Wrongful Conviction Rally Set For Thursday, October 2nd at Noon, Cuyahoga County Justice Center, Downtown Cleveland

• Featured speakers include Exonerees, Former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Michael P. Donnelly and Attorney Kim Corral • Livestream available at Dawn Pasela Facebook Group • Exonerees, community leaders and government officials are welcome to speak



Cleveland, Ohio Sep 21, 2025 (Issuewire.com) - FreeTonyViola announced today that it is cosponsoring the fifth annual Rally to End Wrongful Convictions on Thursday, October 2nd at Noon, Cuyahoga County Justice Center, 1200 Ontario Street, Cleveland, OH 44113.. According to The National Registry of Exonerations, there have been at least 3,709 judicially recognized exonerations since 1989, constituting more than 35,000 years lost. Cuyahoga County has far more exonerees than any other community, including many citizens who spent decades incarcerated for crimes they did not commit.

<u>Wrongful Conviction Day</u> is a national event across the nation designed by the Innocence Network to raise awareness of the causes and remedies of wrongful conviction and to recognize the tremendous personal, social, and emotional costs of wrongful convictions on innocent people and their families and last year's event was widely covered by <u>local media</u>

In advance of his appearance at the event, former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Michael P. Donnelly stated: "A wrongful conviction is the worst form of injustice that can occur in our system and we should do everything we can to prevent it on the front end from happening, but also take steps to reform the post-conviction process to remedy wrongful conviction as soon as possible."

The keynote speaker is attorney Kim Corral, whose law firm works extensively on post-conviction litigation. Kim stated "As always, I am honored to participate in Cuyahoga County's Wrongful Conviction Day. It is crucially important to spread awareness about the all too common-place occurrence of wrongful convictions. It is also an important opportunity to remind those harmed by wrongful conviction that they are not forgotten, that we have not tired in their fight for justice and that the community is calling for change."

Ed and Karen Pasela, the parents of the late <u>Dawn Pasela</u>, said, "We are so happy to support Wrongful Conviction Day, because our daughter Dawn worked for the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office and a multi-jurisdictional Task Force. Dawn saw injustices inside the Prosecutor's Office and refused to stand by and watch innocent people being sent to prison. Instead, she fought so hard for justice and did everything she could to prevent wrongful convictions."

ABOUT <u>FREETONYVIOLA.COM</u>: FreeTonyViola.com's mission is to shine a bright spotlight on the 'win at all costs' tactics, and prosecutorial overreach in some criminal cases. Tony Viola was investigated by the Cuyahoga County Mortgage Fraud Task Force, a multi-jurisdictional task force comprised of state, local and federal agencies, and prosecuted in parallel federal and state cases. He lost the federal case but was exonerated at a subsequent state trial. The website, originally created to solicit leads for Tony's investigative team, has evolved into a tool to keep the public informed about critical developments in his case, and to share information that could potentially assist others who have been wrongfully ensnared by our criminal justice system. For additional information, visit FreeTonyViola, friend us on <u>Facebook</u>, or follow us on X @TonyViola.

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