

DIMETRIOUS WOODS

Our firm has continuously represented Mr. Woods for more than a decade in challenging his drug conviction and his sentence of 25 years imprisonment without the possibility of parole that was imposed because he had a prior drug conviction. On January 1, 2017, the prior/persistent drug offender statute that mandated non-parolable sentences for drug offenses was repealed. Our firm, after the Department of Corrections refused to apply this repeal retroactively, filed a Declaratory Judgment action against the Department of Corrections in Cole County Circuit Court. The Circuit Court ruled in Mr. Woods' favor and ordered that he be given immediate parole eligibility. In March of 2018, after a parole hearing, Mr. Woods was released on parole and is living in the St. Louis area. However, Mr. Woods' case has been appealed by the Missouri Attorney General and a final decision is expected by the end of the year.