

## Wrongfully convicted Research and Presentation

**Due Date: 4/29 -IF YOU NOT GOING TO BE IN CLASS ON 4/29, YOU WILL NEED TO PRESENT ON 4/18**  
*Directions: You will be choosing a court case that involved wrongful convictions. You will need to submit the name of the person who was wrongfully convicted to your teacher. No two people can research the same case!*

Choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

References

1.

2.

<b>Required Information</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Citation</b>
Background information/summary of the case. (5 points)		
What evidence was used to originally convict (3 points)		

Required Information	Response	Citation
What was the length of the original sentence? (1 point)		
How long did the person serve in jail? (1 point)		
What evidence was used to overturn the case? (2 points)		
Important dates (3 points) Incident date (date the crime was committed) Conviction date (date the suspect was originally sentenced) Exoneration date (date the person was released from jail)		
TOTAL _____/15		2 0

*\*\* R. Michelotti, A. Welch; original idea by Dr. Eric Herzog, Washington University St. Louis; adapted from a rubric by C. McWilliams, MRH HS, St. Louis, originally from Prentice Hall Biology*

## DataBlitz Requirements and Scoring Guide

A great scientist is able to communicate the results of their investigations clearly and concisely. You will carefully design one slide that summarizes your entire lab investigation. You will have 60 seconds to present your slide and share your entire investigation with the class. The presentation needs to be brief, yet contain enough detail so students can understand the nature of your laboratory investigation and what you learned.

### Your Task:

1. **Design a slide** summarizing your wrongfully convicted case. Use a Power Point slide, and submit to Mrs Simonis by the due date (FRIDAY4/29). Be sure your slide has a:
  - a. **Descriptive Title**
  - b. **Claim** (Case summary and what was the original evidence used to convict?)
  - c. **Evidence**
    - i. Why were they originally convicted (evidence used, pled guilty, eye witness testimony????)
    - ii. What new evidence was used to overturn the case?
    - iii. How long did the person serve in jail?
  - d. **Conclusion** How do you think this effected the person and what do you think their life is like now?
  - e. **Citation(s)**

**\*\* Keep in mind that everything does not need to be written out. You will be explaining the claim, results, and conclusion. This slide is meant to be visual and engaging and EASY TO FOLLOW. DO NOT INCLUDE A LOT OF TEXT.**

2. **Present your slide** to the class. You will have no more than **90 seconds** to accomplish this task. Rehearsal and efficiency is key! Try to make eye contact with your audience (do not read from your slide) and present in a *professional*, audible and well-paced manner.

Oral presentation should explicitly address:

- a. **Claim** (Case summary and what was the original evidence used to convict?)
- b. **Results** Why were they originally convicted (evidence used, pled guilty, eye witness testimony????)
  - i. What new evidence was used to overturn the case?
  - ii. How long did the person serve in jail?
- c. **Conclusion** How do you think this effected the person and what do you think their life is like now?

### Example:



## Jonathan Barr

Jonathan Barr (15) was convicted of gang rape and murder of Cateresa Matthews on 2/13/97 along with 4 of his friends (Robert Veal (15), Robert Taylor (15), Shainne Sharp (17) and James Harden (17).



### Evidence:

- There were no leads for over 10 months and then reports from a 15 year old stated that Cateresa was seen in the car of Veal and Taylor
  - Written confessions by Veal and Sharp were used to convict all 5, but these three only had an 20 year sentence where Barr had an 85 year and Taylor and Harden had an 80 year sentence
  - DNA evidence from the body of the victim only showed 1 set of DNA that didn't match any of the boys
- Conclusion: Barr served 14 years and was innocent. There were many problems with the conviction (DNA evidence didn't match and was "missing" until a court subpoena in the retrial, interrogation without lawyers or parents present, statements didn't match)**

<https://www.innocenceproject.org/cases/jonathan-barr/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

**DataBlitz Slide Presentation Rubric**

Score	Scientific Content	Slide Content	Presentation Skills
4	The <b>evidence and reasoning</b> for the conviction is clear and supports the <b>claim</b> with sufficient and appropriate data from the investigation	<b>Information</b> in the slide is <i>well-written</i> and <i>thoughtfully</i> presented in a clear, concise (limited text), organized, and <i>engaging</i> manner. <i>Appropriate</i> images are used and add to the presentation and are not a distraction. <b>Citation(s)</b> are in correct bibliographic form.	The information was <i>skillfully presented</i> (clearly and concisely) with <i>poise and grace</i> (e.g. made eye contact and did not rely on slide content) in a <i>professional, audible and well-paced</i> manner ( <i>did not exceed the 90 second time limit</i> ).
3	The <b>evidence and reasoning</b> for the conviction is reasonable and supports the <b>claim</b> , but only <i>some</i> appropriately analyzed data is used to support the claim.	<b>Information</b> in the slide is presented in a clear and organized manner, but could be more engaging (possibly an abundance of text). <i>Suitable images</i> are <i>reasonably</i> clear but contain <i>minor errors</i> (e.g. too many images or distractions) <b>Citation(s)</b> may be in <i>improper</i> bibliographic form.	The information was <i>competently presented</i> (e.g. rehearsed, attempt at eye contact, and did not simply read from the slide) in a <i>proficiently</i> audible and well-paced manner ( <i>may have exceeded the 90 second time limit</i> ).
2	The <b>evidence and reasoning</b> for the conviction is unclear and there is insufficient data from the investigation to support the <b>claim</b> .	<b>Information</b> in the slide needs <i>some</i> edits and could be written in a clearer manner. <b>Images</b> are unclear/missing and contain multiple errors (e.g. too many images or distractions). <b>Citation(s)</b> are in <i>improper</i> bibliographic form or missing.	The information was <i>satisfactorily presented</i> (e.g. moments of confusion, loss of eye contact, and reading from the slide) in a <i>somewhat</i> inaudible and disjointed manner ( <i>may have exceeded, or was significantly under, the 90 second time limit</i> ).
1	The <b>evidence and reasoning</b> for the conviction are missing and/or scientifically flawed; in addition, <i>insufficient</i> and/or <i>inaccurate data</i> from the investigation is used to support the claim.	<b>Information</b> in the slide need <i>significant edits</i> and is presented in a <i>disorganized</i> and <i>confusing</i> manner. <b>Images</b> are missing. <b>Citation(s)</b> are missing.	The information was <i>incoherently presented</i> (e.g. confusing, poor eye contact, and read from the slide) in an <i>oftentimes</i> inaudible and disjointed manner ( <i>may have exceeded, or was significantly under, the 90 second time limit</i> ).

Presentation SCORE \_\_\_\_\_/12

Research SCORE \_\_\_\_\_/15

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/27

General Comments: