

MIDWEST INNOCENCE PROJECT

MEDIA CONTACT:
Summer Farrar
816.221.2166
sfarrar@themip.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Midwest Innocence Project announces new 2016 Next Generation Advisory Board

New Next Gen Advisory Board supporting the Midwest Innocence Project will be led by Matthew T. Merryman, an Assistant State Public Defender

Kansas City, Mo. (Jan. 15, 2016) – The [Midwest Innocence Project](#) (MIP), a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the investigation, litigation and exoneration of wrongfully convicted men and women, is pleased announce the creation of a Next Gen Advisory Board to lead outreach in the community in support of MIP’s mission to exonerate the falsely convicted.

The MIP Next Gen Advisory Board represents a group of community leaders, under the age of forty, committed to the Midwest Innocence Project’s mission. The Next Gen Board will be led by Matthew T. Merryman an assistant state public defender in Missouri.

Matthew T. Merryman works as an Assistant Missouri State Public Defender providing constitutional protection and counseling for hundreds of indigent defendants throughout Clay and Jackson counties. Matthew graduated from the University of Missouri Kansas-City in 2006 and earned his *Juris Doctorate* from the Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College. As an advocate, he has served as a CASA and as an election protection volunteer. In addition, Matthew lived in post-Katrina New Orleans and worked as a District Executive for the Southeast Louisiana Council for the Boy Scouts of America.

Recently, MIP, in partnership with the Paul E. Wilson Project for Innocence at the University of Kansas School of Law, helped free Floyd Bledsoe from a Kansas prison on Dec. 8, 2015 after he spent 16 years behind bars for a murder he did not commit.

Nick Bates
Bill Pak
Peter Van Auken
Ryan White
Kaity Claren
Matt Davis
Tim Deddens
Christopher Fasl
Adam Gebhardt
Rachel Guthrie
Nick Hergott
Kathleen Irish
Tyler Jansen
Nacente Seabury
Caleb Phillips

Shauna McRoberts
Christina Hergott
Ron Knox
Kendra Konrady
Samuel MacDonald
Amanda McGee
Natalie Patrick-Knox
Laura Powell
Mike Van Booven
Autumn Burton
Kelsey Berkley
Ed Berrigan
Paul Myers
Adam Sokoloff

MORE

About the Midwest Innocence Project

The Midwest Innocence Project (MIP) is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the investigation, litigation and exoneration of wrongfully convicted men and women in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Iowa, and Nebraska. The Midwest Innocence Project was founded at the University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC) School of Law in 2000 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation and operates today as an independent organization in partnership with the University of Missouri (Kansas City) and (Columbia) Schools of Law, the University of Kansas and local legal communities. The MIP is a licensed organization of the Innocence Project founded at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University in 1992 and works with 68 similar organizations around the world in coordinating legal work and education efforts. For more information, please visit www.themip.org.

END