

Kentucky Criminal Justice System Makes Tragic Mistakes

Wrongful convictions are a problem in Kentucky as evidenced by the following cases

1. **Michael VonAllmen**, 1983, Jefferson County, convicted of Rape 1st, Sodomy 1st, Robbery 1st, sentenced to 35 years. Sentence vacated after proof of an alternative perpetrator
2. **Herman May**, 1988, Franklin County, convicted of Rape 1st and Sodomy 1st, sentenced to 40 years. Sentence vacated due to DNA results and misidentification.
3. **William Gregory**, 1992, Jefferson county, convicted of Rape 1st, Attempted Rape 1st, and Burglary 1st, sentenced to 70 years. Sentence vacated due to cross-racial misidentification and fabricated hair comparison.
4. **Edwin A. Chandler**, 1993, Jefferson County capital case; convicted of Robbery 1st and Manslaughter 2nd, sentenced to 30 years. Sentence vacated due to police misconduct and failure to investigate other leads.
5. **Lacy Bedingfield**, 1995, Fayette County, convicted of Rape 1st, sentenced to 25 years. Sentence vacated as a result of DNA testing and perjury during first trial.
6. **Kerry Porter**, 1996, Jefferson County, convicted of Murder, sentenced to 60 years. Sentence vacated after finding evidence of an alternative perpetrator.
7. **Ben Kiper**, 1999, Butler County, convicted of Sexual Abuse 1st, sentenced to 55 years. Sentence vacated due to perjury at trial.
8. **Larry Osborne**, 1999, Whitley County, convicted of 2 counts of Murder, Arson 1st, Robbery 1st, and Burglary 1st, sentenced to death. He was acquitted upon reversal and retrial. See *Osborne v. Commonwealth*, 43 S.W.3d 234 (Kentucky 2001).
9. **Tim Smith**, 2000, Kenton County, convicted of Sodomy 1st, sentenced to 20 years. Sentence vacated due to perjury at trial.
10. **Jaqulyn Green**, 2000, McCreary County, convicted of Complicity to commit Murder under EED, sentenced to 18 years. Granted clemency due to government misconduct and ineffective assistance of counsel.
11. **Sam Plotnick**, 2001, Whitley County, convicted of Sexual Abuse 1st, sentenced to 18 years. Sentence vacated due to perjury at trial.
12. **Jason Girts**, 2004, Bullit County, convicted of Sexual Abuse 1st, sentenced to 5 years. Sentence vacated due to perjury at trial.
13. **Denarius Terry**, 2003, Logan County, convicted of Murder, Robbery 1st, and Wanton Endangerment 1st, sentenced to 45 years. His conviction was reversed and he was acquitted on retrial.
14. **John Phillips**, 2005, McCreay County, convicted of Assault 1st, sentenced to 10 years. His conviction was reversed and he was acquitted on retrial.