

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

SENATE BILL 1370

By: Rader

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to criminal convictions; creating the Conviction Integrity Unit within the Office of the Attorney General; establishing duties of unit; providing requirements for unit review; requiring the Attorney General to create a unit review application form; construing provisions; creating the Conviction Integrity Unit Revolving Fund; providing for sources of revenue; providing purposes of fund; providing for expenditures; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1089.8 of Title 22, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. There is hereby created in the Office of the Attorney General the Conviction Integrity Unit to review and make recommendations regarding criminal convictions made in district courts of this state.

B. The Conviction Integrity Unit shall:

1        1. Accept requests submitted by convicted persons for the  
2 review of a criminal conviction made in a district court of this  
3 state;

4        2. Develop criteria for determining which criminal convictions  
5 the unit will review;

6        3. Review criminal convictions to determine the existence and  
7 nature of errors made during the prosecution of the case and to  
8 ensure that the interest of justice has been served;

9        4. Refer persons to a criminal defense attorney or an  
10 organization that may be able to provide representation to the  
11 convicted person in a postconviction proceeding;

12       5. Make recommendations to the district attorney that  
13 prosecuted the case regarding the appropriate postconviction  
14 motions, writs, and other proceedings that the unit believes are  
15 necessary to ensure that the interest of justice is served;

16       6. Provide assistance in completing recommended motions, writs,  
17 or other proceedings if requested by a district attorney;

18       7. Provide assistance in conducting legal research, identifying  
19 errors, and performing root cause analysis to prevent recurrence of  
20 errors;

21       8. Consult with experts to thoroughly evaluate an application  
22 for review, when necessary; and

23       9. Analyze and examine each case in which a final ruling is  
24 made by the Court of Criminal Appeals on a writ of habeas corpus  
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1 granted for actual innocence and each case in which a commutation of  
2 punishment or pardon is based on a claim of actual innocence to  
3 determine potential issues within the criminal justice system.

4 C. The criteria developed under paragraph 2 of subsection B of  
5 this section shall prioritize convictions in which the death penalty  
6 or life imprisonment without the possibility of parole is imposed  
7 and exclude from review any matter currently pending in federal  
8 court.

9 D. To qualify for Conviction Integrity Unit review, a person  
10 shall satisfy the following conditions:

11 1. The person must have been convicted and sentenced for a  
12 felony offense in this state and the direct appeal process must be  
13 complete;

14 2. The person must present a claim of factual innocence,  
15 meaning the person played no role in the criminal act he or she was  
16 convicted of;

17 3. The claim must be supported by new, credible, and material  
18 evidence that has not been addressed on its merits in a court of  
19 this state;

20 4. The new evidence or information was not raised during  
21 postconviction appeals; and

22 5. The claim must be capable of being investigated and resolved  
23 and, if substantiated, bear directly on the issue of factual  
24 innocence.

1 E. The Conviction Integrity Unit shall not review claims solely  
2 alleging judicial errors such as unfavorable court rulings or  
3 procedural errors, those alleging that a lawful sentence is  
4 excessive or harsh, or those seeking to relitigate affirmative  
5 defenses, evidence, or information previously considered by a judge  
6 or jury.

7 F. The Attorney General shall develop a form that a convicted  
8 person may use to request review of a criminal conviction made in a  
9 district court of this state and shall make the form available on  
10 the Attorney General's official website.

11 G. No provision of this section shall be construed to create a  
12 legal right to review by the Conviction Integrity Unit. Application  
13 for review of a criminal conviction shall not toll the time to file  
14 an appeal or any postconviction motion that may be appropriate.

15 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1089.9 of Title 22, unless there  
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund  
19 for the Office of the Attorney General to be designated the  
20 "Conviction Integrity Unit Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a  
21 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall  
22 consist of all monies received by the Office of the Attorney General  
23 from the Legislature provided for the purpose of administering the  
24 Conviction Integrity Unit. All monies accruing to the credit of the

1 fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the  
2 Office of the Attorney General for the purpose provided for in this  
3 act. Expenditures from the fund shall be made upon warrants issued  
4 by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law  
5 with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise  
6 Services for approval and payment.

7 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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