



**CIVIL RIGHTS AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROJECT
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
YEAR END REPORT 2013**

The Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project (CRRJ) at Northeastern University School works with lawmakers, lawyers, the families of victims of racial homicides, activists, researchers, and journalists to redress the failures of the criminal justice system in the mid-twentieth century. We pursue scholarly research and remedial measures, including memorialization projects, truth commissions, and law reform. We maintain the most comprehensive archive on racial homicides in the country, with files that include the records of law enforcement agencies and civil rights organizations, court documents, witness statements, photographs, and oral history.

In 2014 we opened files in thirty racial killings from the 1940s. We completed our work on the little-known murder of a voting rights martyr in Georgia, and pursued remedies in two Louisiana lynchings. We hosted a legislative workshop in Birmingham, and we met with scholars, archivists and civic leaders in Mobile, Montgomery, Fairfield, Atlanta, Labadieville, Hattiesburg, Natchez, Nacogdoches, and Wilson, NC. We initiated promising and exciting new programs. In one such program, we are expanding our mission to address the current civil rights crisis facing ex-offenders and other persons with criminal histories. We are collaborating with the HIRE Network (Helping Individuals with criminal records Reenter through Employment) to support and encourage legislators and other regulators to eliminate unfair barriers to employment. Another new program, to be launched this month, engages high school students in cold-case investigations using our methodology.

Our events calendar for the past year featured Toni Morrison, who addressed a University-wide audience at our annual Martin Luther King commemoration in January, and Angela Davis, who, in September, brought our program to a West Coast audience on the fiftieth anniversary of the Birmingham Church bombing.

Case Watch

From the Docket

The Alabama Docket

In 2013, CRRJ took on twelve new cases from the state of Alabama. **John Jackson**, 30 years old, was killed by a police officer, Hubert Alexander, in Fairfield in 1941. Jackson was standing in line with a girlfriend waiting to enter a movie theatre when the officer approached and asked why he was laughing.