

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety

PAROLE BOARD

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Josh Wall

DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

DANIEL REDMOND W35990

TYPE OF HEARING:

Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING:

December 11, 2012

DATE OF DECISION:

February 27, 2013

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Cesar Archilla, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Sheila Dupre, Ina Howard-Hogan, Roger Michel, Lucy Soto-Abbe, Josh Wall

DECISION OF THE BOARD: After careful consideration of all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, institutional record, the views of the public as expressed at the hearing or in written submissions to the Board, we conclude by a unanimous vote that the inmate is not a suitable candidate for parole at this time. Parole is denied with a review in five years.

I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On February 23, 1974, Daniel Redmond murdered a 29-year-old developmentally disabled woman in her home in Worcester. He stabbed her numerous times and mutilated her body. He was convicted of first degree murder on January 24, 1975, but the Supreme Judicial Court reversed the conviction on July 6, 1976, ordering a new trial. *Commonwealth v. Redmond*, 370 Mass. 591 (1976). On February 18, 1977, Mr. Redmond pleaded guilty to second degree murder and was sentenced to life in prison. He also pleaded guilty and was sentenced to serve concurrent 20 to 30 year prison terms for burglary and armed robbery. Mr. Redmond had been on parole at the time of the murder.

The night before the murder, Mr. Redmond was at a party in Worcester where he drank alcohol and took PCP. He left the party and was walking when he saw a light on in a nearby house. He broke a cellar window and entered the house. When he did, the victim's dog, a springer spaniel, attacked him. He stabbed the dog with a paring knife. He went upstairs and

saw the victim, who startled him. He proceeded to stab her multiple times, killing her. During the murder, the victim suffered numerous stab wounds to her stomach, chest, neck, face, arms, and legs. Mr. Redmond also sliced off part of her breast and her ear, and caused a three inch laceration from her vagina to her stomach. He left her mutilated body face down, partially disrobed. Her back was covered in white cream and a butter knife was protruding from her rectum.

A neighbor contacted the police after observing suspicious activity at the victim's home. Mr. Redmond was apprehended shortly after the police discovered her body. He was traveling as a passenger in a vehicle where property belonging to the victim was found. A search of Mr. Redmond's residence also revealed his bloodied clothing.

II. INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

Mr. Redmond has amassed a total of 112 disciplinary reports including 24 since his last parole hearing in 2007. His most serious disciplinary reports have involved violent behavior, setting a fire, attempted escape, introduction of heroin into the facility, sending sexual messages to a staff member, and committing a sexual assault against a staff member. Mr. Redmond has been a management problem for the Department of Correction requiring numerous returns to higher custody and placement in the special management unit on multiple occasions, including for seven months after he stabbed another inmate. Mr. Redmond has also been transferred to Bridgewater State Hospital six times for self-mutilation and suicidal ideation. His most recent commitment to Bridgewater State Hospital was in 2010 for reporting auditory hallucinations to harm himself. Mr. Redmond has been inconsistently compliant with mental health requirements, receiving numerous disciplinary reports for misuse of his medication. Mr. Redmond's most recent serious disciplinary report was on September 4, 2011, for leaving a bent razor blade on top of the light fixture in his cell. This is done presumably to cause harm to corrections officers when searching the cell.

III. DECISION

This is Mr. Redmond's seventh time before the Parole Board. He has been consistently denied by the Parole Board due to his long criminal history, brutal nature of the governing offense, poor institutional conduct, and lack of rehabilitation.

Mr. Redmond was questioned extensively by the Board regarding his intention, level of brutality, and the sexually deviant behavior associated with the murder. Mr. Redmond did not deny the majority of the injuries that he inflicted on the victim; however, he attributes his behavior to being under the influence of the hallucinogenic drug PCP (Phencyclidine). He appears to recall some gruesome details of his offense, while dismissing others. Mr. Redmond does not believe that he would otherwise have been capable of inflicting such injuries if he was not under the influence of a hallucinogen. However, Mr. Redmond has authored numerous poems while incarcerated that depict a fascination with sexual violence. One of his poems is entitled "The murder of a woman (Displacementary Necromancy)," which provides violent details of the murder, including his fascination with sexual gratification after the victim's death. When the Board questioned Mr. Redmond about the content of his writing, he insisted that he could not recall writing any poems or letters with such content.

In response to Mr. Redmond's disciplinary issues, he insists that most of his reports are secondary to "personality conflicts" with corrections staff, and does not believe that the majority of his incurred infractions were warranted. Mr. Redmond was asked about grabbing a female staff member's breast, and stated that he was fainting due to low blood sugar from his diabetes

and inadvertently grabbed the women's breast. Mr. Redmond took little or no responsibility for the majority of his disciplinary issues. He insisted that he has been rehabilitated and does not believe that his past issues are a reflection of his current state. Mr. Redmond was also asked about his numerous placements in special management units and hospitalizations for psychiatric reasons, including most recently in 2010. The Parole Board expressed significant concern that he cannot be managed for significant periods of time without intensive treatment and the highest level of security. Mr. Redmond responded that he is ready for parole and his further incarceration is "just filling space in the prison now. It is a waste of tax payer's money. Prison is a necessity for society to remedy social ills for crime or sometimes for politics." Mr. Redmond offered no specific parole plan. He had no supporters present.

Mr. Redmond presented with little or no insight about his criminal history and poor institutional behavior. His responses to questions appeared deliberately evasive at times, lacking any evidence of remorse or appreciation for the depth of harm caused to the victim's family, many of whom spoke on her behalf. There also was a clear presence of mental illness that influenced his overall demeanor and responses. Given Mr. Redmond's long period of instability, poor institutional behavior, poor compliance with treatment, and lack of any evidence of rehabilitation, he remains a high risk to public safety. He is likely to re-offend if released and his release is incompatible with the welfare of society. It is the unanimous decision of the Parole Board to deny Mr. Redmond's parole for the maximum period of five years.

I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing. This signature does not indicate authorship of the decision.

Janis DiLoreto Noble, General Counsel

2/27/13 Date