



Charles D. Baker  
Governor

Karyn Polito  
Lieutenant Governor

Thomas A. Turco III  
Secretary

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

**PAROLE BOARD**

*12 Mercer Road*  
*Natick, Massachusetts 01760*

*Telephone # (508) 650-4500*

*Facsimile # (508) 650-4599*



Gloriann Moroney  
Chair

Kevin Keefe  
Executive Director

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**DANIEL PINA**

**W82508**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Review Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** October 24, 2019

**DATE OF DECISION:** March 26, 2020

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

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On October 2, 2003, in Suffolk Superior Court, Mr. Pina pleaded guilty to the second-degree murder of 27-year-old Domingo Mejia and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On the same date, he pleaded guilty to armed robbery which was placed on file.

Mr. Pina, now 45-years-old, appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on October 24, 2019 and was represented by law students Moriah Preston and Sarah Odion Esene from the Northeastern University School of Law. This was Mr. Pina's second appearance before the Board, having been denied parole in 2015. The entire video recording of Mr. Pina's October 24, 2019 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 decision that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole. Reserve to ICE detainer. Mr. Pina has been ordered deported to Cape Verde. He has served 19 years for the murder of Domingo Mejia. He has fully invested in his rehabilitation. It is the opinion of the Board that release would not be incompatible with the welfare of society.

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. Pina'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. Pina's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Pina's case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Mr. Pina is rehabilitated and merits parole at this time.

**Special Conditions:** Reserve to ICE detainer; Approve home plan before release; Waive work for 2 weeks; Must be at home between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; ELMO-electronic monitoring; 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 substance abuse evaluation and adhere to plan; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The above decision is an abbreviated administrative decision issued in an effort to render an expedited resolution in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Pina, through counsel, has waived his right to a full administrative decision.

*I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing.*

  
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Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

3/26/2020  
Date