

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF  
BRIAN JENNINGS  
W51481

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Review Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** December 16, 2021

**DATE OF DECISION:** June 14, 2022

**PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:** Gloriann Moroney, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Colette Santa

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On November 15, 1991, after a jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, Brian Jennings was convicted of second-degree murder in the death of 29-year-old Christopher Tirella and sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole.

Mr. Jennings appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on December 16, 2021 and was represented by Attorney John Mateus. This was Mr. Jennings' third appearance before the Board having been denied in 2005 and 2019. He postponed his 2010 and 2015 hearings. The entire video recording of Mr. Jennings' December 16, 2021 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 Long Term Residential Program (LTRP) after completion of six months in lower security. Mr. Jennings, at 18-years-old, stabbed and killed Christopher Tirella. He has been incarcerated for over thirty years. During his incarceration he has satisfied all program requirements and accepted the recommendations of the Board. He is currently involved in the MAT/MOUD program at the facility and has demonstrated commitment to maintaining his sobriety. He returned to the Correctional Recovery Academy and became a mentor in the program.

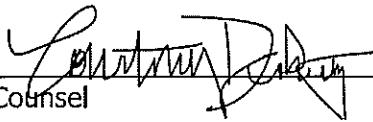
The applicable standard used by the Board to assess a candidate for parole is: "Parole Board Members shall only grant a parole permit if they are of the opinion that there is a reasonable probability that, if such offender is released, the offender will live and remain at liberty without violating the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

In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Mr. Jennings' 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. Jennings' risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Jennings' case, the Board is of the opinion that Mr. Jennings is rehabilitated and merits parole at this time.

**Special Conditions:** Reserve to Long Term Residential Program (LTRP) – must complete; Waive work for two weeks or program; Curfew must be at home between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; ELMO-electronic monitoring; Must take prescribed medication; 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 a substance abuse evaluation to include evaluation for MAT/MOUD by an addiction specialist, abide by recommendations; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition and opioid abuse disorder; AA/NA at least 3 times/week; Mandatory – adhere to recommendation of service providers; Mandatory – follow recommended treatment of any providers.

*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



6/13/22  
Date