

# RACE, INNOCENCE, & THE END OF THE DEATH PENALTY

All Events Free & Open to Public

Mondays, 5:30-7:00 PM

Genome Sciences Building Auditorium G100,  
UNC-Chapel Hill

Series sponsored and organized by  
Professor Frank R. Baumgartner,  
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## Jan 24 - Chris Turner

Mr. Turner was one of 17 young people in Washington DC to be charged in a brutal killing, in what became known as the "8th and H" case. The 1984 crime occurred in a busy area of the city in broad daylight and yet there were no witnesses; eight young men were convicted of the same crime. Mr. Turner served 26 years in maximum security prisons throughout the federal system.

death sentence was overturned. He was released from prison after 23 years in 2009 and later worked as an investigator in capital trials and post-conviction death penalty appeals in Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. Rose, formerly the Executive Director of the Durham-based Center for Death Penalty Litigation, has been a capital litigator for 40 years, and was Mr. Griffin's appellate lawyer and supporter.

His conviction was partly the result of a scent-tracing dog and a prison "snitch" who later recanted his testimony. David now lives with his wife in Virginia, where he operates an electrical/HVAC services contracting company.

## Feb 7 - Jerome Morgan

Mr. Morgan was sentenced, at age 17, to Life in Prison without Parole for a murder at a New Orleans sweet sixteen party. After 20 years in the plantation-like Louisiana State Prison at Angola, he was released thanks to the efforts of the Innocence Project - New Orleans. He devotes his time to working with young people in his native New Orleans.

## Mar 28 - Dontae Sharpe and Ronnie Long, with Duke Innocence Project attorneys Theresa Newman and Jamie Lau

Mr. Sharpe was convicted and sentenced to life in prison for a Greenville, NC murder he did not commit. He served 24 years in prison before he was released in August 2019 based on recanted witness testimony and autopsy evidence showing that the original testimony could not have been true. Mr. Long was wrongfully convicted in Cabarrus County in 1976 and served until 2020: 44 years. Theresa Newman is Professor Emerita and Jamie Lau is Associate Clinical Professor at the Duke Law School's Wrongful Convictions Clinic; they served as attorneys for Sharpe and Long, respectively, working to overturn their convictions.

## Apr 18 - Chris Ochoa

Mr. Ochoa was wrongfully convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison in 1989 in Austin TX. He was exonerated in 2001 after the actual perpetrator confessed to the crime and DNA showed Mr. Ochoa's innocence. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 2006 and is currently the Director of legal affairs for a private company in Aztec, NM.

## Mar 7 - Kristine Bunch

Ms. Bunch, from rural Indiana, was convicted of murder by arson and served more than 17 years before she was able to demonstrate that the fire that had killed her young son in a trailer home they shared in 1995 had in fact been accidental. At the time of her arrest, she was pregnant with a son, who was taken from her and raised by her family during her wrongful incarceration. She later founded a non-profit, [www.justis4justus.org](http://www.justis4justus.org), working with other exonerees after their release from prison.

## Apr 25 - Andrea Harrison and Katie Monroe

Andrea Harrison's mother was murdered in New Jersey when Andrea was a young child in the 1980s. When the original conviction was overturned after almost two decades, the state declared the case to be "cold;" not only did the state punish the wrong person, but it has yet to reinvestigate the original case to catch the actual perpetrator. Ms. Harrison believes that victims and their families should stand up in bravery, speak out against injustice, and fight back to change the narrative of violent crime victimization and re-victimization in cases of exoneration. Katie Monroe, the daughter of an exoneree, is the Executive Director of Healing Justice, which provides services and support to those affected by wrongful convictions.

## Mar 21 - Gary Griffin and Ken Rose

Mr. Griffin served five years on Mississippi's death row before his

## Apr 4 - David Boyce

Mr. Boyce was wrongfully convicted of capital murder and robbery at age 20 after his roommate was found stabbed and killed in a motel in Newport News, VA; he served 23 years for a crime he did not commit.

For more information visit:  
[http://fbaum.unc.edu/teaching/POLI203\\_Sp22/poli203-sp22-speakers.html](http://fbaum.unc.edu/teaching/POLI203_Sp22/poli203-sp22-speakers.html)



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