



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety

Parole Board

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Josh Wall
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DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

BRUCE WILBORN

W41085

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing after Revocation

DATE OF HEARING: April 10, 2012

DATE OF DECISION: September 28, 2012

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Cesar Archilla, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Shelia Dupre, Ina Howard-Hogan, Roger Michel, Lucy Soto-Abbe, Josh Wall

DECISION OF THE BOARD: Parole is denied with a review in five years. The decision is unanimous.

I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Bruce Wilborn, at age 20, stabbed Stanley Weinstock, age 54, to death on October 23, 1983 in Springfield. Wilborn and Robert Gonzalez signed a pact pledging to murder the victim for financial gain. Wilborn was named as the executor and beneficiary of the victim's estate. Wilborn and Gonzalez lured the victim to a parking lot where one or both of them stabbed the victim more than 30 times. Springfield Police arrested Wilborn on October 27, 1983.

At trial, Wilborn pled guilty to second-degree murder after the close of the Commonwealth's case. Gonzalez also pled guilty to second-degree murder at the same time. Wilborn filed a motion to withdraw his guilty plea. The motion was denied in 1999 and the Massachusetts Appeals Court affirmed the denial in 2001. The Appeals Court decision states that the Commonwealth presented evidence at trial that Wilborn inflicted the thirty stab wounds. Gonzalez received parole in 2002 but was returned as a violator less than a year later. He remains incarcerated.

II. PAROLE HEARING ON JANUARY 31, 2012

Bruce Wilborn informed the Board that he did not stab Mr. Weinstock. He stated that he planned and intended the murder but his co-defendant stabbed the victim while he watched. Concerning his parole violations, Wilborn admitted that prior to his release from custody he and Richard Zagranski agreed to a plan to have Wilborn alter Zagranski's computer so they could communicate without anyone knowing. In accordance with this plan, Wilborn installed a wireless USB modem and new keyboard to Zagranski's computer. The computer was mailed to Zagranski at the Bay State Correctional Center where he is currently serving a life sentence for first degree murder. While on parole, Wilborn continued to associate with Zagranski via telephone conversation and written communication knowing that it would be a violation of his parole.

The inmate is now 49 and has been incarcerated for approximately 27 years. He currently is a facilitator in the Alternatives to Violence program at MCI Concord. He has nine disciplinary reports, with the last one occurring in 2000. Since his return to custody he has completed Alternatives to Violence, Creative Writing, and BEACON program. He participates in the Emmaus Correspondence School.

The inmate's friend, Robert David, testified in support of parole. Hampden County Assistant District Attorney Dianne Dillon testified in opposition to parole.

III. DECISION

Bruce Wilborn violated his parole when he continued to associate with Richard Zagranski and altered Zagranski's computer with hidden internet capabilities. These actions are serious violations of parole conditions and Department of Correction rules. These actions follow the pattern of manipulative and deceptive behavior that he displayed in the victim's murder and while incarcerated. Wilborn's disciplinary history reflects this disturbing pattern of deception: lying to staff, forging a Barber's apprentice license, and willfully placing contraband in the cells of other inmates. Wilborn made plans to violate his parole prior to leaving the institution. At his hearing, he tried to minimize the alterations made to computer, showing little concern for the many security risks created by an inmate's secret internet access. Wilborn has more work to do to understand the causative factors of his manipulative and deceptive behavior. Parole Board members concluded that Wilborn has not reached the point where he will not re-offend if released and his release is not compatible with the welfare of society. Parole is denied with a review in five years.

I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing.



Timothy V. Dooling, General Counsel

9/28/12

Date