



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

BENJAMIN DREYER
W93438

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: November 19, 2020

DATE OF DECISION: June 28, 2021

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Gloriann Moroney, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Karen McCarthy¹

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On December 11, 2008, after a jury trial in Plymouth County Superior Court, Benjamin Dreyer was found guilty of second-degree murder of 27-year-old Jody Martyniak. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with the possibility of parole.

Mr. Dreyer appeared before the Parole Board for an initial hearing on November 19, 2020 and was represented by Boston College Law students Gillian Veralli and Abygail Krittta. The entire video recording of Mr. Dreyer's November 19, 2020 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 unanimous vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole. Reserve to Interstate Compact New York after six months in lower security. Mr. Dreyer served approximately 15 years for the murder of Jody Martyniak in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Mr. Dreyer accepts full responsibility and appears remorseful for the loss of life. Mr. Dreyer has availed himself to all recommended treatment and programming, has maintained employment and a positive adjustment. Release after a gradual transition meets the legal standard. Mr. Dreyer needs to demonstrate that he can be successful in a lesser restrictive environment.

¹ Board Member Colette Santa was unavailable.

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

Special Conditions: Reserve Interstate Compact - New York; Approved home plan before release; Waive work for 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 substance abuse evaluation, adhere to plan; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition.

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



Pamela Murphy, General Counsel



Date