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Breaking News

## Innocence Project to sponsor DNA workshop today

**THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER**

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A workshop on post-conviction DNA testing is being held at the University of Illinois Springfield's Brookens Auditorium from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today. Registration is still open to the public.

The Downstate Illinois Innocence Project housed at UIS is sponsoring the workshop on introducing Touch DNA to Illinois courtrooms. The program features the defense team of Timothy Masters, convicted in 1999 of murder in 1987 in Fort Collins, Colo.

His case was the first exoneration in the country involving Touch DNA, a testing method developed in Europe. CBS's "48 Hours Mystery" featured the Masters case in the program "Drawn to Murder."

The Downstate Innocence Project is looking at Touch DNA as a vehicle to test pieces of evidence in the 1989 Sangamon County murder of Melissa Koontz. The group hopes to use the tests in order to overturn the 1991 murder conviction of Thomas McMillen.

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