



**Statement from Christopher Dunn's Legal Team,  
the Midwest Innocence Project and Attorney Justin Bonus**

On Friday, May 12, 2023, the St. Louis Circuit Attorney filed a motion to vacate Christopher Dunn's conviction because Chris is innocent. Her office is not the only official to have made such a finding. On September 20, 2020, Texas County Circuit Court Judge William Hickle ruled that Christopher Dunn is innocent of the crimes for which he has spent over thirty years in prison, but was unable to overturn Chris' conviction and free him because in Missouri innocence alone does not allow a court to release a defendant from prison unless that innocent person is sentenced to death. Missouri is the only state in the nation to limit innocence claims by a defendant's sentence. Until the legislature changes the law, only a prosecutor can petition a court to free an innocent defendant sentenced to anything less than death. Recognizing this injustice and acting on her ethical duty to do justice, the Circuit Attorney has filed a motion to vacate Chris' conviction and asks the Court to free him.

We thank the Circuit Attorney's Office for her efforts to pursue justice in Chris' case, and we look forward to presenting the evidence of his innocence to the Court. We are confident that when faced with such evidence, any Court will find, as Judge Hickle did nearly three years ago, that Christopher Dunn is innocent.