



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

DAMIEN LOCKHART

W64441

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: March 9, 2023

DATE OF DECISION: April 11, 2023

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On September 2, 1997, Damien Lockhart pleaded guilty to the second-degree murder of 17-year-old Kimberly Jane Bolton and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, he pleaded guilty to attempted rape and was sentenced to a concurrent term of 9 to 12 years in prison.¹

Mr. Lockhart appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on March 9, 2023. He was represented by Attorney Kim Jones. Mr. Lockhart was denied parole after his initial hearing in 2013 and after his review hearing in 2018. The entire video recording of Mr. Lockhart's March 9, 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 Damien Lockhart has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. In August 1996,

¹ Both sentences were ordered to run consecutively to an unrelated armed robbery sentence he was serving at the time of this conviction.

Mr. Lockhart murdered 17-year-old Kimberly Jane Bolton during an attempted rape. The Board considered the forensic evaluation of Dr. Frank DiCataldo. Mr. Lockhart completed the Sex Offender Treatment Program in 2017. The Board finds that he has benefited from the Sex Offender Treatment Program insofar as there has been therapeutic gain, but he needs to do more work on his history of psychological and physical coercion of women. The Board notes he recently began mental health management counseling. He should use this as a tool to process his own trauma as well as his issues with women. The Board encourages him to pursue any programming for anger management. Mr. Lockhart should also engage in AA/NA.

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

Mr. Lockhart's next appearance before the Board will take place in two 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.


Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

April 11, 2023
Date