



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

**PAROLE BOARD**

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**Tina M. Hurley**  
*Chair*

**Daniel Nakamoto**  
*Acting Executive Director*

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**CHARLES MILES**

**W86702**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Initial Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** March 21, 2023

**DATE OF DECISION:** June 8, 2023

**PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:** Tina Hurley, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Dr. Maryanne Galvin, James Kelcourse, Colette Santa

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On December 2, 2005, after a jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, Charles Miles was convicted of the second-degree murder of Edward Paul Thompson and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, he was sentenced to a consecutive term of four to five years in state prison for unlawful possession of a firearm.

Mr. Miles appeared before the Parole Board for an initial hearing on March 21, 2023. He was represented by student attorneys from Harvard University Law School. The entire video recording of Mr. Miles's March 21, 2023, 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 not a suitable candidate for parole.

The Board is of the opinion that Charles Miles has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. Mr. Miles was convicted in 2005 for the December 2001 murder of Edward Paul Thompson. Mr. Miles denies committing Mr. Thompson's murder, although he acknowledges he arranged the drug transaction meeting between Mr. Thompson and others the night of the murder. Mr. Miles has a troubling criminal history. His institutional adjustment has been poor, including guilty findings for fighting,

lying to staff, and stalking. Some of the guilty findings resulted in Disciplinary Detention Unit placements. Mr. Miles obtained his Hi-Set in 2014 and has participated in some rehabilitative, educational, and vocational programming. The Board needs Mr. Miles to demonstrate a longer period of incident-free behavior. He should commit himself fully to rehabilitative programming, especially those which address violence and victim empathy, and complete any programs he starts.

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. Miles' 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. Miles' risk of recidivism. After applying this standard to the circumstances of Mr. Miles' case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Charles Miles is not yet rehabilitated and, therefore, does not merit parole at this time.

Mr. Miles' next appearance before the Board will take place in four years from the date of this hearing. During the interim, the Board encourages him to continue working towards his full rehabilitation.

*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

6/8/23  
Date