

A few years ago, former Wisconsin cop Evan Zimmerman was cleared of a murder charge that led to a false conviction and three years in prison.

The La Crosse attorney who helped Zimmerman clear his name is happy to see state lawmakers propose a bill that would offer more money to the wrongly convicted. Keith Belzer says Zimmerman had many strikes against him as an ex-con trying to return to society, including having his court record displayed on the C-CAP state website. Evan Zimmerman died of cancer in 2007, only two years after his release. Existing rules only allow the falsely convicted to get five thousand dollars a year for up to three years. The new bill would raise that to a maximum of 50-thousand dollars for every year the prisoner had been locked up.