FALL 2007 ELECTIVE COURSE INFORMATION UMKC SCHOOL OF LAW

COURSE NAME: Wrongful Convictions 2

COURSE NUMBER: 635T

PROFESSOR: Sean O’Brien

ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITES: Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure 1, Wrongful Convictions 1

DESIRABLE PREREQUISITES: Criminal Procedure 2, Evidence, Constitutional Law

COURSE BOOKS: Case materials

METHOD OF GRADING & APPRAISAL OF STUDENT FOR GRADE: Pass/Fail

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:
A follow-up class to Wrongful Convictions I, open only to students who have completed Wrongful Convictions I. The course will involve "hands on" work with cases that have passed through the first level of screening in Wrongful Convictions I with students receiving the transcripts and case documents in addition to the briefs and opinion in the case. Students will receive these documents and report on the likelihood that an inmate is innocent and the strategies available for pursuing the claim of innocence.

COURSE CONTENT: Students will be assigned to work in teams on specific cases or groups of cases. Weekly meetings will be devoted to training and discussion of the status of ongoing case assessment and investigation.

RELEVANCY OF COURSE FOR CAREER PURPOSES: Students interested in administration of criminal justice, criminal litigation, civil rights or prisoner rights will benefit from the exposure to policy issues and practical skills learned in this class.