

KAREN L. DANIEL
Center on Wrongful Convictions
Bluhm Legal Clinic
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law
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Professional Legal Experience

NORTHWESTERN PRITZKER SCHOOL OF LAW, Chicago, Illinois

Clinical Professor of Law (2009-present)
Director, Center on Wrongful Convictions (2015-2018)
Co-Director, Center on Wrongful Convictions (2014-2015)
Co-Legal Director, Center on Wrongful Convictions (2013-2014)
Clinical Assistant Professor of Law (2000-2009)

Bluhm Legal Clinic/Center on Wrongful Convictions

Responsible for teaching wrongful convictions clinic course and supervising second- and third-year law students in the representation of criminal defendants in various stages of post-judgment proceedings (including direct appeal, state post-conviction, forensic testing, federal habeas, executive clemency, certificate of innocence, and expungement), focusing on the Center on Wrongful Convictions' mission of identifying and rectifying wrongful convictions and other serious miscarriages of justice. Has directly represented 20+ clients in proceedings leading to their exoneration and/or release from prison.

PRIVATE PRACTICE, Oak Park, Illinois

Solo practitioner (1997-2000)

Provided representation to indigent criminal defendants on appeal through contracts with the Office of the State Appellate Defender; performed criminal appellate legal work in private cases.

OFFICE OF THE STATE APPELLATE DEFENDER, Chicago, Illinois

Assistant Appellate Defender (1981-1984 and 1986-1996)

Represented indigent criminal defendants in the Illinois Appellate and Supreme Courts; supervised less experienced attorneys and summer law interns.

OFFICE OF THE COOK COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER, Chicago, Illinois

Assistant Public Defender (1984)

Represented parents in abuse and neglect proceedings before the Cook County Juvenile Court.

Education

Harvard Law School, J.D. 1981
University of California at Davis, B.S. 1978

Significant Court Cases

Lead counsel or co-counsel in 20+ cases in which a wrongfully convicted individual was exonerated and/or released from prison, through various stages of litigation including state post-conviction hearings, post-conviction forensic testing, state court appeals, federal habeas corpus litigation, executive clemency proceedings, and state certificate of innocence litigation.

Representative published decisions:

Blackmon v. Pfister, 2018 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 19874 (N.D. Ill. 2018)

People v. Masterson, 2016 IL App (1st) 120385-UB

People v. Coleman, 2013 IL 113307

People v. Beaman, 229 Ill. 2d 56 (2008)

Wilson v. Firkus, 457 F. Supp. 2d 865 (N.D. Ill. 2006)

Steidl v. Walls, 267 F. Supp. 2d 919 (C.D. Ill. 2003)

Presentations

- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, *A Long Way Home: The Exoneration of Marcel Brown*, moderator (8/28/18)
- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, *Center on Wrongful Convictions Symposium Celebrating the 5th Anniversary of the Women's Project*, panel moderator (3/16/18)
- Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney, *Public Affairs Forum*, speaker (1/16/18)
- North American Society for Social Philosophy, *Annual Conference*, panelist on criminal justice in Cook County (7/13/17)
- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, *Center on Wrongful Convictions Symposium: Hot Topics in Criminal Justice: What You Need to Know*, panel moderator (3/10/17)
- Premium Nuggets Case Law Review (podcast), *People v. Lerma and the admissibility of experts on eyewitness identifications at Illinois criminal trials*, interviewee (10/26/16)
- Undisclosed (podcast), *Overview of major causes of wrongful convictions*, interviewee (5/16/16)
- Illinois Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, *Violent Crimes Symposium*, panelist on lessons learned from post-conviction work (11/20/15)
- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, *Symposium in Honor of Jane Raley*, moderator (11/12/15)
- St. Catherine-St. Lucy parish (Chicago), co-panelist and speaker with Sister Helen Prejean on criminal justice (10/17/15)
- Brooklyn District Attorney's *Wrongful Convictions Summit*, panel moderator (10/15/15)
- Glencoe Writers Theatre, panelist following the play "Doubt" (7/19/15)
- Benedictine College, *Youth Government Day*, panelist on wrongful convictions (4/21/15)
- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, *Conviction Integrity Conference*, speaker/panel moderator (10/29/14)
- Northwestern University School of Law, *Corporate Counsel Institute*, speaker (10/2/14)
- Glencoe League of Women Voters, *Women's History Month Luncheon*, speaker (3/3/14)
- American Bar Association, *Indigent Defense Summit*, panelist (2/2/14)

- National Innocence Network Conference, presenter (2010, 2013, 2016, 2018)
- Center on Wrongful Convictions Women's Project Launch Event, speaker (11/29/12)
- Inaugural Women and Innocence Conference, speaker (11/5/10)
- Northwestern University School of Law, *Tenuous Circumstances*, moderator (3/12/08)
- Northwestern University School of Law, *Waiting for Justice*, moderator (2/21/08)
- Northwestern University School of Law, *The Wrong Man*, moderator (2/16/07)
- Duquesne University 6th Annual Forensic Science & Law Conf., *When Innocence Isn't Enough: Procedural Bars to Post-Conviction Forensic Testing*, presenter (4/21/06)

Admitted to Practice

Illinois State Bar

United States Supreme Court

United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

United States District Court for the Northern and Central Districts of Illinois

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas