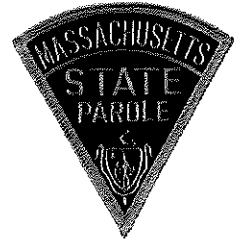




*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*

**PAROLE BOARD**

*12 Mercer Road*  
*Natick, Massachusetts 01760*



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*Telephone: (508)-650-4500*

*Facsimile: (508)-650-4599*

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*Executive Director*

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**CARLO SINISCALCHI**

**W62992**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** **Review Hearing**

**DATE OF HEARING:** **May 9, 2024**

**DATE OF DECISION:** **August 20, 2024**

**PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:**<sup>1</sup> Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sarah B. Coughlin, Tina M. Hurley, James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz

**VOTE:** Parole is granted to a Long-Term Residential Program following 9 months in lower security.<sup>2</sup>

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:** On July 17, 1997, following a jury trial in Hampden Superior Court, Carlo Siniscalchi was convicted of murder in the second degree for the death of Thomas Henson. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, he also received concurrent sentences of 12-15 years for breaking and entering in the nighttime with intent to commit a felony and 4-5 years for unlawful possession of a firearm. Parole was denied following an initial hearing in 2012. Mr. Siniscalchi postponed his review hearings scheduled in 2017 and 2022. On May 9, 2024, Mr. Siniscalchi appeared before the Board for a review hearing. He was not represented by counsel. The Board's decision fully incorporates, by reference, the entire video recording of Mr. Siniscalchi's May 9, 2024 hearing.

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On August 11, 1995, Carlo Siniscalchi, Emmanuel Mavredakis, and John Baladinakis plotted a robbery at a Kentucky Fried Chicken in West Springfield during which the manager, 35-year-old Thomas Henson, was shot and killed. Mr. Baladinakis' brother, Eddie, worked at the restaurant and had keys to get in, though he declined to participate in the crime.

<sup>1</sup> Board Members Bonner and Coleman were not present for the hearing, but reviewed the recording of the hearing and the record prior to participating in the vote.

<sup>2</sup> One Board Member voted to deny parole with a review in three years from the date of the hearing.

Prior to leaving for the restaurant, Mr. Siniscalchi supplied Mr. Baladinakis with a .38 caliber firearm (Eddie Baladinakis had given it to him in the weeks prior to the incident). He drove to the restaurant and waited in the car while Mr. Baladinakis and Mr. Mavredakis went inside to look for a safe. They found the safe open and, shortly thereafter, Mr. Henson walked back into the restaurant after having made a night deposit. Either Mr. Baladinakis or Mr. Mavredakis shot Mr. Henson five times, killing him. Mr. Henson was shot twice in the head, twice in the torso, and once in the arm. They emptied the safe and the cash register, stealing approximately \$1,000 from the restaurant. After they were finished, Mr. Siniscalchi picked up the other men, drove them to Mr. Mavredakis' house, took a portion of the proceeds, and helped devise a plan to cover-up the crime.

The next day, officers from the West Springfield Police Department discovered Mr. Henson's body. Upon further investigation, the store was found to be in the exact condition in which the store manager would have left it when securing the building at the end of the shift. There was no sign of forced entry. Instead, the appropriate lights were turned off or on and the doors were locked or, where applicable, chained. Between August 12 and August 13, Carlo Siniscalchi, John Baladinakis, and Emmanuel Mavredakis each gave multiple oral and written statements to the police about the incident before being charged with the murder.

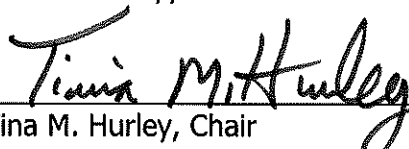
**APPLICABLE STANDARD:** Parole "[p]ermits shall be granted only if the Board is of the opinion, after consideration of a risk and needs assessment, that there is a reasonable probability that, if the prisoner is released with appropriate conditions and community supervision, the prisoner will live and remain at liberty without violating the law and that release is not incompatible with the welfare of society." M.G.L. c. 127, § 130. In making this determination, the Board takes into consideration an incarcerated individual's institutional behavior, their participation in available work, educational, and treatment programs during the period of incarceration, and whether risk reduction programs could effectively minimize the incarcerated individual's risk of recidivism. M.G.L. c. 127, § 130. The Board also considers all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, the age of the incarcerated individual at the time of the offense, the criminal record, the institutional record, the incarcerated individual's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing and/or in written submissions to the Board (if applicable).


**DECISION OF THE BOARD:** This was Mr. Siniscalchi's second appearance before the Board. He has served nearly 29 years of a life sentence. Mr. Siniscalchi was 21-years-old at the time of the offense. This is his first incarceration and only conviction. The Board has considered his role in the offense as a joint venturer, who was the driver, and not present for the robbery or homicide. Both of his co-defendants have been paroled. Mr. Siniscalchi has maintained consistent employment and engaged in significant vocational skills training. He has also invested in rehabilitative programming, including Restorative Justice, Companion Program, Jericho Circle, Cognitive Skills, and prison fellowship. The Board considered testimony in opposition to parole from the victim's sister and family friend, as well as an Assistant District Attorney. The Board concludes that Mr. Siniscalchi has demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** Waive work for Long-Term Residential Program; Curfew: must be at home between 10PM and 6AM for 6 months; Electronic monitoring for 6 months; 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 or association with gangs/gang activities; No contact with victim(s)' family; Must have substance abuse evaluation and must comply with recommended treatment plan; Counseling for transition, adjustment, anxiety; Long-term residential program.

*I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above-referenced hearing. Pursuant to G.L. c. 127, § 130, I further certify that all voting Board Members have reviewed the applicant's entire criminal record. This signature does not indicate authorship of the decision.*

  
Tina M. Hurley, Chair

  
Date