

News

Hine Quoted in *Cincinnati Enquirer* Story on Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office Initiative

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David Hine, a partner in the Vorys Cincinnati office and member of the litigation group, was quoted in a *Cincinnati Enquirer* story about the Hamilton County Prosecutor Melissa Powers' announcement regarding the launch of a new conviction integrity unit.

The story states;

"In a county battling allegations of relying on questionable informant testimony and withholding crucial evidence to secure potentially false convictions, announcing a conviction integrity unit could have assuaged area defense lawyers that the office was focused on making changes.

Instead, Powers made it clear that the recently overturned homicide cases had no bearing on the creation of the unit and, as critics feared, little is changing in the way the office approaches wrongful conviction claims.

'It completely undermines the point of CIU,' said David Hine, who represents one of the defendants whose conviction was overturned after lengthy – and ongoing – court battles.

'They aren't trying to ensure accurate convictions are earned with integrity,' Hine said. 'They are trying to find another way to put the thumb on the scale in their favor and artificially lend the appearance of credibility to ill-gotten convictions."

Hine, in a pro bono capacity, has served as counsel for now-former Ohio death row Elwood Jones. In August 2022, a Hamilton County trial court to vacates Jones' 1996 conviction and subsequent death sentence.

To read the entire story on the Cincinnati Enquirer website, click here. Note: a subscription may be required to access the article.