



INNOCENCE PROJECT OF FLORIDA, INC.

Unlock the Truth

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PRESS RELEASE

Joe Barry Carroll Family Foundation Makes Major Gift to IPF in Support of Freed Clients

Thirty-two freed Floridians will each receive \$500 to support transportation needs

Tallahassee, Florida —The Joe Barry Carroll Family Foundation made a \$16,000 gift to the Innocence Project of Florida (IPF) to establish a Transportation Fund for people in Florida who have been freed from a wrongful conviction. The fund will allow IPF to provide \$500 in transportation assistance to each of 32 clients who were wrongfully incarcerated and later freed with the help of IPF or other Innocence organizations.

Joe Barry Carroll was the No 1 overall pick, in the 1980 NBA Draft, by the Golden State Warriors, and played professional basketball for 11 years. Since his retirement from the NBA, Carroll has established himself as a wealth advisor to professional athletes, a philanthropist, artist, publisher, and an award-winning author of several books.

“We can make a difference if we try,” said Joe Barry Carroll. “I am public with my donations to Innocence Projects in hopes of encouraging others to join in correcting what is wrong. Every contribution large and small puts us closer to getting better. Donations, volunteering, and protest in the public square can help bring about freedom for wrongfully incarcerated men and women.”

The Joe Barry Carroll Family Foundation supports local and national non-profit entities such as American Civil Liberties Union, Decatur Book Festival, Georgia Innocence Project, Planned Parenthood SE, Repairers of the Breach, and WABE/NPR. Joe’s philanthropy began in the ‘80s with the creation of BroadView Foundation, which funded underserved students and communities of color.

“While freedom is the greatest gift, the transition to life after wrongful incarceration is a tough road,” said Stephanie Spurgeon, who was wrongfully convicted and spent 8.5 years incarcerated. “Financial support such as this is critical to being able to work, get medical care, and rebuild connections with loved ones we were separated from for so long.”

IPF thanks the Joe Barry Carroll Foundation for this generous gift in support of our freed clients.

*The Innocence Project of Florida (IPF) is a 501(c)(3) justice organization dedicated to finding innocent people in Florida's prisons and freeing them through the use of new evidence of actual innocence. Since 2003, IPF has freed **34 individuals** from wrongful incarceration who collectively spent more than **772 years** in prison for crimes they did not commit.*

IPF's website is www.FloridaInnocence.org.

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