



HPJC URGES COURT TO SPEEDILY RESOLVE DARIUS ELAM CASE

The Houston Peace and Justice Center (HPJC) urges a speedy resolution of the case involving Mr. Darius Elam. Mr. Elam has been in prison for 36 years for a crime which is not upheld by the evidence against him.

Mr. Elam was convicted of aggravated robbery and given a life sentence based on the testimony of jailhouse informants when he was in the Houston City Jail. The reliability of jailhouse informants has been discredited because they have an incentive to cooperate with prosecutors to get favorable treatment of their own cases.

Another piece of evidence was a piece of paper which reportedly contained his fingerprints, but that evidence was destroyed by the Houston Police Department in 1995. Furthermore, this piece of paper was not initially logged in as evidence.

Additionally, DNA testing on existing evidence has failed to point the finger at Mr. Elam as being involved in the crime for which he was convicted.

After 36 years in prison, Mr. Elam should be immediately released or retried.

For additional information, contact:

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