history. While we remain committed to the important work of using DNA evidence to clear those who have been wrongfully convicted, we believe we can do even more to leverage the power of these remarkable stories to bring about fundamental improvement in our deeply flawed criminal justice system.

We're still in the initial stages of our long term planning process, but we're thinking big. In just 19 years, there has been a major shift in the way the public and policymakers — from the left, right and center — perceive the criminal justice system. Before, most people assumed the system always got it right. But thanks to the tireless work of our staff members who have carefully screened nearly 40,000 letters, tracked down decades-old evidence reported to be lost or destroyed and skillfully litigated complicated issues novel to many courts, we have steadily convinced the nation that innocent lives are being destroyed by a system that must be fixed.

We continue to make significant progress implementing reforms to correct the leading causes of wrongful convictions — eyewitness misidentification, faulty forensics, false confessions, prosecutorial and police misconduct, ineffective defense attorneys and jailhouse informants. But what's especially promising is an emerging consensus that the system has devolved into inefficient bureaucracies strangled by scarce resources, and it must be completely overhauled.

The Innocence Project is taking a leadership role in these efforts to undertake fundamental restructuring of the system because our reform agenda and core message resonate with all who care about protecting the innocent, identifying the guilty and correcting injustice. Of course this work won't be possible without the continued support of so many generous donors who share our vision of a more just society. We hope we can continue to count on you as we begin to tackle some of the larger problems in criminal justice.

– **PETER NEUFELD, CO-DIRECTOR**  
**BARRY SCHECK, CO-DIRECTOR**



# 2010 YEAR IN REVIEW

The Innocence Project thanks our colleagues and partners throughout the criminal justice system and around the country for the perseverance that led to these many achievements in 2010.



## JANUARY

As the year begins, the Innocence Project is actively evaluating nearly 10,000 cases.



## FEBRUARY

Innocence Project client Freddie Peacock is exonerated through DNA testing 34 years after his wrongful conviction for rape.



## MARCH

Three states introduce arson resolutions to prevent wrongful convictions based on outdated and invalid arson science; Ohio passes major package of reforms on wrongful convictions.

## APRIL

Innocence Project client Frank Sterling is exonerated through DNA testing after over 17 years of wrongful imprisonment for murder; Innocence Project social workers spearhead effort to bring over 80 exonerees to the Innocence Network Conference in Atlanta.



## MAY

Alaska becomes the 48th state to enact a post-conviction DNA access law, leaving only Massachusetts and Oklahoma without such laws.



## JUNE

New Jersey Special Master calls for major overhaul of legal standards in eyewitness identification procedures after the Innocence Project presents testimony at a special hearing on police lineups.





**JULY**

The U.S. House of Representatives passes legislation in support of a national criminal justice reform commission.



**AUGUST**

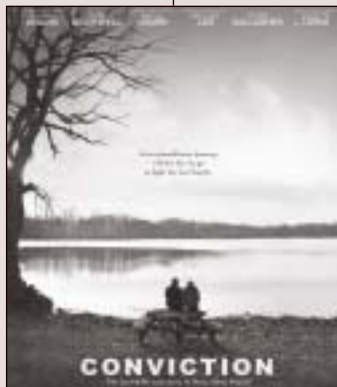
Rhode Island begins review of eyewitness identification procedures, resulting in the statewide embrace of reforms.



**SEPTEMBER**

Oklahoma Justice Commission is created after years of advocacy by the Innocence Project and local partners. The Justice Commission will review the state's criminal justice system and propose reforms to prevent wrongful convictions.

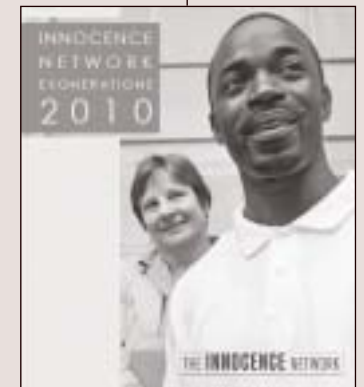
**OCTOBER**  
Fox Searchlight's "Conviction," premieres starring Hilary Swank. "Conviction" tells the story of Betty Anne Waters, who put herself through law school and teamed with the Innocence Project to prove her brother's innocence in 2001.

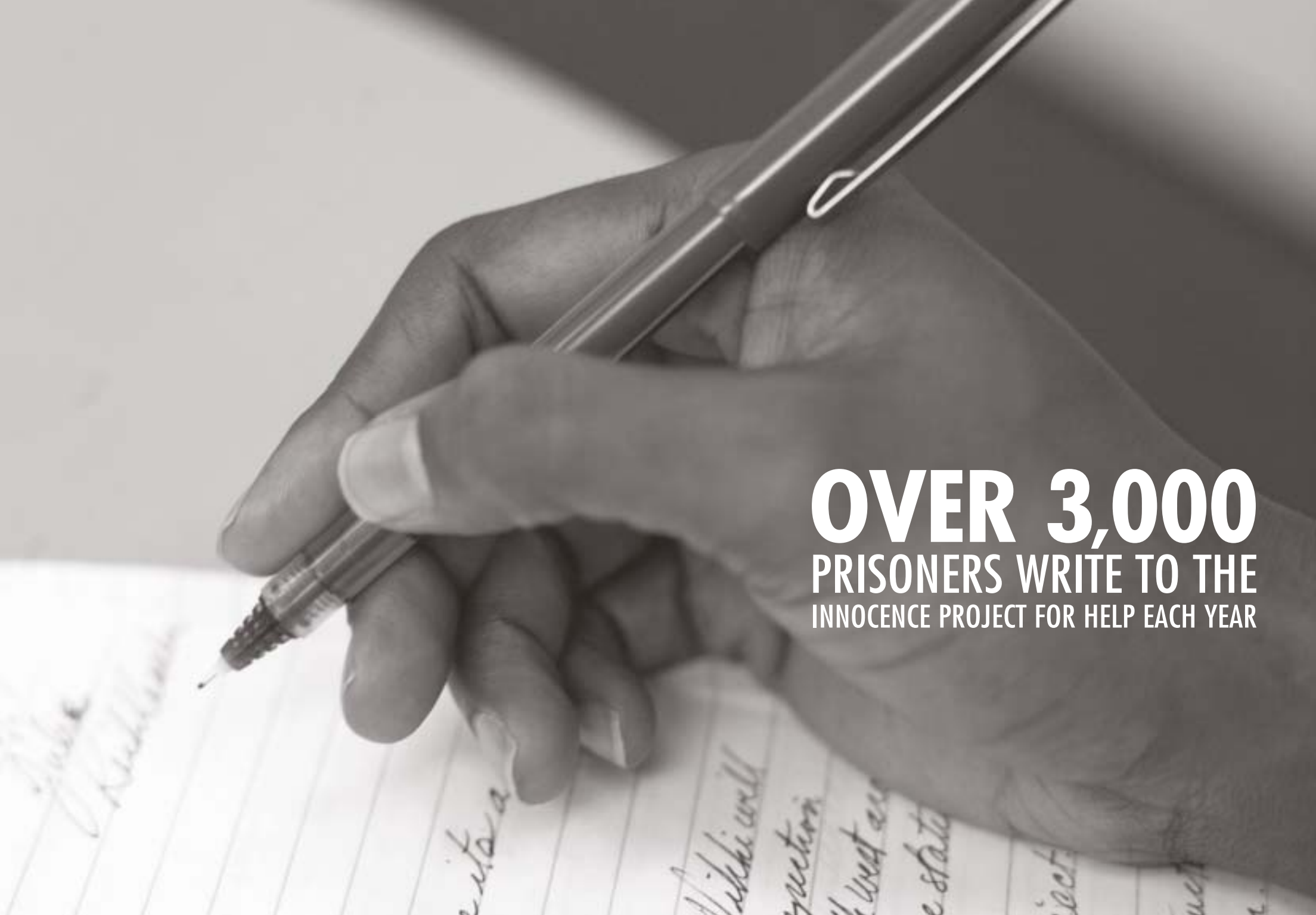


**NOVEMBER**  
DNA testing secured by the Innocence Project seriously undermines the legitimacy of Claude Jones' Texas execution in 2000.



**DECEMBER**  
Innocence Network announces that 29 wrongfully convicted people were exonerated by Network projects in 2010.



A black and white photograph of a hand holding a pen, poised to write on a document. The document contains handwritten text in cursive. The text is partially obscured by the hand and the pen. The overall tone is somber and focused.

**OVER 3,000**  
PRISONERS WRITE TO THE  
INNOCENCE PROJECT FOR HELP EACH YEAR

# CASE EVALUATION

In 2010, the Innocence Project received 3,120 new requests for assistance from prisoners with claims of innocence. The constant need for our legal services is astounding. There is no way of knowing how many innocent people are behind bars, but even if only one percent of the over two million Americans behind bars were innocent, that would mean 20,000 people are serving time for crimes they didn't commit. Studies suggest that the percentage of wrongfully convicted may be much higher. These wrongfully convicted men and women are turning to the Innocence Project for help.

The Innocence Project responds to every request. If we don't hear back, we try again — just in case the envelope got lost in a prison mailroom. Many exonerees have told us about the glimmer of hope they felt upon receiving that first piece of correspondence. The Innocence Project does not attempt to evaluate whether a prisoner looks guilty or innocent on paper. Instead, we analyze each case to see if DNA evidence might be available and whether that DNA evidence could be definitive enough to prove innocence. Those that will become Innocence Project clients are assigned a staff attorney and a Cardozo clinic student to take their case. But the staunch advocacy we offer to the wrongfully convicted begins long before, with that first piece of mail.



## LETTER TO THE INNOCENCE PROJECT FROM RONNIE TAYLOR

WRONGFULLY CONVICTED IN 1995 AND EXONERATED THROUGH DNA TESTING IN 2008

"I need help in paying for my DNA testing to prove my innocence. I have exhausted

all my appeals so this DNA test is my last resort."



## LETTER TO THE INNOCENCE PROJECT FROM MARVIN ANDERSON

WRONGFULLY CONVICTED IN 1982 AND EXONERATED THROUGH DNA TESTING IN 2002

"I refuse to give up fighting for my freedom, rights and justices. I am asking you, no,

I am pleading for help from your organization."

# LITIGATION

Every year, Innocence Project attorneys handle a demanding caseload. In 2010, our seven staff attorneys and 18 Cardozo law clinic students represented or assisted 289 clients from 38 states. Proving a client's innocence is never as easy as a single DNA test. It requires tracking down legal documents, hunting for biological evidence, and fighting to win post-conviction DNA testing and a prisoner's release. With help from Cardozo clinic students and law firms who provide pro bono assistance, the Innocence Project meets the demand. Over 260 people have been exonerated through DNA testing. The Innocence Project represented or consulted in the majority of those cases.

Two Innocence Project clients, Freddie Peacock and Frank Sterling, were proven innocent through post-conviction DNA testing in 2010, and posthumous DNA testing fundamentally challenged the Texas execution of Claude Jones. The Innocence Project also weighed in on important cases involving issues of wrongful conviction by acting as a "friend of the court." In 2010, the Innocence Project — either alone or with the Innocence Network — filed friend-of-the-court briefs in 12 state and federal cases. These cases help set legal precedent, protect the rights of prisoners with innocence claims and challenge systemic shortcomings such as prosecutorial misconduct, inadequate defense, forensic error and more. Meanwhile, Innocence Project attorneys are pursuing justice in each of our pending cases, and the hard work that will bring new victories in 2011 has already begun.



## FREDDIE PEACOCK

WRONGLY CONVICTED IN 1976 AND EXONERATED THROUGH DNA TESTING IN 2010

"I had two monkeys on my back, mental illness and wrongful conviction. I'm very grateful to the Innocence Project for

helping me get rid of one of them."



## FRANK STERLING

WRONGLY CONVICTED IN 1992 AND EXONERATED THROUGH DNA TESTING IN 2010

"When I heard that I had been cleared, I didn't believe it. Even when I was going to court, I didn't believe it. I had been

knocked down so many times and there were so many delays. I thought, 'When I walk out the front door maybe I'll believe it.' Then, I did walk out. I had a feeling of elation and I thought, wow, I really am coming home."

Opposite page: The Innocence Project team at Freddie Peacock's exoneration in February. From left to right: Social worker Karen Wolff, Cardozo clinic student Jessica Smith, Co-Director Peter Neufeld, Freddie Peacock, Staff Attorney Olga Akselrod, Senior Case Analyst Maggie Taylor.





WE PROVIDE LEGAL ADVOCACY TO  
**NEARLY 300**  
PEOPLE CLAIMING INNOCENCE



**WE HELP PREVENT  
COUNTLESS WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS  
BEFORE THEY HAPPEN**



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

With help from lawmakers and partners in every area of the criminal justice system — prosecutors, defense attorneys, law enforcement, victims’ rights groups and exonerees — the Innocence Project is transforming the system. In 2010, we helped pass 16 innocence-related bills in 11 states and helped introduce legislation for a national criminal justice reform commission. This year marked important improvements to police lineup procedures in Rhode Island, new allowances for post-conviction DNA testing in Alaska, a criminal justice reform commission in Oklahoma and more. Landmark legislation passed in Ohio, with more comprehensive changes to police practices than in any other state, including the recording of interrogations and new requirements for police lineups.

These new laws and others will help protect Americans from wrongful conviction and ensure that real perpetrators don’t evade justice when an innocent person is apprehended. They will make it easier for wrongfully convicted prisoners to prove their innocence through post-conviction DNA testing, and they’ll make it possible for even more of the newly exonerated to receive compensation. Since the Innocence Project became an independent non-profit organization in 2004, we have helped pass or improve nearly 70 laws nationwide. Thanks to our strong bipartisan base, the Innocence Project has a unique ability to influence public policy even in this time of tight budgets and passionate partisanship.



**COLONEL BRENDAN DOHERTY**  
RHODE ISLAND STATE POLICE  
SUPERINTENDENT

“It’s one thing to sit in a room full of criminal defense attorneys and have them point the finger and say that everything police do is wrong. The Innocence

Project doesn’t take that approach. They have built a lot of consensus and common ground.”



**PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATOR  
STEWART GREENLEAF**

CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE JUDICIARY  
COMMITTEE; SPONSOR OF LEGISLATION  
THAT CREATED THE PENNSYLVANIA  
INNOCENCE COMMISSION

“I came to the state  
legislature with a keen  
interest in criminal

justice issues but from the vantage point of a former prosecutor. As the Innocence Project uncovered more cases of wrongly convicted individuals, I became convinced that we needed to take a hard look at how we were investigating and prosecuting cases.”

Opposite page: Ohio exonerees join the Governor at a historic bill signing. From left to right: Rep. Carlton Weddington, Gov. Ted Strickland, Sen. David Goodman and Ohio exonerees.

# SOCIAL WORK

Without a job, without health care, without a safety net, the newly exonerated face an uncertain future. The Innocence Project believes in continuing to help our clients after exoneration as they confront new challenges. Months before each client's exoneration, the Innocence Project prepares a release plan that anticipates the short and long term needs of the exoneree and his or her family. Although the heart of the plan centers on transitional needs, support may continue as long as the exoneree seeks it. In 2010, the Innocence Project assisted 36 social work clients in 13 states. The Innocence Project's Exoneree Fund provided thousands of dollars in housing, transportation, clothing and other immediate and transitional needs to our clients.

The Innocence Project's social workers provide invaluable assistance, working with clients to solve the many problems they may encounter with reintegration — for example, finding transportation to get to work, affording dental surgery after years of subpar prison health care or learning how to use the internet. For those problems that the Innocence Project can't address, **we advocate for better state compensation laws and better state services for exonerees.** Many of the exonerated have joined us in this legislative effort. Together, we work to clear a path for future exonerees, so that the injustice they endure truly will end with exoneration.



**JERRY MILLER**

200TH DNA EXONEREE

“When you get out after 26 years charged with rape, it’s hard to get a job. Society failed me and then it failed me again. I depend so much on the Innocence Project. The Innocence Project

recognizes those policies that don’t exist for exonerees.”



**SYLVIA BOUCHARD**

MOTHER OF EXONEREE STEVEN BARNES

“Not only did Steve have to adjust, but we all had to adjust. I was very worried in the beginning and very overprotective, and I would call Angela and she would calm me down. It was a good

security blanket for all of us to know that there was a social worker just a phone call away.”

Opposite page: New York exoneree Dewey Bozella has become a boxing trainer since his release in 2009. He is shown here training his stepdaughter, Diamond Bell.



INNOCENCE PROJECT CLIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES  
**RECEIVE VITAL SUPPORT**  
BOTH PRE-AND POST-RELEASE

# PUBLIC EDUCATION

The Innocence Project believes that educating the public can create momentum for positive change in the criminal justice system. People are naturally moved by stories of wrongful conviction and want to get involved, whether their first introduction to the Innocence Project is through finding our website, hearing an exoneree speak or watching a news segment about our work. Thanks to overwhelming public support for innocence initiatives, the Innocence Project has become a powerful force for change.

In 2010, thousands of new audiences learned about wrongful conviction through “Conviction,” a major motion picture starring Hilary Swank and featuring Peter Gallagher as Innocence Project Co-Director Barry Scheck. The movie demonstrates the damage that wrongful convictions inflict on ordinary people’s lives by telling the true story of Betty Anne Waters, a woman who dedicated herself to proving her brother’s innocence. Like Betty Anne, many exonerees and their family members are partnering with the Innocence Project to spread the word about our work. Their triumph over tragedy inspires people nationwide to tell their friends, write to their legislators and build the potential for a better criminal justice system.



## FELIX NAVARRO

CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK STUDENT;  
SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER &  
FLOM HONORS PROGRAM IN LEGAL  
STUDIES; FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF THE  
CCNY PRISONER JUSTICE CLUB; NEW  
YORK NEEDS YOU FELLOW

“I invited an exoneree  
speaker to my school

because I wanted to raise awareness about the Innocence Project and what you do. I think it’s amazing how DNA exonerations show a lack of effectiveness in the system. When I was first introduced to the Innocence Project, I was blown away by what I learned. I was originally interested in corporate law, but now I would like to work for the Innocence Project or somehow have a deeper engagement in public service.”



## SARA ZAFAR

ATTORNEY AT LAW, KANSAS

“When Cameron Todd  
Willingham’s story came to  
light, I was riveted to the  
Innocence Project blog. I  
spread the word about your  
work by sharing articles on  
the blog through Google

Reader, re-tweeting articles and interacting with Twitter, and through “liking” articles on Facebook, which helps the Innocence Project reach a wider audience.”

THROUGH MEDIA, WEB AND GRASSROOTS EFFORTS,  
OUR MESSAGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM HAS  
**REACHED MILLIONS WORLDWIDE**

SPORTS • FINAL

# DAILY NEWS

NEW YORK'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER



## FREED BY HIS DNA

Bronx man to be cleared of rape  
conviction after 21 years in prison

SEE PAGE 7

SUNDAY • OCTOBER 12, 2008



OUR WORK WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF  
**THOUSANDS OF INDIVIDUALS**  
FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATIONS AND LAW FIRMS



# OUR SUPPORTERS

Throughout the year, Innocence Project supporters rallied to free the innocent, reform the criminal justice system and protect the rights of the exonerated. Our fourth annual benefit, “A Celebration of Freedom and Justice,” was a record success, raising over \$1 million in May. In October, supporters spurred by the film “Conviction” came together at a star-studded event in its honor. Meanwhile, our contributors across the country and abroad helped raise funds for the Innocence Project by sharing our work with their friends, neighbors and coworkers. Together, we are building a movement committed to justice.

Most of our clients are indigent — financially and emotionally depleted after years of legal battles. What the Innocence Project offers to them and their families is truly invaluable — freedom, a restored reputation and a chance to help fix the criminal justice system that contributed to their wrongful conviction. On behalf of all of them, we thank you and we look forward to another successful year.



**HOWARD KAYE**

FORMER CHAIRMAN OF KAYE INSURANCE ASSOCIATES, INC. AND PRIVATE INVESTOR

“When you see a wrongful conviction, you think, I never even had a problem in the world. I really believe that anyone could have this happen to them. But if you’re fortunate enough to have money and a good background then you have a chance. The Innocence Project helps level the playing field.”



**ANN MANDELBAUM**

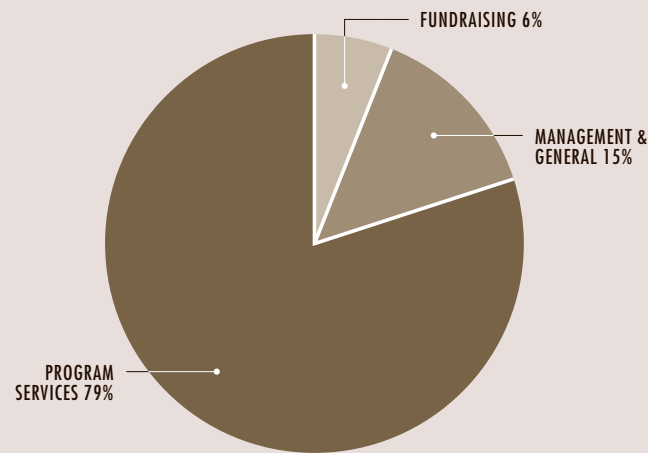
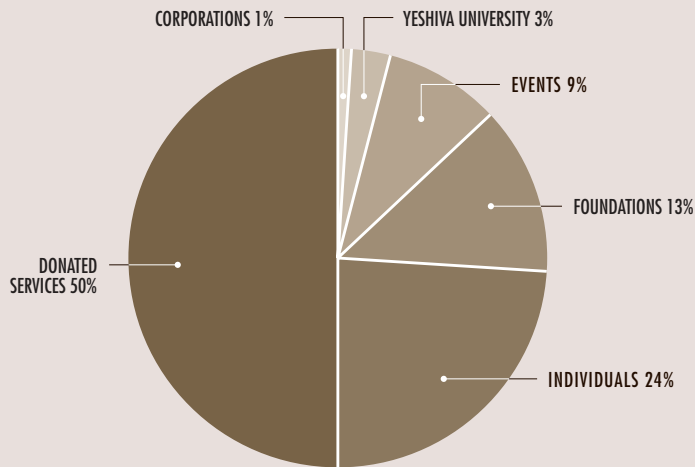
PROFESSOR OF FINE ARTS AT PRATT INSTITUTE

“My father was imprisoned when I was nine and was eventually given a presidential pardon. There are many torturous situations that people endure, but spending decades in prison because of a wrongful conviction is incomprehensible. The work of the Innocence Project is a powerful force in addressing such striking injustice.”

Opposite page: “A Celebration of Freedom and Justice” the Innocence Project’s fourth annual gala, at Cipriani’s Wall Street in New York City.

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010



## Operating Revenue

Individuals	\$2,931,048
Foundations	1,582,833
Corporations	128,109
Events	1,076,555
Yeshiva University	412,500
Investment Income	18,036
Donated Services	6,172,176
	<hr/>
	\$12,321,257

## Expenditures

Program Services	\$9,618,636
Management & General	1,764,753
Fundraising	779,207
	<hr/>
	\$12,162,596

# INNOCENCE PROJECT SUPPORTERS

The Innocence Project thanks our generous supporters and regrets that we do not have space to list them all.

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010

## \$100,000+

Ammon Foundation  
Laura and John Arnold Foundation  
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University  
Arlene and Arnold Goldstein Family Foundation  
Renee and John Grisham  
Grosbeck Family Foundation  
Peter B. Lewis  
Open Society Institute  
The Pershing Square Foundation

## \$50,000 TO \$99,999

Pasco and Christine Alfaro  
Blue Ridge Foundation New York  
Thomas Cooper in honor of Elvin Mayo  
Gordon and Karen DuGan  
Jason Flom  
Fund for New Jersey  
Glazer's Wholesale Drug Company  
Jack D. and Doris M. Lynn  
The Mousetrap Foundation  
The Estate of Deborah Jeane Palfrey  
Jeff Roberts and Alicia Fukunaga  
The Roddick Foundation  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
Edith Tausner Revocable Trust

## \$25,000 TO \$49,999

Bama Works Fund of Dave Matthews Band in CACF  
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Benenson  
Educational Foundation of America  
The Joseph and Claire Flom Foundation  
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP  
Sherry and Leo Frumkin  
Wilma and Howard Kaye  
Helen & William Mazer Foundation  
Moët Hennessy USA  
The Overbrook Foundation  
Frank and Denise Quattrone

The Rhodebeck Charitable Trust  
Southern Wine & Spirits of America, Inc.  
Dorothy and Andrew H. Tananbaum  
Alan G. and Elaine Weiler  
Working Assets/CREDO

## \$10,000 TO \$24,999

Nina Abrams Fund  
AJA Charitable Foundation  
Anonymous (8)  
Theodore R. and Barbara B. Aronson  
Adele Bernhard and Peter J. Neufeld  
The Brightwater Fund  
Louise & Arde Bulova Fund  
Frederick V. Davis Jr. Living Trust  
Michael and Susan Dell Foundation Giving Fund  
Gillian and Josh Dubin  
Mitzi and Warren Eisenberg Family Foundation  
Jay W. Eisenhower Family Foundation  
Empire Merchants LLC  
Empire Merchants North, LLC  
Susan and Leonard Feinstein Foundation  
The Gage Fund  
Benjamin Gibbard and Zoëy Deschanel  
Jeffrey and Paula Gural  
Ruth M. Holland  
Marc Joseph  
Jawed Karim  
Charles Lawrence Keith and Clara Miller Foundation  
Arthur and Ruth Kohn  
John Langan and Judith Nadell  
Kenneth G. and Elaine Langone  
The Ruth and David Levine Charitable Gift Fund  
The Lewis & Butler Foundation  
Michael Lynton and Jamie Alter  
The Honorable and Mrs. Earle I. Mack  
Alan Marcus and Bobbie Gottlieb  
Mayer Brown LLP  
Milberg LLP  
The Leo Model Foundation

Earle K. and Katherine F. Moore Foundation  
Neufeld Scheck and Brustin, LLP  
Ralph E. Ogden Foundation  
Pinna6 Distributing Colorado  
The Raiff Foundation  
Rebel Waltz, Inc.  
Reliable Churchill, The Charmer Sunbelt Group  
Dorothy Rick and Barry C. Scheck  
The Robertson Foundation  
Matthew Rothman and Nancy Katz  
Dr. Steve Safyer and Dr. Paula Marcus  
Sheila Saltiel  
Marjorie F. Schulte  
Schulte Roth & Zabel, LLP  
Allison Schwartz  
Serendipity Foundation, Inc.  
Bob Smith and Deanna Clarkson  
Michael A. Stocker  
Swartz Family Foundation in honor of Mark Swartz  
Jack and Kristalina Taylor  
Tides Foundation  
Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Inc.  
United Distributors of Delaware, The Charmer-Sunbelt Group  
H. van Ameringen Foundation  
W.P. Carey Foundation Inc.  
Josh Wachs and Molly Levinson  
Washington Wholesale, The Charmer Sunbelt Group  
Stacey and Jeffrey Weber  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP  
William B. Wiener  
William and Jane Schloss Family Foundation  
Winston & Strawn LLP  
Marc and Pamela Zboch

## \$5,000 TO \$9,999

Abraham Fuchsberg Family Foundation, Inc.  
The Kenneth Aidekman Family Foundation  
Dr. Noelle Alito

Anonymous (4)  
Applied Biosystems by Life Technologies  
The Arnold & Jeanne Bernstein Fund  
Brescome Barton Inc.  
Bulova Gale Foundation  
Jacob Burns Foundation  
Americo Cascella  
Adam Chase  
Crovath, Swaine and Moore LLP  
Daniel F. Cremins  
Davidoff Malito & Hutter LLP  
Dickstein Shapiro LLP  
Scott and Evette Ferguson  
First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York  
Dora L. Foster Trust  
Flavia and Barden Gale  
Thomas Gallagher and Alice Jarcho  
Ina and Jeffrey Garten  
Kathryn O. and Alan C. Greenberg  
John D. Herlihy  
Sam Jain  
Bob Kagan and Paula Sunshine  
The Kanbar Charitable Trust  
Kekst and Company  
Phillippe Laffont and Ana Diez De Rivera  
The Lillian & Ira N. Langson Foundation, Inc.  
Lankler Siffert & Wohl LLP  
Reginald F. Lewis Foundation  
Monte Lipman  
Gary Lippman  
Lovenstein Sandler PC  
LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton Inc.  
MAH Foundation, Inc.  
Ian Maxtone-Graham  
Mellen Foundation, Inc.  
Lucy Moore in memory of Mrs. Honora Bouley Moore  
Moors C. Myers  
Navigant Consulting, Inc.  
Tom Ng



BETTY ANNE WATERS RECEIVES FLOWERS AT THE INNOCENCE PROJECT'S BENEFIT IN HONOR OF "CONVICTION" IN OCTOBER 2010.

## INNOCENCE PROJECT TO HONOR BETTY ANNE WATERS AT 2011 GALA

The Innocence Project's fifth annual benefit will recognize three honorees, including Betty Anne Waters, who fought for 18 years to prove her brother's innocence. Waters' story recently became the subject of a major motion picture, "Conviction," starring Hilary Swank as Betty Anne and Sam Rockwell as her brother Kenny. "Conviction" Director Tony Goldwyn is the Honorary Chair of the 2011 gala, to be held at the Waldorf Astoria in Manhattan on Wednesday, May 4. Other honorees include Governor Jon S. Corzine for his leadership in criminal justice reform in New Jersey, and the law firm of Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP for their extensive pro bono work and ongoing support of the Innocence Project.

Kevin L. Palmer  
 The Penates Foundation  
 Brian and Emilia Pfeiffer  
 Reed Smith LLP  
 Philip W. Riskin Charitable Foundation  
 Kashauna and Jeff Roberts  
 Robert R. Robinson in memory of John H. Robinson  
 Dr. Alain Roizen  
 Margaret Cook Schulte and Stephen Schulte  
 Marvin Shanken  
 The Law Office of Gerald L. Shargel  
 Showtime Networks Inc.  
 Sirius Fund  
 Squire Sanders & Dempsey  
 Nicholas Stoller and Francesca Delbanco  
 Sullivan & Cromwell LLP  
 TAG Heuer  
 Richard J. Tarlow  
 Betsy and Alan Vinegrad  
 Rachel Lee Warren  
 David Weintraub  
 Francis H. Williams  
 Todd Benton Willis and Jena Willis  
 Wilkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
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### \$2,500 TO \$4,999

Anonymous (2)  
 Laurie Arbeiter and Jennifer Hobbs  
 Elan Axelbank  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bernhard  
 Alison Blood  
 Willard B. Brown  
 The Brownington Foundation  
 Richard and Lisa Cashin  
 Cherry Lane Music Publishing Company  
 Sanford M. Cohen, Esq.  
 Neil R. Constable  
 Gene L. Deetz and Nancy S. Wong  
 The Eshe Fund  
 Famous Famiglia  
 Joan and Rick Francolini  
 Robert A. Friedman and Anita Davidson  
 Timothy R. and Kimberly C. Gartland  
 Samuel Goldberg & Sons Foundation, Inc.  
 Bradley L. Goldberg Family Foundation  
 Ken Gottesman and Melissa Feinberg  
 Richard Grasso  
 Group Five, Inc.  
 Hammond Family Foundation  
 Dr. Paul Hartunian

International Society of Barristers  
 William I. Jacobs  
 John R.S. Jacobsson and Amy Jacobsson  
 Chris Kramer, DO  
 LVMH Perfumes & Cosmetics  
 David and Frances Magee  
 Ann Mandelbaum  
 John Marshall in honor of the exonerated  
 The McClain Family Fund  
 M. D. Miller  
 Stephen T. Milligan  
 Jennifer and David Millstone  
 Beth K. Pfeiffer  
 Richard S. and Barbara Z. Schiffrin  
 Philip and Kathy Seligmann  
 Kay and Rod W. Tyler  
 Jennifer Valko  
 Doug Wade  
 James K. Williams, III and Shirley D. Williams  
 Zegar Family Foundation

### \$1,000 TO \$2,499

1002 Foundation  
 A Soldier of God, Jimmy  
 Air Traffic Control Education Fund, Inc.  
 Esmond and Marsha Alleyne  
 Jeffrey Alshuler  
 Anonymous (9)  
 Attias Fund of the Liberty Hill Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Bakersmith  
 Barack Ferrazzano Kirschbaum & Nagelberg LLP  
 Baskes Family Foundation  
 C.B. and Marcia Bassity  
 Daniel Baumol  
 Bay Path College  
 Stephen and Thea M. Bell  
 William J. and Rita L. Bender  
 John Benis  
 The Bernard & Audrey Berman Foundation  
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CAPTION: CARDOZO CLINIC STUDENTS AS FEATURED IN COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE. CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT, CHRISTINE RAJ, LILLIAN RINGEL, RACHELLE FERNANDES, JESSICA SMITH, NINA FRANK AND ERICA THAU.

## COSMO EDITOR HOSTS PARTY FOR CARDOZO CLINIC STUDENTS

Kate White, editor-in-chief of Cosmopolitan magazine, hosted a party at her New York City home in January, in honor of the students from the Innocence Project Clinic at the Cardozo School of Law. White published "Their Year of Living Dangerously," in the January 2011 issue, an article about six Cardozo students and their work assisting the Innocence Project. Innocence Project Co-Directors Barry Scheck, Peter Neufeld, and Cardozo Dean Matthew Diller spoke to about 50 guests, including members of the Cardozo Board of Directors, members of the Innocence Project Board of Directors, Cardozo clinic students, and the six women featured in the article.



MY MORNING JACKET LIVE IN CONCERT.

## MUSICIANS SUPPORT INNOCENCE PROJECT

Several popular musicians and music groups recognized the Innocence Project at their 2010 concerts – including Graham Nash of Crosby, Stills and Nash; My Morning Jacket and Jackson Browne. The Louisville rock band My Morning Jacket donated a portion of ticket sales from their recent performances at Terminal 5 in New York City. Both My Morning Jacket and Jackson Browne invited the Innocence Project to host a table and engage concertgoers at their New York City shows. On behalf of the legendary Crosby, Stills and Nash, Graham and Susan Nash donated a portion of the proceeds from their 2010 tour to the Innocence Project as well.

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## RELIGIOUS GROUPS HELP RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT INNOCENCE PROJECT

Innocence Project supporters of different faiths are increasingly recognizing the organization. For the second year, the First Presbyterian Church in New York has donated a percentage of the proceeds of their "Tartan Fair." Last year's Tartan Fair raised \$5,000 for the Innocence Project. The Innocence Project has also become a cause of choice for Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations, which traditionally include acts of charity. This year, twins Sara and Adam Caplan are speaking about the Innocence Project at their June celebration. The two became interested in the organization after following the case of Fernando Bermudez. Their mother, Karen Wagner, an attorney at Davis Polk, assisted the Innocence Project in writing a brief that helped secure his release.



BOB SHEEHAN RECEIVES THE FREEDOM AND JUSTICE AWARD ON BEHALF OF SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM AT THE INNOCENCE PROJECT'S 2010 GALA.

## LAW FIRMS DONATE \$6 MILLION IN PRO BONO SERVICES

Some of the nation's top law firms partner with the Innocence Project to exonerate the innocent and reform the criminal justice system. In 2010, 32 law firms provided pro bono services on a variety of cases and projects, including supporting the Innocence Project's work with the Texas Forensic Science Commission, filing Freedom of Information Act requests to research police procedures, and assisting with amicus cases in state and federal courts.

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After seven productive years at 100 Fifth Avenue, we had simply outgrown our space. Seven years ago, we were just getting established as an independent non-profit organization, though one still closely affiliated with the Cardozo School of Law where we were founded in 1992. Today, we have a staff of 50, a legal clinic of 18 Cardozo law students, and a new office space that better suits the needs of our growing organization. Such rapid growth would not have been possible without your support, and we thank you.

We credit our success on the strength of the relationships we have formed along the way. We are strengthening and diversifying our Board of Directors, which has 15 members who share our ambition. We are collaborating with the Innocence Network (an affiliation of organizations dedicated to overturning wrongful convictions and improving the criminal justice system) on legal strategies and policy initiatives. As a founding member of the Network, we have assisted in its development and direction.

We are garnering the support of the nation's leading law firms, who provide millions in pro bono assistance every year. Among other things, these law firms increase our capacity to participate in debates about innocence issues in courts nationwide, and they help us take on complex research projects in the criminal justice reform arena.

Partnering with law enforcement, prosecutors, legal organizations and victims' rights groups has allowed us to build consensus around innocence issues because no one benefits from a wrongful conviction. Teaming with legislators has enabled the passage of critical state and national criminal justice reforms. Our exonerated clients and their family members are also strong allies, speaking out about the hardships they endured so that the system can learn from the mistakes made in their cases.

The preceding pages showcase many of the Innocence Project's recent accomplishments. But behind every success story lies a full cast of characters — Innocence Project staff and Cardozo students, board members, exonerees, lawmakers, lawyers, and you, our supporters. As we settle into our new space at 40 Worth Street, we prepare to launch the next phase of our growth. With great excitement, we invite you to join in our continued efforts to make the criminal justice system more fair and more just in the years ahead.

— SENATOR RODNEY ELLIS, BOARD CHAIR  
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The Innocence Project was founded in 1992 by Barry C. Scheck and Peter J. Neufeld at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University to assist prisoners who could be proven innocent through DNA testing. To date, over 260 people in the United States have been exonerated by DNA testing, including 17 who served time on death row. These people served an average of 13 years in prison before exoneration and release. The Innocence Project's full-time staff attorneys and Cardozo clinic students provided direct representation or critical assistance in most of these cases. The Innocence Project's groundbreaking use of DNA technology to free innocent people has provided irrefutable proof that wrongful convictions are not isolated or rare events but instead arise from systemic defects. Now an independent nonprofit organization closely affiliated with Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University, the Innocence Project's mission is nothing less than to free the staggering numbers of innocent people who remain incarcerated and to bring substantive reform to the system responsible for their unjust imprisonment.



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