

Excerpt from "Risky Business"

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By Alison Frankel

The firm's most impressive pro bono victory in the last two years was on behalf of George Rodriguez, who was convicted in 1976 of the abduction and rape of a 14-year-old girl. Working with Barry Scheck of the Innocence Project, Susman partner Mark Wawro pursued DNA and serology evidence that Rodriguez was innocent, as well as legal arguments that the prosecution had failed to turn over exculpatory evidence at his trial. On October 8, 2004 - after the Harris County Texas, district attorney acknowledged that the new scientific evidence suggested Rodriguez had not received a fair trial - the trial judge released Rodriguez on a personal bond and recommended vacating his conviction.