

**Injustice Anywhere Newsletter** 

Fall 2013



### In This Issue

- Our Featured Cases
- How it all began
- Who are we?
- Wrongful Conviction News
- Injustice Anywhere Radio
- Rally for Injustice Anywhere

November 12, 2013 Written by Bruce Fischer

Injustice Anywhere is pleased to publish our first newsletter. We have come a long way over the past two years, thanks to an amazing group of dedicated volunteers, and we are just getting started.

Please take time to review our seven featured cases highlighted in this newsletter. Our organization has done extensive research on these cases, and great care has been taken when deciding where to direct our efforts.

We also encourage you to visit the Injustice Anywhere Forum. Our forum members discuss a wide range of topics involving wrongful convictions. Sarah Snyder took on the colossal task of building the forum in its critical early stages, leading it to be the successful resource that it is today. Doug Matthews does a great job of moderating the forum. Sometimes topics can get a bit heated, as we are often discussing controversial cases. Doug's professionalism shines through whenever a situation needs to be resolved.

Sarah and I would like to thank everyone that contributes to Injustice Anywhere, and we encourage Injustice Anywhere supporters to distribute this newsletter. We understand the challenges some may face when attempting to start a conversation about a wrongful conviction case. This newsletter is a great way to tell your friends and family about our organization, and may help to open the door to further conversation about a case or cases that you are interested in.

#### **Our Featured Cases**

Injustice Anywhere understands that every case of wrongful conviction is important. Unfortunately this is an epidemic that will need to be eradicated one case at a time. We currently have seven featured cases that we are actively supporting.

#### Amanda Knox & Raffaele Sollecito



Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito were wrongfully convicted in December 2009, for the murder of Meredith Kercher in November 2007. Both were acquitted on appeal in October of 2011. Unfortunately, common sense was thrown out the window in March of this year when the Italian Supreme Court overturned the acquittals, sending the case back to the appellate level for review.

Current status: The Italian Supreme Court ruled that the appeals court did not look at the totality of the evidence when making their ruling. The case was essentially sent back to the appellate level to look at the details that were possibly overlooked. The evidence heard on appeal in Judge Hellmann's court, resulting in the release of Amanda and Raffaele in 2011, remains relevant in the ongoing appeals process. It is important to note that the analysis of Stefano Conti & Carla Vecchiotti (court appointed experts) still stands until proven false. Judge Nencini appeared to give them a vote of confidence during the first hearing, stating: "There's no reason to consider the independent experts unreliable." Amanda and Raffaele are considered innocent and remain free as the trial process continues. The upcoming trial dates are: Nov 25 & 26, Dec 16, Dec 17, Jan 9-10 (possible verdict)

This is the case that started it all for our organization. We have many volunteers that have dedicated a great deal of their personal time in order to produce the most comprehensive website detailing this case. The site provides case files, high resolution photographs, crime scene video, and expert analysis. Please visit injusticeinperugia.org to keep up to date with the ongoing trial process in Italy.



#### Other Resources

- www.amandaknox.com: Amanda Knox's personal website
- G-Man Case File: retired FBI Agent Steve Moore advocate, commentator, author
- Let's Talk About True Crime: Candace Dempsey's articles on the Meredith Kercher case
- Injustice in Perugia: Articles from Injustice Anywhere Contributors.

### Ryan Ferguson



On December 5, 2005, Ryan Ferguson was found guilty of second degree murder of Kent Heitholt, and was sentenced to 40 years in prison. Ryan was convicted based solely on the accepted testimony of two people, Chuck Erickson and Jerry Trump. Both would later testify that they were lying, leaving no evidence to support Ryan's conviction. www.injustice-anywhere.org

**Current status:** In September of this year, Ryan appealed Cole County Circuit Judge Daniel Green's October 2012 ruling on a habeas corpus petition that denied Ryan a new trial. Ryan's defense team appealed Green's decision to the Missouri Court of Appeals in September of 2013. Ryan's conviction was vacated on November 5, 2013. The State of Missouri has elected to not pursue Ryan's case further. It's over.

#### Ryan Ferguson is a Free man!

Injustice Anywhere created a change.org petition for Ryan's father, Bill Ferguson. The petition closed with 266,872 signatures, making it one of the top 25 petitions of all time on Change.org.

Ryan's father recently discussed his son's case with Bruce Fischer on the Injustice Anywhere radio program.

change.org





Ryan's case has received worldwide support. His case is one that highlights the importance of advocacy groups that work to correct wrongful convictions. Ryan's support early on was led by the Free Ryan Ferguson Committee, created by Ryan's father, Bill Ferguson. Their efforts resulted in the case being featured on CBS 48 hours. From that point on, the support for Ryan would grow exponentially, with many people taking notice, including, TV Producer Richard Drew, who worked to update Ryan's website and Facebook page, and our organization, Injustice Anywhere, that created Ryan's petition and featured Ryan's case on our website. The most important person to take notice of Ryan's case, due to the public outcry, was Attorney Kathleen Zellner, who decided to take Ryan's case pro bono. Zellner crafted the petition that led to Ryan's conviction being vacated.

## Visit these important links to learn more about Ryan's case

- Injustice Anywhere
- Free Ryan Ferguson
- Ryan Ferguson Facebook Page (currently has over 72,000 likes)
- Ryan's Change.org petition



## Jeffrey Havard



Jeffrey Havard currently sits wrongfully convicted on death row in Mississippi for the sexual assault and murder of his girlfriend's six-month-old daughter, Chloe Britt. The truth is the infant slipped from Jeffrey's arms while lifting her from the tub, causing her head to hit the toilet. Chloe's death was a tragic accident, not a murder. Jeffrey is innocent.

New evidence is now available that proves Jeffrey's innocence. Advocacy efforts are needed to bring more attention to this case to help encourage the Federal Court of Appeals to grant Jeffrey Havard a new trial. www.freejeffreyhavard.org

**Current status:** Jeffrey's case is now at the federal appellate level. United States District Judge Keith Starrett will ultimately decide if Jeffrey should be granted a new trial. The State of Mississippi has repeatedly denied Jeffrey's request for a new trial, despite the fact that new evidence is now available proving his innocence. According to the state, Jeffrey's case is barred by time. In other words, Jeffrey's innocence has been proven too late.

Injustice Anywhere created a change.org petition for Jeffrey that has now reached over 1,000 signatures.

Jeffrey recently discussed his case with Bruce Fischer on the Injustice Anywhere radio program.

Injustice Anywhere is working closely with Jeffrey's case. We created the website FreeJeffreyHavard.org to help present this case to the public and we are actively working with several contacts in an effort to bring more attention to Jeffrey's case.

Please visit Jeffrey's website to view court documents, transcripts, photos, expert analysis, and news reports on the case. Jeffrey also has a blog on the site, giving him the opportunity to communicate with his supporters.



Jen Fitzgerald (an Injustice Anywhere Advisory Board Member) is now the official spokesperson for Jeffrey Havard. Please visit FreeJefferyHavard.org for contact information.

## Visit these important links to keep up to date with Jeffrey's case

- · Free Jeffrey Havard
- Jeffrey Havard Facebook group
- Jeffrey's Change.org petition
- The wrongful conviction of Jeffrey Havard by Bruce Fischer
- The Jeffrey Havard case will undermine support for capital punishment by Philip Mause

### Nicole "Nyki" Kish ■



Nyki Kish was wrongfully convicted on March 1, 2011 of second degree murder for the stabbing death of Ross Hammond in Toronto, Canada, on August 8, 2007.

**Current status:** Two and a half years after Nyki's wrongful conviction, the Ontario Court of Appeals convened on Tuesday October 29th, 2013, to hear Nyki's appeal. A ruling is currently pending. www.injustice-anywhere.org

You can read an outstanding case summary written by Clive Wismayer here.

Nyki's mother, Christine Bivens, recently discussed her daughter's appeal with Bruce Fischer on the Injustice Anywhere radio program. During the program Christine explained that there are four possible outcomes for Nyki's appeal. The three judge panel can: do nothing at all, convict on a lesser charge, order a new trial, or rule to acquit. According to Christine, Nyki's attorney made a compelling case for innocence at the one day appeal hearing. A ruling is expected to come in 6 to 8 weeks from the date of the hearting.



Please visit FreeNyki.org to learn more about Nyki Kish. On the website you can read Nyki's personal blog which contains Nyki's writing and poetry. Nyki is a talented musician. On the site you will also find links to recordings of her music.

"It is terrifying to be continually punished for this crime I did not commit. And it is damning to have to wonder why every night. I am no murderer and my heart is not selfish. If I was responsible for the death of another human being, I would have never plead not guilty. I would never suffer everyone involved this costly pain. This long, mentally diminishing, emotionally incapacitating process, this is the stuff true nightmares are made of. I did not kill Ross Hammond and I wish I had proven myself innocent beyond a reasonable doubt as I am innocent."

- Nicole Kish at her sentencing on April 4, 2011

## Visit these important links to keep up to date with Nyki's case

FreeNyki.org Nyki Kish Facebook Page

Injustice Anywhere: Nicole "Nyki" Kish The case of Nyki Kish by Clive Wismayer

Recent News: Panhandler's friend may have stabbed man in brawl, court told

#### Kirstin Lobato



Kirstin Lobato was wrongfully convicted in October, 2006, of voluntary manslaughter and sexual penetration of a corpse. There is absolutely no evidence implicating her to the crime and she has a rock solid alibi. The authorities failed to properly investigate this crime leading to a wrongful conviction. Kirstin Lobato is innocent.

**Current status:** Kirstin is currently waiting for the Nevada Supreme Court to rule on her habeas petition. There is new evidence in this case that should open the door for a new trial. www.injustice-anywhere.org

The Justice4Kirstin Campaign has done an excellent job of presenting the facts of this case on Kirstin's official website <a href="www.justice4kirstin.com">www.justice4kirstin.com</a>. The website contains important court documents, including trial transcripts, and petitions filed by the defense.



Petition by Michelle Ravell: Petitioning Nevada District Attorney Steven Wolfson. Kirstin Blaise Lobato is an innocent woman stuck in prison while evidence in her case goes untested for DNA. Please sign this petition today.

change.org

Kirstin Blaise Lobato's Unreasonable Conviction Revised and Updated Second Edition: Possibility Of Guilt Replaces Proof Beyond A Reasonable Doubt by Hans Sherrer. This book is now available in PDF format at no charge on the Justice Denied website.

# KIRSTIN BLAISE LOBATO'S UNREASONABLE CONVICTION

Possibility Of Guilt Replaces Proof Beyond A Reasonable Doubt

Retired DC Attorney Philip J Mause asked Clark County District Attorney Steven Wolfson about the case on a local radio program. You can read the transcript of that call <a href="https://example.com/here/">here</a>.

Michelle Ravell and Helen Caddes from the organization Justice for Kirstin recently discussed the case with Bruce Fischer on the Injustice Anywhere radio program.

### Visit these important links to keep up to date with Kirstin's case

- Injustice Anywhere
- Justice For Kirstin
- Kirstin Lobato's petition
- A summary of Kirstin Blaise Lobato's innocence by Hans Sherrer
- The Kirstin Lobato case: an American miscarriage of justice by Joseph Bishop

#### Debra Jean Milke



Debra Milke was wrongfully convicted and sentenced to death in 1991 in Arizona for the murder of her four-year-old son. Debra is a victim of police negligence and corruption. The only evidence against her was a detective's claim that she provided a non-recorded verbal confession. Debra Milke is innocent.

**Current status:** Debra's case recently made headlines when the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned her conviction. Debra is currently out of prison on bond awaiting a new trial expected to begin in January, 2015. www.injustice-anywhere.org

"I'm not a guilty person looking for a legal loophole. I'm an innocent person looking for justice."

Debra Milke

Debra Milke was released September 6, 2013, on bond. In the photo to the right, Debra Milke can be seen making contact with her mother for the first time in 23 years.

The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals concluded that prosecutors failed to turn over evidence related to the lead detective's credibility.

Chief Judge Alex Kozinski was very clear when he wrote: "No civilized system of justice should have to depend on such flimsy evidence, quite possibly tainted by dishonesty or overzealousness, to decide whether to take someone's life or liberty"



Luca Cheli recently discussed Debra's case with Bruce Fischer on the Injustice Anywhere radio program.

### Visit these important links to keep up to date with Debra's case

- Injustice Anywhere
- Injustice Anywhere Forum
- DebbieMilke.com
- Debra Milke Case Overview by R, Ryder
- Recent News: Arizona woman released after decades on death row

#### Jamie Snow



Jamie Snow was wrongfully convicted in 2001 for the 1991 murder of William Little, a gas station attendant in Bloomington, Illinois. Jamie is currently serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole in Stateville prison in Joliet, Illinois.

Jamie Snow has proclaimed his innocence from day one. In the years following his conviction, new information has come to light clearly showing that police misconduct and bad lawyering sent the wrong man to prison for William Little's murder. Jamie Snow is innocent.

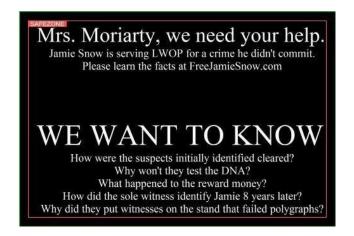
**Current status:** Jamie's attorneys filed a federal habeas corpus petition in May of this year, along with new motions for DNA testing. Court rulings are currently pending. **www.injustice-anywhere.org** 

## Committee to Free Jamie Snow (CFJS)

The CFJS is a group of friends, family and supporters that formed in response to the wrongful conviction of Jamie Snow. The group works diligently to provide a wealth of information including court documents, videos, and news reports on their website freejamiesnow.com. Injustice Anywhere is dedicated to assisting their efforts in any way we can.

CFJS hosts an annual event in Bloomington, Illinois, called "Postcards in the Park." The event is designed to bring more attention to Jamie's case. This year's postcards were sent to Erin Moriarty in hopes that she will highlight the case on "CBS 48 hours."

Bruce Fischer and his family attended the event and were happy to meet Tam Alex (the driving force behind CFJS), along with Jamie's family, friends, and supporters. The event also gave Bruce the opportunity to meet Bill Clutter, the founder of "Investigating Innocence."



Article on the event: The Committee to Free Jamie Snow hosts third annual Postcards in the Park event

Jamie's case will be featured on the Injustice Anywhere Radio Program on November 19, 2013, at 8 PM CST.

### Visit these important links to keep up to date with Jamie's case

- Injustice Anywhere
- FreeJamieSnow.com
- Free Jamie Snow Facebook Page
- Case overview by Bruce Fischer

## How it all began

Written by Bruce Fischer

Our first mission began in early 2010 when we created Injustice in Perugia (IIP), a grassroots organization that worked to secure freedom for Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito.

Our work with IIP opened our eyes to a growing worldwide problem that continues to go mostly unnoticed by anyone not directly affected. Wrongful convictions occur all around the world. We must do more to prevent the unjust imprisonment of innocent people, and in doing so, we must focus on the larger picture, not just the cases we see highlighted on television. If we choose to turn our backs on this epidemic, we risk creating more victims like Clarence Elkins, Christopher Turner, and Danny Brown. Who are these people? Even though their cases were not sensational enough to get the attention of cable news programs, they were all cases of wrongful conviction, only to be corrected after each had lost many years of their lives. There are hundreds of similar cases that go mostly unnoticed, but are of no less importance than any case that happens to attract the attention of the media.

Shorty after Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito were released from prison in October of 2011, Sarah Snyder and I set out to expand on the success of Injustice in Perugia, by creating a new organization that would come to be known as Injustice Anywhere, an organization working to correct wrongful convictions. Injustice Anywhere has featured eight cases to date. We are proud to say that four of our featured cases (three are detailed in this newsletter) have made positive progress. Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito were released from prison in 2011. Their case is currently on appeal in Florence, Italy. Jason Puracal was exonerated in 2012 in Nicaragua. Debra Milke was released on bond in September of this year and is currently awaiting a new trial. Ryan Ferguson's conviction was vacated this month. The State of Missouri has elected to not pursue Ryan's case further. Ryan Ferguson is a free man.

Even though progress has been made, Amanda Knox, Raffaele Sollecito, and Debra Milke, will continue to require our full attention until each is fully exonerated. Seeing Jason Puracal and Ryan Ferguson secure their freedom keeps us optimistic that we will soon see similar results for all of our featured cases.

In addition to dedicating our efforts to our featured cases, our organization has now created a network of websites designed to bring more attention to wrongful convictions.





#### Who are we?

#### **Founding Members**

Bruce Fischer: Executive Director

Sarah Snyder: Director of Operations

### **Our Advisory Board**

Joseph Bishop: Advocate

Luca Cheli: Author, Advocate, Translator

Doug Matthews: Author, Advocate

Jen Fitzgerald: Attorney, Advocate

**Christopher Halkides:** Professor of Biochemistry

Ron Hendry: Retired Forensic Engineer

Stu Lyster: Advocate

Philip Mause: Attorney, Advocate

Steve Moore: Retired FBI Agent

Robert Owen: Advocate, Financial Professional

Michael Scadron: Retired Senior Trial Counsel with the United States Department of Justice, Advocate

Nigel Scott: Author, Advocate

Clive Wismayer: English Solicitor, Advocate

Tom Zupancic: Molecular Biologist, Advocate

Please visit Injustice-Anywhere.org to learn more about our volunteers. Several of our board members have provided photos and bios.

In addition to the members listed here, Injustice Anywhere also has over 1450 members on our discussion forum and over 600 members in our Facebook group. We greatly appreciate the efforts of all involved. Several breakthroughs have been discovered by members of our discussion forum that have proven to be beneficial to the cases that we actively support.

Please keep in mind that members of our advisory board do not necessarily agree with every one of our featured cases. Injustice Anywhere understands that many cases are controversial. We welcome the input of our members regardless of personal opinion on guilt or innocence. We believe open dialogue is crucial when working to find the truth.

## Wrongful Conviction News

#### www.wrongfulconvictionnews.com

In August of this year, we launched our new website "Wrongful Conviction News." The website is a crowd-sourced media platform. Our mission is to provide a wide range of wrongful conviction news while providing free advertising to help advocates promote the cases they support.



#### **Publish Your Articles**

Are you currently advocating for someone that has been wrongfully convicted? Are you currently lobbying to improve the system in order to reduce wrongful convictions? Are you an expert that would like to help educate the public? Are you a past victim of wrongful conviction that would like to tell your story? If you answered yes to any of these questions then Wrongful Conviction News is the right website for you.

You do not need to be a professional writer to contribute to Wrongful Conviction News. If you are credible, passionate, and knowledgeable about your cause, then you have what it takes to write for Wrongful Conviction News.

Wrongful Conviction News is a brand new website that will be driven by the writers that contribute content. This platform is designed to give you an opportunity to bring more attention to the cases that you advocate for.

## Free Advertising

The advertisements you see on Wrongful Conviction News are posted free of charge. Our mission is to bring more attention to wrongful convictions. Wrongful Conviction News wants to help you promote your blog or website. Keep in mind that we will review your website or blog before posting advertisements. In order to qualify for free advertisements, your website or blog will need to be on topic, and free from adult content, violence, and profanity.

If you would like to submit a banner for placement on Wrongful Conviction News, please send your banner image with desired destination link to injusticeanywhere@yahoo.com. Please put "Ad for Wrongful Conviction News" in the subject line of your email.

### **Recent Articles**

- Raffaele Sollecito: "Those Illusions They Build About Us"
- The Murder of Meredith Kercher
- The Third Murder Trial of David Camm Draws to a Close
- Surveillance 'missing' regarding police harassment of Craigavon Two Witness
- Jeffrey Havard Speaks Out About Recent Motion Requesting That His Case Be Sealed
- Justice For Brad Radio Interview With WPTF 850AM, Raleigh: Response to Appeal Ruling
- Critical commentary on the ruling of the Supreme Court on the Knox-Sollecito trial

## Injustice Anywhere Radio

#### http://www.blogtalkradio.com/injustice-anywhere

The Injustice Anywhere online radio program debuted on August 6, 2013. The show, hosted by Bruce Fischer, welcomes weekly guests that come on to discuss various wrongful conviction cases. Listeners are encouraged to call the show in the final segment to ask questions and offer their comments on the topics being discussed.

We are very pleased with the early progress of the show, as our listenership continues to increase each week. Online radio is definitely new territory for our organization. We will continue to strive to make improvements as we move forward.

You can find information on our upcoming shows posted on the Injustice Anywhere homepage: www.injustice-anywhere.org.



You can listen to past shows anytime by visiting the Injustice Anywhere Radio archive.

#### Recent Shows



#### The Amanda Knox and Raffaele Sollecito Case

Guests: retired Superior Court Judge Mike Heavey and retired FBI Agent Steve Moore



#### The wrongful Conviction of Kirstin Blaise Lobato

Guests: advocates Michelle Ravell and Helen Caddes



#### Debra Milke Awaits New Trial After 22 Years on Death Row

Guests: advocate Luca Cheli



#### Jeffrey Havard Case Discussion: Motion to Seal is Denied

Guests: former Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Oliver Diaz, Attorney Jen Fitzgerald, advocate Lori Howard



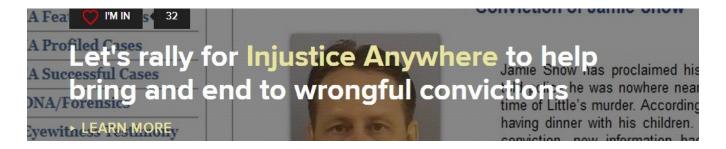
#### Nyki Kish, a case of faulty circumstantial identification

Guests: Nyki's mother Christine Bivens, English Solicitor Clive Wismayer



#### The Ryan Ferguson case: an innocent man's fight for freedom

Guests: TV producer Richard Drew, Ryan's father, Bill Ferguson



## Rally for Injustice Anywhere

#### https://rally.org/injustice-anywhere/donate

Injustice Anywhere was created to help bring more knowledge and attention to wrongful convictions and to work to bring much needed reform. Injustice Anywhere is an all-volunteer organization. As we move forward with our efforts, we will rely on contributions in order to help cover operational costs.

These costs include: maintaining our websites, obtaining legal documents, legal counsel, insurance, updated media contact data, and promotional materials needed to bring attention to our featured cases.

We have made good progress thanks to the generous donations we have received, but we have a long way to go. During the summer we asked our supporters to Rally for Injustice Anywhere. Those generous donations made new developments possible, which include: the Wrongful Conviction News website, our new online radio show, and the Italian language Injustice in Perugia website. In addition, we have now registered as an LLC, bringing needed legal protection to our organization.

Please visit Injustice-Anywhere.org today to learn more about supporting our cause. All contributors will receive an Injustice Anywhere wristband and monthly pleages will also receive an Injustice Anywhere t-shirt.





Please only consider making a monetary contribution if you are able to do so. Much of our progress to date has absolutely nothing to do with money. Dedicated individuals that invest their valuable time to advocate for Injustice Anywhere are truly the backbone of our organization. The time and effort put forth by our members is invaluable. Injustice Anywhere greatly appreciates those efforts.