

**The Innocence Project** was founded in 1992 at Cardozo School of Law to represent people who claims of innocence could be demonstrably proven through DNA testing. Since its founding 176 people have been exonerated. The IP also has an effective policy program to reform the criminal justice system. The following is the story of the most recent exoneration of Douglas Warney and related press coverage:

On May 16, 2006 Innocence Project client Douglas Warney of Rochester, NY was exonerated and released after spending ten years in prison for a crime he did not commit. DNA testing of the evidence in his case not only proved Mr. Warney's innocence, the results also identified the true perpetrator of the crime. At the time of his arrest, Mr. Warney, who is cognitively impaired, confessed to the crime. His exoneration has revealed that the police knowingly provided key details of the case to Mr. Warney during the interrogation and that prosecutors ignored evidence that the confession was false. The day following his exoneration, *The New York Times* published an editorial asking how many other innocent prisoners were convicted on the basis of coerced or fabricated confessions. The editorial also urged police departments to adopt the Innocence Project's suggested reform and make taping of videotaping interrogations mandatory, as a way to guard against false confessions. This practice is already carried out for some crimes by numerous jurisdictions including Illinois, New Mexico, Los Angeles, Omaha, and Washington D.C.

Attached is an article detailing Mr. Warney's exoneration and the Times editorial.