

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*



PAROLE BOARD

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Chair

Kevin Keefe
Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

**ANGELA JEFFERSON
F34801**

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: April 12, 2022

DATE OF DECISION: July 11, 2022

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Colette Santa¹

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On October 23, 1991, after a jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, Angela Jefferson was convicted of the first-degree murder of 22-year-old Anthony Deas. She was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. On January 31, 2022, Ms. Jefferson's conviction was reduced to second-degree murder, and therefore became eligible for parole.

Ms. Jefferson appeared before the Parole Board for an initial hearing on April 12, 2022. She was represented by Attorney Eva Jellison. This was Ms. Jefferson's first appearance before the Board. The entire video recording of Ms. Jefferson's April 12, 2022, hearing is fully incorporated by reference to the Board's decision.

DECISION OF THE BOARD: After careful consideration of all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, the age of the inmate at the time of offense, criminal record, institutional record, the inmate's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing or in written submissions to the Board, we conclude by a unanimous vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole.

Reserve to New Beginnings Reentry Services House. Ms. Jefferson was convicted of first-degree murder in the death of Anthony Deas. She became parole eligible on January 31, 2022, when she was resentenced to second degree murder. She earned her bachelor's degree from Boston University and earned her cosmetology license. She has significant programming well

¹ Chair Moroney was recused.

before she became eligible for parole. She participated in Inside Out, Restorative Justice, and the Vet Dogs program. She has also addressed her trauma history while incarcerated. The Board considered the expert evaluation of Dr. Durand. Given the long period of incarceration, she will benefit from the structured environment of a program.

The applicable standard used by the Board to assess a candidate for parole is: "Parole Board Members shall only grant a parole permit if they are of the opinion that there is a reasonable probability that, if such offender is released, the offender will live and remain at liberty without violating the law and that release is not incompatible with the welfare of society."

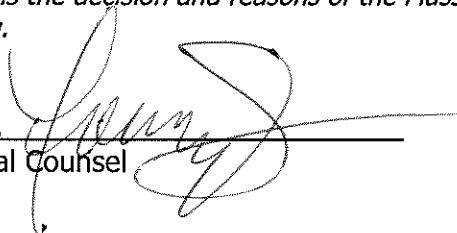
In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Ms. Jefferson's institutional behavior, as well as her participation in available work, educational, and treatment programs during the period of her incarceration. The Board has also considered a risk and needs assessment and whether risk reduction programs could effectively minimize Ms. Jefferson's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Ms. Jefferson's case, the Board is of the opinion that Ms. Jefferson is rehabilitated and merits parole at this time.

Special Conditions: Reserve to New Beginnings Reentry Services House for eight months; Waive work two weeks; Curfew must be at home between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; ELMO-electronic monitoring; Supervise for drugs; testing in accordance with agency policy; Supervise for liquor abstinence; testing in accordance with agency policy; Report to assigned MA Parole Office on day of release; No contact with victim's family; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition and depression.

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

/s/ Pamela Murphy p.p.

Pamela Murphy, General Counsel



7/11/22

Date