

From: Law Offices of Victor J. Garo
10 High Street, Suite 14
Medford, MA 02155 781-391-1400

Biography - Victor J. Garo

Mr. Garo was born and raised in Medford, Massachusetts, where he still resides and maintains his law office. He is a graduate of Medford High School, Boston University College of Business Administration and the Boston University School of Law.

As an attorney with an active practice, Mr. Garo met Joseph Salvati in 1977, and agreed to take his case regarding a possible commutation. Mr. Salvati had been convicted in 1968 in a high profile murder case, and was serving a life sentence. During his representation of Mr. Salvati, Mr. Garo became convinced that he was indeed wrongly convicted, and proceeded to prove his client's innocence. That process culminated in a dismissal of all charges against Mr. Salvati on January 30, 2001, when exculpatory evidence was handed over to the authorities by the Justice Task Force which was investigating the FBI's mishandling of informants in Boston.

Mr. Garo's parents were born into less than ideal circumstances; his Mother was orphaned at a very early age, and his Father lived in abject poverty as a child. They were determined to make a better life for their two children, and raised them with a strong sense of family values. When Mr. Garo graduated from Law School and passed the bar, his Mother and Father reminded him that he was now in a position to help people, and he has always conducted his professional and personal life with that advice in mind. Mr. Garo has worked pro-bono on this case for approximately 30 years, and has received many prestigious awards for his involvement in the Salvati case. His clients' dramatic story has been the subject of several segments on the 60 Minutes television program, as well as other national news reports. He is honored to have participated in several criminal justice seminars, and has been a guest speaker at law schools across the country, as well as at many legal association functions. Mr. Garo has testified in Washington several times before the Congressional Committee on Government Reform concerning the miscarriage of justice in the Salvati matter.

On Tuesday, February 27, 2007, Mr. Garo gave his closing argument in the civil trial of Mr. Salvati and other plaintiffs against the U.S. Government. On July 26, 2007, a decision was rendered by the Court in favor of the Plaintiffs. The amount of \$31,000,000.00 awarded by Federal Judge Nancy Gertner in the Salvati trial is the largest award given to a family in a wrongful imprisonment case in U.S. history.

Mr. Garo is an active member of several local Bar Associations, and he continues to work closely with the Boston University School of Law as a Lifetime Member of the Alumni Association. In 1985, he was honored to receive the Silver Shingle Award for Distinguished Service to the Law School.
