



# Miscarriages of Justice Support Service

Free, confidential and impartial advice and support for survivors of wrongful convictions

RCJ Advice
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### **Miscarriages of Justice Support Service**

#### Who can we help?

We can provide advice and assistance to:

- (i) people whose cases have been reviewed by the Criminal Cases Review Commission and have been referred to the Court of Appeal for a rehearing; or,
- (ii) people who have been referred to the Court of Appeal through an out of time appeal.



#### What support can we provide?

We provide our clients with support before release, making prison visits where appropriate to assess what help they might need if they are released.

One of our advisers will attend the appeal hearing and assist the client through the discharge process.



#### **RCJ Advice**

#### What support is available after release?

After release, advice and support for resettlement is provided. Support includes:

- finding accommodation
- · establishing income / training
- · applying for National Insurance credits
- registering with a GP and accessing appropriate healthcare and counselling
- · opening a bank account and budgeting
- · support for family/relationship issues
- · finding a solicitor to deal with compensation claims

We also provide practical assistance such as writing letters, filling in forms, booking appointments and accompanying clients on visits to other services.



#### Is the service confidential and independent?

MJSS is funded by the Ministry of Justice and is run independently as part of Citizens Advice. No information about a client is passed to anyone without his or her consent.

We are based in London in the Royal Courts of Justice, but we provide an outreach service and allocate case workers at local Citizens Advice across England and Wales to clients. We also put clients in touch with other services that can provide assistance.

Please note that we can only continue to work with a client if their appeal is successful. If the appeal is unsuccessful we cannot continue to offer our service.



## What our users say about us

Advice that makes a difference

"I was treated just like anyone else, and you were very supportive to me at all times"

"The service was professional, competent and caring"

"A first class service"

"I received help when I needed it"

"My caseworker was very supportive and helped me get through this terrible ordeal. I have a lot to thank them for"