

Addendum #2 – HB 183 House Criminal Justice Committee Testimony – 11/18/21  
From Gary Daniels, ACLU of Ohio – [gdaniels@acluohio.org](mailto:gdaniels@acluohio.org)

Information from:

The National Registry of Exonerations

<https://www.law.umich.edu/special/exoneration/Pages/about.aspx>

Death Penalty Info Center

<https://deathpenaltyinfo.org/state-and-federal-info/state-by-state/ohio>

Ohioans to Stop Executions

<https://otse.org/issues/innocence-wrongful-convictions/>

### **OHIO EXONEREES (in alphabetical order)**

#### **Gary Beeman**

Convicted in 1976. Exonerated in 1979. An appeals court reversed his conviction based on the conduct of the trial court judge regarding a witness for the prosecution. He was acquitted by a jury after a retrial and after five people formerly in jail testified someone else admitted the murder.

#### **Ronnie Bridgeman (Kwame Ajamu)**

Convicted in 1975. Exonerated in 2014. Released after a witness recanted testimony he gave when he was 12-years-old claiming he saw the murder.

#### **Wiley Bridgeman**

Convicted in 1975. Exonerated in 2014. Released after a witness recanted testimony he gave when he was 12-years-old claiming he saw the murder.

#### **Joe D'Ambrosio**

Convicted in 1989. Exonerated in 2012. Conviction was overturned in federal court after it was revealed prosecutors withheld key evidence in both the original case and a retrial. After prosecutorial misconduct was revealed, the court barred re prosecution of D'Ambrosio and the Supreme Court of the United States denied an appeal.

#### **Timothy Howard**

Convicted in 1977. Exonerated in 2003. Released from prison in 2003 after conflicting witness statements and fingerprint evidence was uncovered in the killing of a bank guard. Franklin County dropped all charges.

#### **Ricky Jackson**

Convicted in 1975. Exonerated in 2014. Released after a witness recanted testimony he gave when he was 12-years-old claiming he saw the murder.

**Gary Lamar James**

Convicted in 1977. Exonerated in 2003. Released from prison in 2003 after conflicting witness statements and fingerprint evidence was uncovered in the killing of a bank guard. Franklin County dropped all charges.

**Derrick Jamison**

Convicted in 1985. Exonerated in 2005. A federal court ordered a new trial after it was revealed prosecutors withheld evidence and problems with witness identification. The prosecutor chose not to retry the case.

**Dale Johnston**

Convicted in 1984. Exonerated in 1990. A witness hypnotized to "enhance her memory" said she saw Johnston roughing up the victim and a court said the prosecutor withheld exculpatory evidence. A court deemed the hypnotized witness unreliable and another suspect ultimately confessed and was convicted.

**Michael Keenan**

Convicted in 1989. Exonerated in 2012. Prosecutors withheld evidence leading to his conviction and death sentence being overturned. As prosecutors attempted to retry him a third time, he accepted a plea deal.

**Thomas Pearson**

Convicted in 1976. Exonerated in 1980. His conviction was vacated on appeal because of insufficient evidence, which also made him ineligible for retrial.

Addendum #3 – HB 183 House Criminal Justice Committee Testimony – 11/18/21  
From Gary Daniels, ACLU of Ohio – [gdaniels@acluohio.org](mailto:gdaniels@acluohio.org)

### **BOTCHED EXECUTIONS IN OHIO (2006-2017)**

#### **Joseph Clark**

In 2006, it took almost 2½ hours for the execution team to find a suitable vein to inject Clark. Witnesses reported moaning, crying, and guttural noises from Clark during the process.

#### **Christopher Newton**

In 2007, it took almost 2 hours to kill Newton because of problems finding a suitable vein in his 265 pound body. He was stabbed with needles at least 10 times during the process.

#### **Romell Broom**

In 2009, Ohio attempted for two hours to execute Broom but the execution team failed to find a suitable vein for injection. He later challenged, but was unsuccessful arguing in court, Ohio getting a second chance to kill him. He died in 2020 of suspected COVID-19 while still in prison.

#### **Dennis McGuire**

In 2014, McGuire writhed in pain, gasped for air, and made sounds indicating suffocation as it took 25 minutes to kill him utilizing a combination of new drugs for execution.

#### **Alva Campbell, Jr.**

In 2017, Ohio attempted to execute the already severely-ill Campbell for almost two hours but could not find a suitable vein. At one point, Campbell cried out in pain as the team stuck him with a needle. This led to Gov. Kasich postponing his execution. Campbell died in prison in 2018.