



## Seeking NY Attorneys to Assist with Post Conviction Relief

Available to Multiple Volunteers

### Project Title

Seeking NY Attorneys to Assist with Post Conviction Relief

### Scope of Work

Pro bono attorneys would assist with the post mitigation efforts on behalf of the client, which includes developing the legal strategy, drafting the argument, and representing the client at a post conviction hearing. Representation is about 12 months.

### Timing

### Jurisdiction

NY

### Contact Information

Please contact Guerby Noel ([guerby@lawfirmantiracismalliance.org](mailto:guerby@lawfirmantiracismalliance.org)) if you are interested in taking on this matter.

### Description

The YEARS Project at the Center for Appellate Litigation is dedicated to winning resentencing for people who were little more than children when they committed their crimes and received soul-crushing sentences, even life without the possibility of parole, before their lives had even really begun.

YEARS recognizes that young people, with incredible capacity to mature, are too often introduced to criminal activity after years of struggle, adversity, and peer influence, yet the details of their past were rarely

presented as they should have been to the sentencing court. The YEARS Project, therefore, challenges lengthy sentences by bringing resentencing motions in trial court on two legal theories: (1) that a client received ineffective assistance of counsel at sentencing when defense counsel failed to investigate and present mitigating evidence (i.e., information about their background, childhood, and past traumas) that would have reduced their moral blameworthiness and influenced sentence; and (2) that his or her life or *de facto* life sentence was unconstitutional as applied to a juvenile or “emergent adult,” who recent science shows is no different than a child with the potential for rehabilitation.

**Subtasks (0)**