## THE CONNECTICUT INNOCENCE FUND

We invite and encourage you to become more involved as we kick-off our efforts to raise funds for The Connecticut Innocence Fund.

## The Need

In Connecticut and elsewhere around the country, we have learned that our criminal justice system occasionally wrongly convicts people who are later proven innocent of the crimes for which they were imprisoned. The Connecticut Innocence Project and others are doing much to find these cases of injustice and bring them to the courts to gain the release and exoneration of these individuals. Freedom is only the first step in the restoration of their lives. We as a society must find a way to help these individuals to regain meaningful lives. To its great credit, Connecticut has enacted a system of compensation for wrongly convicted individuals. Unfortunately, that system is slow and has no mechanism to assist individuals immediately upon their release.

## The Response

For that reason, the Connecticut Bar Foundation in partnership with Community Partners in Action has approved a new undertaking — The Connecticut Innocence Fund. The Fund will provide short term financial assistance to newly released exonerees. It will be established through tax-deductible contributions, which will be selfreplenished by repayment of the advances from exonerees' future compensation awards.

This fund will be unique in the United States. There are several organizations around the country that assist exonerees with job placement and social service needs, but nowhere has a fund been established to help newly released exonerees with short-term financial needs. This is a chance for Connecticut to lead the nation in this area and establish a model to be followed by other states.

## Donate

We invite you to contribute to The Connecticut Innocence Fund. Please make your check payable to: The Connecticut Innocence Fund and mail your check together with this form to:

The Connecticut Bar Foundation 31 Pratt Street Hartford, Connecticut 06103-1631 Fax: 860-722-2497

Email: ctbf@cbf-1.org

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

Firm/Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:

All contributions are tax deductible - Please complete reverse side and mail to the address above.