

COLD CASE JUSTICE INITIATIVE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

Please read carefully

The Cold Case Justice Initiative (CCJI) welcomes applications from interested new and returning students for volunteer positions. The expected time commitment is 1 hour/week for first year students, and at least 3 hours/week for upper level students. Please complete the form below and also attach a current resume and a 1-2 page statement of interest. Your statement of interest should describe why you want to work with CCJI, how you have become familiarized with CCJI's work, relevant prior experience or interests, including previous experience working with CCJI, special skills that may be helpful to our work, and any other information that may be relevant to our goals and your goals. Please forward your applications not later than **Friday, September 19, 2014** by email attachment to both CCJI Co-directors McDonald and Johnson at jlmcdona@law.syr.edu and pcjohnso@law.syr.edu, or submit two hard copies to CCJI Admin Asst. Sheila Welch in Rm. 319.

NAME: _____

YEAR in SCHOOL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER(S): _____

EMAIL ADDRESS(ES): _____

VOLUNTEER POSITION PREFERENCE: Indicate your top three volunteer preferences. Please note that coordinator positions generally will be held by returning CCJI volunteers and upper level students. First year students and students who are new to CCJI generally will work in pairs or groups with more experienced students, particularly regarding case investigations.

CCJI CASE INVESTIGATION:

___ **COORDINATORS**

___ **VOLUNTEER**

CCJI currently is investigating approximately 25-30 cases – some which have multiple victims – for which we seek criminal prosecution, civil action, legislation, or other resolution. The cases originate in several states, including Mississippi & Louisiana (Miss-Lou), Florida, Georgia, Arkansas and Alabama. The cases are in various stages of investigation from initial to advanced development. All cases will require dedication, skillful research and investigation, including filing of FOIA requests; identifying family members, suspects and witnesses; interviewing relevant individuals; developing factual and legal theories of causes of death and bases of liability; and organizing case notebooks containing relevant materials on the cases, among other tasks. If you are a returning CCJI volunteer, please indicate if you want to continue working on a previously assigned case.

CCJI LEGAL and MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH:

COORDINATORS

VOLUNTEER

Some of CCJI's research needs transcend particular cases and involve specific or larger issues for which we need concentrated and coordinated research efforts. Issues along these lines may involve legal, historical and other multidisciplinary areas of research.

CCJI VICTIM IDENTIFICATION PROJECT:

COORDINATORS

VOLUNTEER

The total number of victims of Civil Rights Era racial violence has never been determined. CCJI is working to rectify this omission by identifying people who may have been victims of such violence by examining newspapers, data sources, and family and community members in regions where such violence likely occurred. This project is currently underway for Georgia and will be conducted for several other states as well.

EXTERNAL OUTREACH:

COORDINATORS

VOLUNTEER

CCJI works in collaboration with others who are engaged in similar efforts, including faculty and students at other universities, and grassroots and professional organizations. Organizing this effort and identifying potential collaborative partners would be an important contribution to CCJI's work.

CONFERENCE/EVENT PLANNING:

COORDINATORS

VOLUNTEER

CCJI typically sponsors one or two programs during the academic year, and speaks at other conferences or programs to which we are invited. Students who have experience or interest in assisting to prepare for such events would be very helpful in this regard.

COORDINATOR, COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE:

COORDINATORS

VOLUNTEER

Maintaining an informative, user-friendly and engaging website is an essential aspect of our work. Students who have excellent writing, technological, creative and communication skills in this regard can help the project maintain relevant and timely communication within the organization and to others who are interested in our work.

COORDINATOR, FUNDRAISING:

COORDINATORS

VOLUNTEER

CCJI must continually explore and apply for funding opportunities to support our work. Fundraising volunteers will help to identify such possibilities.

GENERAL VOLUNTEER: I am interested in volunteering in whatever capacity CCJI has need, including but not limited to those areas listed in the coordinator positions.