

DAVIS POLK & WARDWELL Pro Bono News

Davis Polk provides free legal services to those who cannot otherwise obtain legal representation, and we do so with the same dedication and commitment to excellence with which we represent our paying clients.

Following are descriptions of the noteworthy pro bono matters that our lawyers and legal staff have worked on during the past nine months, as well as other news about our pro bono program. For more information about our practice, please visit our website at www.dpw.com.

LITIGATION

Innocent Man Freed

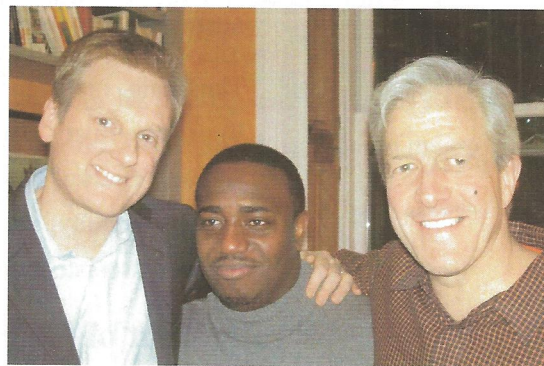
On January 30, 2007, in the culmination of a three-year-long pro bono effort, a team of Davis Polk lawyers won an acquittal on all charges in the jury trial of Lonnie Jones, a client who was charged with murder in the second degree. Lonnie first became a client of the firm in 2004, when a team of lawyers took on the appeal of his conviction of murder, a conviction which earned him a sentence of 37 years to life. In 2006, the team succeeded in their appeal. The court reversed the conviction and ordered a new trial.

The case involved a drug-related shooting in a Brooklyn housing complex in 2001. After extensive investigation, the Davis Polk team was able to prove that the prosecution's main eyewitness at the trial had fabricated her account of what happened and intentionally misidentified Lonnie as the shooter. At the new trial, three eyewitnesses had the courage to come to court and testify on behalf of our client. They established that the prosecution's main eyewitness

could not have witnessed the crime because she was in a different location at the time of the crime. The jury in the new trial deliberated for just two hours and found Lonnie innocent of the crimes charged. The verdict led to Lonnie's immediate release after having spent more than five

years in prison on the false charges. Lonnie, his wife and his many family members who were present in court were overjoyed.

Partner **Carey Dunne** and associate **Chris Withers** tried the case, and the trial team included senior counsel **James W.B. Benkard**, associates **Anna Cave**, **Dan Kahn** and **Katherine Zandy**, and legal assistants **Kimberly Brown**, **Leah Edwards**, **Claudia Pak** and **Alexandra Ragan**. Associates **John Gaffney** and **Crystal McKellar** and former associates **Keith Berger**, **Michael Garofola**, **Margery Miller Shanoff** and **Shannon Rogers Simpson** assisted with the appeal.



Associate Chris Withers (left), defendant Lonnie Jones (middle) and partner Carey Dunne (right) celebrate Mr. Jones' acquittal.