



Centurion Ministries

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRINCETON, NJ—December 8, 2011

Centurion Ministries, Inc. Wins Release of Wrongly Convicted Man

- ❖ Yesterday, December 7, 2011, after 29 years of false imprisonment, Barry Beach was released on his own recognizance. Beach was convicted in 1984 for the 1979 murder of Kim Nees that occurred in Poplar, Montana on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.
- ❖ This comes on the heels of Judge E. Wayne Phillips having granted Mr. Beach a new trial based on overwhelming new evidence of his innocence and the incriminating evidence identifying four other women as the killers.
- ❖ In describing the testimony given by the witnesses at the August 2011 evidentiary hearing which spurred the Judge's decision to grant a new trial as well as the release, the judge declared the testimony of these witnesses, individually and collectively, to be extremely believable; and "*although not scientific like DNA, it is nevertheless, more than sufficient objective credibility*" to allow Mr. Beach to "*pass through the actual innocence gateway.*"
- ❖ **Centurion Ministries, Inc.**, a non-profit organization devoted to vindicating and freeing the factually innocent, took on the case in 2000 and spent 12 years reinvestigating and litigating Mr. Beach's case. Joining Centurion Ministries in the mission to vindicate Mr. Beach are attorneys **Peter Camiel** of Seattle and **Terry Toavs** of Montana.
- ❖ The struggle is not yet over because the Montana State Attorney General has decided to appeal the judge's reversal of Mr. Beach's conviction for this 33 year old murder to the Montana State Supreme Court.
- ❖ This case is another of the all too frequent convictions of the innocent based on a false confession extracted by law enforcement in their zeal to convict someone for odious violent crimes so that they can look good to the public and to each other.
- ❖ For additional information see our website at <http://www.centurionministries.org/cases/barry-beach/> or contact **Jim McCloskey** at **609-921-0334**.

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