



PHIL SORRELLS
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

**CONVICTION INTEGRITY UNIT
REVIEW REQUEST**

INSTRUCTIONS

Please fill out the following form as best as you can. Answer the questions as completely as possible. If you wish to provide supporting documentation, **do not send originals or the only copy in your possession because any documents you submit WILL NOT BE RETURNED upon completion of the review.** Due to the nature of the review process and the volume of requests, the Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU) is unable to provide a specific timeframe for the progression or the completion of a review. Once the review is complete, the CIU will inform the convicted person of its conclusions.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

CIU will accept review requests that meet the following criteria:

- The felony or misdemeanor conviction must arise from a Tarrant County criminal court.
- Conviction must be final without any pending investigation or prosecution regarding or related to the charged offense or criminal episode out of which the offense arose, including any investigation or prosecution of a co-defendant.
- There cannot be any pending post-conviction matters, including post-conviction writs of habeas corpus or post-conviction motions for forensic DNA testing.
- Claims must assert actual innocence or a systemic violation of due process resulting in wrongful conviction.
- Actual innocence means that the convicted person did not commit the crime or participate in any way. Claims of self-defense, consent, or lack of intent are declined.
- Claims must be based on new information or evidence that has not been presented and argued previously before the trial court or in post-conviction remedies.
- Claims must be capable of being investigated and resolved so that, if substantiated, the claims would bear directly on the issue of the convicted person's innocence.
- The records and/or evidence necessary for the re-investigation must be available to review.
- CIU does not review freestanding claims alleging ineffective assistance of counsel or errors in trial procedure, including indictment, jury selection or sentencing; questions of law; mere assertions or speculation of wrongdoing; or requests for time cuts or sentence reductions.
- CIU will review claims regardless of whether a defendant pled guilty, not guilty or no contest.

YOU MAY WISH TO SEEK LEGAL COUNSEL

Be advised that CIU does not represent the convicted person. We are unable to give legal advice, and the attorney-client privilege does not apply to our communications. If the convicted person is on probation and a revocation motion or petition is filed, any CIU review will cease and any provided information might also be disclosed to the State and the defense counsel involved in the revocation proceedings.

Return the fully completed form and copies of any related documents by mail to:

**Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Office
Tim Curry Criminal Justice Center
401 W. Belknap Fort Worth, TX 76196
Attention: Conviction Integrity Unit**

SECTION I | GENERAL INFORMATION AND CLAIM

1. Convicted Person's Name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
2. TDCJ ID Number: _____
3. Primary Language: _____
4. Current mailing address:

Street City State Zip
5. Are you currently incarcerated?
 Yes No, on probation No, on parole No, sentence discharged
6. If the person is **currently represented by an attorney**, please provide the attorney's name and contact information: _____
7. Case Number: _____ Court: _____
8. Offense of Conviction: _____
9. Date of Conviction: _____ Sentence: _____
10. How was the case resolved?
 Trial By Jury Bench/Judge Trial Guilty Plea No Contest Plea
11. Was an appeal filed in the case? Yes No
Appellate Cause No.: _____ Date Filed: _____
12. Has a post-conviction writ of habeas corpus ever been filed? Yes No
Writ Cause No.: _____ Date Filed: _____
13. Was a request for post-conviction DNA testing filed? Yes No
Date request filed: ____/____/____
14. Did you ever give a statement to police? Yes No Not sure

SECTION II | CLAIMS

15. Please state why your conviction should be reviewed. If you need more space, you may attach additional pages:

16. **Actual Innocence** means that you did not commit the offense at all or participate in it in any way. Explain in detail how you are actually innocent of the offense:

17. **New Evidence** is evidence that was either not known to you at the time of the trial or plea or could not be known to you with the exercise of due diligence at the time of plea, trial, or post-trial motions. What new evidence, as defined, has been discovered in this case?

18. **DNA Information.** If DNA material was collected and tested in this case, what is your understanding of the results?

19. List any collected evidence or DNA material that has not been tested and how this affects your case:

20. Please describe any other claims not covered above, or any other information you believe might be needed to conduct a review of your case:

SECTION III | ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CONSENT

Initial each statement below to indicate your understanding and agreement.

I acknowledge that I have read the Instructions and Eligibility Criteria found on the first page of this Review Request.

I understand that CIU is not my attorney. I will not receive legal advice from CIU, and my communication with CIU is not protected by attorney-client privilege.

I understand I should seek my own legal counsel if I wish to receive legal advice.

I understand all determinations made, including whether to accept my review as well as how my claims will be investigated, are at the sole discretion of CIU.

I understand that CIU might determine my review request does not meet its eligibility criteria and reject it at any point.

I understand that I am not entitled to any explanation as to why CIU has determined that my review request does not meet its criteria, has decided to take no action regarding it, or has rejected it at any point.

I understand that I have no right to a CIU review. I understand this is an extrajudicial process, and as such there is no right of appeal from a decision by CIU.

I consent to being interviewed by CIU concerning the conviction that is the subject of this review request, to cooperate fully with CIU's investigation, and to provide access to any evidence or other information concerning the conviction available to me.

I understand that CIU will need to determine what information was disclosed by the State to any previous counsel to fully investigate any claims of State misconduct.

I consent to allowing CIU to communicate with my previous counsel and to access my client file – as maintained by previous counsel – and to view any information contained within it *other than privileged communications or attorney work-product*.

I understand that submitting this request does not extend the deadlines for any other appellate or post-conviction remedies and that I must pursue those remedies separately.

I certify that all information in this review request is true and accurate, and I acknowledge that providing false information will result in a rejection of my review request.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood all the above statements and that my agreement to cooperate and giving of information is made voluntarily of my own free will.

CERTIFICATION OF CONVICTED PERSON

My name is _____, my date of birth is ___/___/_____, my inmate identifying number, if any, is _____, and my address (or place in which I am currently incarcerated) is:

_____.
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature of Convicted Person

Executed in _____ County, State of Texas, on ___/___/_____.

CERTIFICATION OF ATTORNEY FOR CONVICTED PERSON

(if currently represented by counsel)

I hereby certify that I have fully explained to the convicted offender the above statement and that his/her signature is a result of an independent and informed decision made by him/her.

Signature of Attorney for Convicted Person

Printed Name of Attorney for Convicted Person

_____/_____
State/Bar Card Number

___/___/_____
Date