Addendum #2 – HB 183 House Criminal Justice Committee Testimony – 11/18/21
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Information from:
The National Registry of Exonerations
https://www.law.umich.edu/special/exoneration/Pages/about.aspx

Death Penalty Info Center

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 1889. 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.
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.