

CIVIL RIGHTS

CHICAGO BASED CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY NENYE E. UCHE SECURES SIGNIFICANT SETTLEMENT

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In a significant victory, three member towns of the Cook County Major Crime Task Force settled, for a significant monetary amount, a lawsuit relating to the wrongful imprisonment of Attorney Uche's client.

In August, 2016, Attorney Uche, acting as lead attorney, along with the law firm of [Erickson and Oppenheimer](#), secured a significant settlement from Cook County, the Village of Arlington Heights and the Village of Harwood Heights, on behalf of a client alleging various constitutional violations.

The case was precipitated by a murder which

occurred in 2013. During the investigation of the murder, detectives from the Cook County Major Case Assistance Team, which, comprised of numerous police agencies within Cook County, arrested Attorney Uche's client who at the time was a nineteen-year-old college student. There was no physical evidence connecting Attorney Uche's nineteen-year-old client to the scene of the murder.

In spite of the lack of evidence, detectives engaged in hours-long aggressive interrogative techniques, including an illegal ride-along and various threats which ultimately culminated with a fabricated and coerced confession.

Attorney Uche's client was ultimately charged in the murder and spent nearly 17 months in pre-trial custody. The murder charges were later [dropped](#) by prosecutors.

Attorney Uche filed a lawsuit alleging Fifth Amendment violations and malicious prosecution. After close to 3 years of litigation and numerous depositions, the Village of Harwood Heights, The Village of Arlington Heights as well as Cook County, settled the case for a significant sum.

Though, the trauma of this event is significant to the client, the significant amount will no doubt assist the client in starting his life again.

The Village of Arlington Heights was represented by [Holland & Knight LLP](#); The Village of Harwood Heights was represented by [Johnson and Bell](#); and Cook County was represented by the [Cook County State's Attorney's Office—Civil Actions Bureau](#).

Attorney Nenye E. Uche is a former Chicago prosecutor who received his legal education from the University of Wisconsin Law School. As a prosecutor, he prosecuted in excess of one thousand criminal cases and developed a comprehensive understanding of the criminal justice system. He is a member of the

Illinois Bar, as well as the Federal Trial Bar for the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Illinois. Mr. Uche's extensive experience as a trial attorney, criminal defense attorney and a former prosecutor, allows him to provide the highest quality legal representation for clients in the areas of criminal and DUI defense, Civil Rights and Personal Injury.

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