

Charles D. Baker Governor

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Lieutenant Governor

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Secretary

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

## PAROLE BOARD

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Gloriann Moroney Chair

**DECISION** 

IN THE MATTER OF

**CARLOS CARBONIC** 

W61745

**TYPE OF HEARING:** 

**Review Hearing** 

**DATE OF HEARING:** 

June 19, 2018

DATE OF DECISION:

June 4, 2019

**PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:** Paul M. Treseler, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Colette Santa, Lucy Soto-Abbe

**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 that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole.¹ Parole is granted to a long- term residential treatment program after six months in lower security with special conditions.

#### I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On December 5, 1996, Carlos Carbonic pleaded guilty to second degree murder. He was subsequently sentenced in Essex Superior Court to life in prison with the possibility of parole. The victim of this offense was Jonathan Enslow.

On April 23, 1995, the Gloucester Fire Department responded to 33 Mount Vernon Street to fight a house fire. Upon arrival, they witnessed Mr. Enslow, one of the occupants of the third floor, on the ground, suffering from severe head trauma. He had jumped from the third floor. Another resident from the third floor was rescued after sustaining second degree burns over 40% of her body. Investigators interviewed two individuals who said that Mr. Carbonic had admitted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> One Board Member voted to deny parole with a review in three years.

to setting the fire in retribution for being evicted by Mr. Enslow, as well as being beaten by another resident of the building. When questioned by investigators, Mr. Carbonic admitted that he had set the fire which resulted in the death of Mr. Enslow.

### **II. PAROLE HEARING ON JUNE 19, 2018**

Carlos Carbonic, now 45-years-old, appeared before the Parole Board on June 19, 2018, for a review hearing. He was not represented by counsel. Mr. Carbonic was released from custody on January 19, 2012, after being granted parole on April 15, 2010. He was returned to custody, however, on August 10, 2017 and revocation was affirmed on January 23, 2018. Mr. Carbonic appealed the revocation, but the appeal was denied on March 14, 2018. In his opening statement to the Board, Mr. Carbonic apologized both to his supporters and to the Board for "misus[ing] the privilege of parole." He acknowledged that after several years of living in the community, he had grown "complacent" and was not truthful with his parole officer. Since his re-incarceration, he realizes that he is serving a life sentence for his crime, regardless of his custody status.

When questioned about the governing offense, Mr. Carbonic told the Board that he was angry with the occupants of the building and wanted to "smoke them out" in order to frighten them. He admitted that he did not take the time to think through the potential harm in setting a fire. Moreover, he said that he was an angry young man who had a "punk attitude" and thought that "the world owed" him. When Board Members raised their concern regarding Mr. Carbonic's previous issues on parole, he admitted that he acted in a deceptive manner to his supporters and parole officer. Since most of his deception arose out of his romantic relationships, Mr. Carbonic told the Board that he now recognizes his approach to those relationships was unhealthy and grounded in his low self-esteem. When questioned as to what has changed since his reincarceration, Mr. Carbonic said he now fully understands that a life sentence means that rules will always apply to him. He detailed the steps he took to repair the trust he broke, including the rebuilding of relationships with his supporters from the Bethany House Ministry. He has become program-involved and has remained disciplinary report free. Mr. Carbonic expressed his desire to use his history to help others and become a productive member of society.

The Board considered the testimony of Mr. Carbonic's mentor in support of parole. The Board also considered the testimony and written submission of Essex County Assistant District Attorney Elin Graydon in opposition to parole.

#### III. DECISION

The Board is of the opinion that Carlos Carbonic has demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. Mr. Carbonic has had a positive adjustment since re-incarceration. He completed many meaningful programs, including Dialectical Behavior Therapy and Study of the Four Agreements, and attended mental health counseling/groups. He has remained disciplinary report free. Mr. Carbonic appears motivated and invested in living a sober and positive lifestyle. He was under parole supervision for nearly 6 years without incident prior to return.

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." 120 C.M.R. 300.04. In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Mr. Carbonic's institutional behavior, as well as his participation in available work, educational, and treatment programs during the period of his incarceration. The Board also considered a risk and needs assessment and whether risk reduction could effectively minimize Mr. Carbonic's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Carbonic's case, the Board is of the opinion that Mr. Carbonic merits parole at this time. Parole is granted to a long-term residential program after six months in lower security with special conditions.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** Waive work for 2 weeks; Must be at home between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am; Electronic monitoring; Must take prescribed medication, if prescribed; 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 [C.L.] — former girlfriend; Must have counseling for anxiety disorder; AA/NA at least 3 times/week; and enter a long-term residential treatment program.

I certif	y that this is the de	ecision and reason	s of the Massa	achusetts Parole	Board regarding the
apove referenc	ea nearıng. Pursuan	t to G.L. c. 127, §	130, I further	certify that all vo	pting Board Members
nave reviewed	the applicant's enti	re criminal record.	This signature	e does not indica	te authorship of the
decision.					
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Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

Date