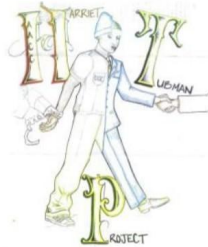


The Harriet Tubman Project

Dismantling Structural and Institutional Racism

Ending Wrongful Convictions in Suffolk County



The African American
Coalition Committee

MCI Norfolk

"I COULD BE YOUR
SON, I COULD BE
YOUR BROTHER, I
COULD BE YOUR
FATHER, I COULD
BE YOUR FRIEND, I
COULD BE YOU!"

ALLAH FU-QUAN



African American Coalition Committee

of MCI Norfolk

The A.A.C.C was established in 1972. A prison-based group, fully operated by the men incarcerated at MCI Norfolk. These men are working together to reform themselves, in order to fight to reform our criminal justice system.

PROGRAM DEPARTMENTS

Management Department: Administration of affairs. Program and needs initiatives are addressed to assess which departments can serve best.

Economics: Financial literacy and employment training programs. Donations and supplies are managed.

Defense: Conflict resolution training.

Education: Oversees library, high school and college tutoring, and organize seminars.

Edutainment: Teach artists how to refine talents into skills. Learn production equipment and produce

Legal: Harriet Tubman Project, Parole prep course P.A.R.O.L.E (Preparing Accountable Responsible Organized Leaders Everyday)

Civic Engagement: Crafting bills and policy. How to become a better citizen. Licenses and voting rights.

Community Engagement: Program recruitment. Internal community outreach and marketing.

Community Outreach: Re-entry agents focus solely on outside outreach. Coordinating events for visitors. Connecting with outside cultural and religious groups. Re-entry fairs.

The Harriet Tubman Project

Dismantling Structural and Institutional Racism

- The Harriet Tubman Project (HTP) is a legal class for incarcerated men. Founded by Rickey "Fuquan" McGee in 2021. The HTP is 100% run by the incarcerated men of MCI Norfolk and serves roughly 60-80 incarcerated men twice a weekly
- Inspired by the abolitionist activism of Harriet Ross Tubman
- Through the #KnowYourSmoke critique, HTP aids participants in understanding how structural racism functions in the criminal law system
- Crafts, advocates, and organizes around policies that will truly reverse the mass incarceration of Black & Brown communities
- Endorses the release of the wrongfully convicted, the many who are great candidates of parole, and those deserving of having their sentence reduced

WHAT Is The Reason For Today's Meeting?

- We are seeking to launch a civil rights investigation into the years of misconduct within Suffolk County's Law Enforcement that have led to countless wrongful convictions
- Collaborate with universities & organizations to bring awareness and more people power to this civil rights movement
- Understand the objectives & actionable measures we can take to get to our goal of bringing people home from prison

WHY Are We Demanding A Civil Rights Investigation?

- The Suffolk County DA office and BPD have a long history of violating the people's 14th Amendment right for equal protection. The law is not being withheld, and we seek to fulfill the void by using our resources to hold those accountable.
- The Supreme Justice Court has received numerous reports of police, detective, and prosecutorial misconduct. They're fully aware!
- As of 2020, **136 names** are listed on Suffolk County's [Brady List](#) for misconduct
- While others focus on reform, the HTP focuses on REDRESS. We want to FREE and reduce the sentences of the number of wrongfully convicted

Overview of Some Wrongful Convictions Stats in Suffolk County

- Black & Brown people are EIGHT times more likely to go to jail in Massachusetts. While making up less than 20% of the MA residential population, we make up over 60% of the jail/prison population
- 44% of the official exonerations in Massachusetts since 1989 have been in Suffolk County. Of those, 78% involved official misconduct
- A corrupt network of detectives and prosecutors are known to withhold exculpatory evidence or deliberately fabricate/coerce evidence across many cases
- Since 2019, judges have thrown out murder and rape convictions against more than a dozen Black men in Suffolk County, almost all of whom had been sentenced to life in prison

WHO Are The Wrongfully Convicted?

WHO Are The Wrongfully Convicted?

The ACTUALLY INNOCENT



@FreeFuquan

The FACTUALLY INNOCENT



@WeAreJointVenture

The OVER SENTENCED



**#FREE
FUQUAN**

Same detective and prosecutor behind two wrongful convictions prompts call to investigate

WCVB 5

Updated: 6:50 PM EDT Mar 22, 2023

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Mike Beudet
Investigates Reporter



They were freed after serving decades in prison. Now, it's their prosecutors who are facing scrutiny

By Andrew Ryan Globe Staff, Updated December 24, 2022, 2:04 p.m.



James Watson stood as his name was called earlier this year at the Innocence Network Conference in Phoenix. Watson was wrongfully convicted and served 41 years in prison for murder. Now, he's fighting back against the prosecutor who put him behind bars. ADRIANA ZDIBRAUSKAS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Suffolk judge overturns 1992 murder conviction, clearing Barry Kamara's name at last

Since 2019, judges have thrown out murder and rape convictions against more than a dozen Boston men, almost all of whom are Black and had been sentenced to life in prison

By Andrew Ryan Globe Staff, Updated March 21, 2023, 11:12 p.m.



Suffolk County assistant DA placed on leave after wrongfully convicted man submits complaint over withheld evidence

"You hurt me Mr. Lee, and I pray you're not in a position to ever hurt anyone else."



Robert Foxworth, who spent nearly 30 years in prison for murder until he was exonerated in December 2020, just moved into his own apartment. Suzanne Kreiter / The Boston Globe

Shaun Jenkins sues Boston police detectives for alleged misconduct that put him behind bars for nearly two decades

By Tonya Alance Globe Staff, Updated June 8, 2023, 11:16 p.m.



Shaun Jenkins (center) with the legal team on Sept. 24, 2021, the day he was released from prison. Also pictured: Rob Selevitch (the Innocence Program investigator, back row), Nicole Collins (PJ legal fellow, left), and Lisa M. Kavanaugh (director, Innocence Program, right). Jenkins was convicted of murder in 2005. LISA M. KAVANAUGH

WHEN Did This Misconduct Begin To Take Place?



WHERE Did This Misconduct Take Place?

Suffolk County, Massachusetts



HOW Do We Begin Seeking Justice?

- Form a coalition around this initiative
- The coalition will submit a formal complaint to the Attorney General to investigate the misconduct
- Use the discovery to give defendants an opportunity to have their case re-examined
- We need to FREE THE PEOPLE!
- Once we bring people home we pass the baton to other organizations that will assist with financial accountability and beyond
- Link arms with other counties, and eventually other states to create a nation-wide movement

HOW Do I Get Involved?

- Elevate your platforms to educate & bring awareness to the patterns in practice & the key players involved
 - Join the Wrongful Conviction coalition
- Volunteer to expand the work and services of The Harriet Tubman Project

THANK YOU From The Other Side!



Rickey "Fuquan" McGee

Principal Founder of HTP & Lead Facilitator



Ray "Ray Ray" Colon
HTP Co-Facilitator



John P. "John Sun" Gomes

Founder of Tudo Djunto & NIC Committee Coordinator



Huynh "Asian T" Nhut
Inspiration of the "Asian T" Award



Antwan "Twizz" Wathey

A.A.C.C. Co-MC



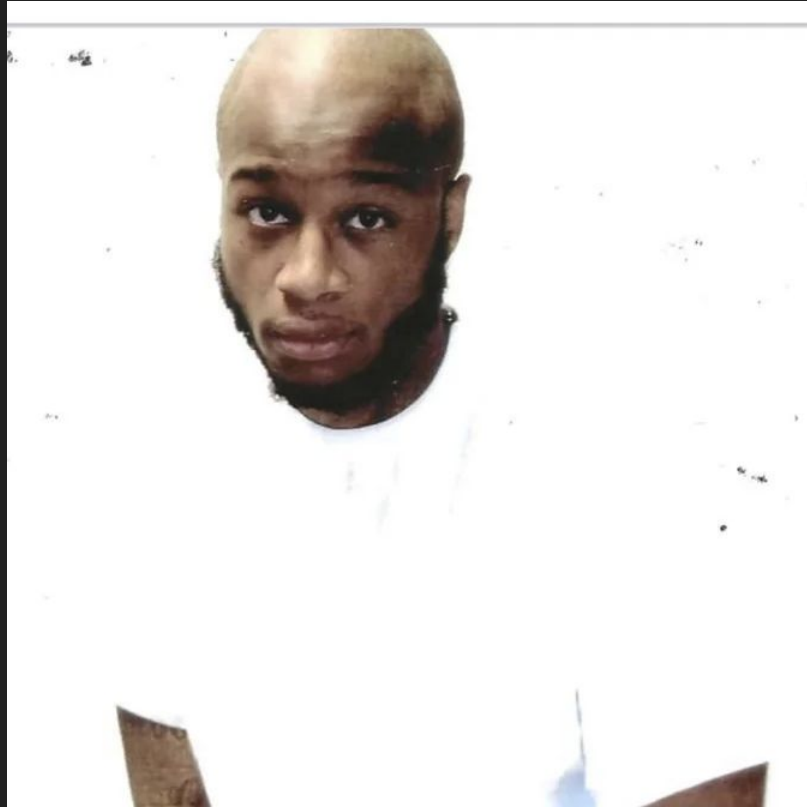
Darryl "Sulay" Scott
A.A.C.C. Undersecretary



Erving "Bird" Cruz
HTP Participant



Jose "Loiz'a" Mercado
HTP Participant



Charles "Cash" Reddicks

HTP Participant



Timothy "2man" Hearn
HTP Participant



Dwight A. "Lil D" Williams Sr
HTP Secretary



Jason Sefton

A.A.C.C. Secretary



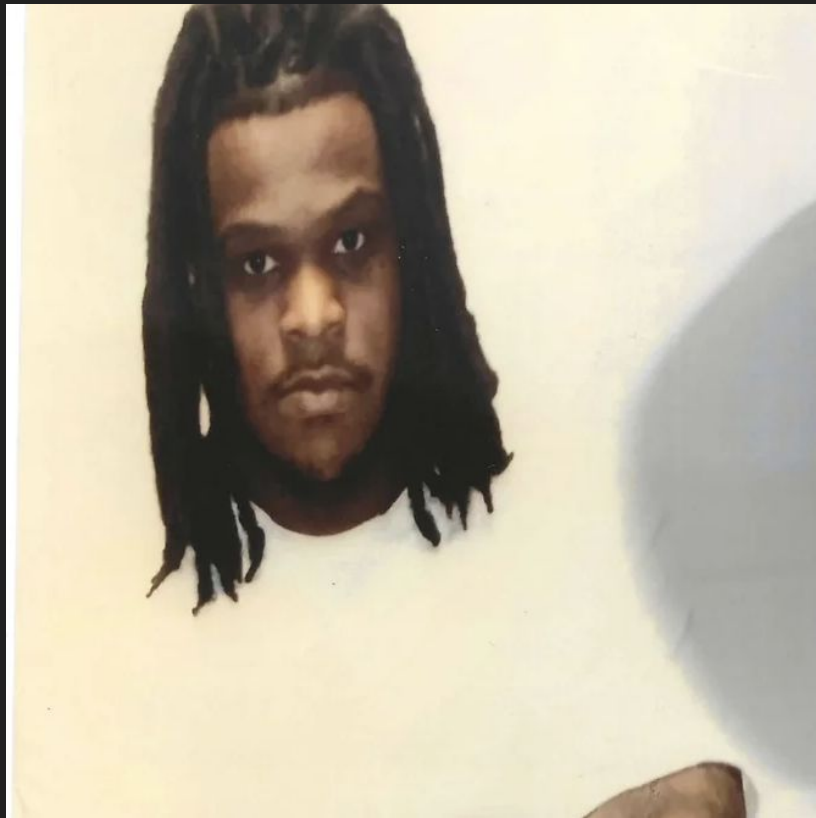
Oasis "O" Pritchett

HTP Participant



O'Dair "Powerful" Fernandes

HTP & Tudo Junto Participant



Keith "Sosa" Williams

HTP Participant



Severo "Pito" Figueroa
HTP Participant & Recruiter



Hector Arriaga
HTP Participant



Kevin "Seme" Seme
HTP Participant



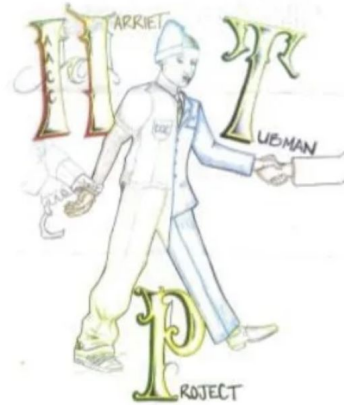
Jonas Francisque

AACC Board Member / Education Dept



Yisbert Lara
HTP Participant

STAY CONNECTED



The African American
Coalition Committee

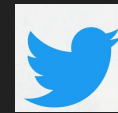
MCI Norfolk



@The.HarrietTubmanProject



Harriet Tubman Project



@The__HTP

VISIT: FreeFuquan.com/TheHarrietTubmanProject