

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

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AMENDED RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

DAVID JEFFERSON
W95101

TYPE OF HEARING: **Review Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **November 7, 2024**

DATE OF DECISION: **March 19, 2025**

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sarah B. Coughlin, Tina M. Hurley, James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz

VOTE: Parole is granted to warrant in Pennsylvania, upon DA clearance.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On September 21, 2009, after a jury trial in Franklin County Superior Court, David Jefferson was convicted of armed robbery and sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, Mr. Jefferson was convicted of kidnapping and sentenced to a concurrent term of 9 to 10 years in state prison.

On November 9, 2021, David Jefferson appeared before the Board for an initial hearing and was denied parole. At his review hearing on November 7, 2024, Mr. Jefferson was represented by Attorney Melissa Ramos. The Board's decision fully incorporates, by reference, the entire video recording of Mr. Jefferson's November 7, 2024, hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On the afternoon of December 14, 2006, at approximately 2:00 p.m., a 19-year-old female reception clerk was working at the Super 8 Motel in Greenfield. A man, later identified as David Jefferson, approached her in the reception area using the employee entrance door propped open for convenience. Mr. Jefferson inquired about weekly rates at the motel. When the clerk asked him to come around to the front of the reception counter, Mr. Jefferson pulled out a black handgun and pointed it at her. He told the clerk that he wanted money and followed her to the counter, where he removed \$190 from a drawer.

After insisting that she give him the rest of the money, the clerk opened a lockbox and handed Mr. Jefferson an additional \$250. Mr. Jefferson then directed her to the laundry room at gunpoint, where he bound her hands, and one of her legs, with black zip ties. He then closed the laundry room door and left. The victim was later found by another clerk scheduled to relieve her.

Police obtained a description of the suspect from the victim, who had recognized him as a past guest at the motel. The following day, Greenfield police were informed that police in Pennsylvania were seeking assistance in locating Mr. Jefferson, a wanted parole violator. Mr. Jefferson had been released from prison on August 28, 2006, but failed to report to a halfway house in Philadelphia. He had been serving sentences for armed robberies committed in 2001, including motel robberies where he had also tied up his victims. In addition, Mr. Jefferson was a suspect in a home investigation committed on December 6, 2006. Evidence discovered from the home invasion revealed Mr. Jefferson to be operating a stolen red Chevy Cavalier.

On December 19, 2006, Greenfield police observed a red Chevy Cavalier parked in the lot of the Super 8 Motel. The next day, officers arrested Mr. Jefferson as he attempted to enter the car. A package of black plastic zip ties and a black metal handgun were located under the driver's seat. The victim positively identified Mr. Jefferson as her assailant from a photo array.

APPLICABLE STANDARD: Parole "[p]ermits shall be granted only if the Board is of the opinion, after consideration of a risk and needs assessment, that there is a reasonable probability that, if the prisoner is released with appropriate conditions and community supervision, the prisoner will live and remain at liberty without violating the law and that release is not incompatible with the welfare of society." M.G.L. c. 127, § 130. In making this determination, the Board takes into consideration an incarcerated individual's institutional behavior, their participation in available work, educational, and treatment programs during the period of incarceration, and whether risk reduction programs could effectively minimize the incarcerated individual's risk of recidivism. M.G.L. c. 127, § 130. The Board also considers all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, the age of the incarcerated individual at the time of the offense, the criminal record, the institutional record, the incarcerated individual's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing and/or in written submissions to the Board (if applicable).

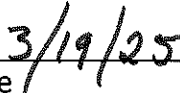
DECISION OF THE BOARD: Mr. Jefferson presented for a review hearing. The Board considered his age in reaching its decision. Mr. Jefferson is 64-years-old. Since the last hearing, he has continued to maintain his sobriety and has invested in further rehabilitation. Mr. Jefferson has completed programming to address his addiction, and his substance use disorder is currently in remission. He has also completed programs to address Violence, Emotional Healing, Vocational Skills, and Victim Empathy. The Board notes that Mr. Jefferson has a warrant in Pennsylvania and reported that he will be required to complete an additional 3 year sentence. Mr. Jefferson provided a long-term release plan following the discharge of his sentence. He has a support system in Pennsylvania, where he intends to reside.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Release to other authority – detainer in Pennsylvania; Waive work for two weeks; Must be supervised for drugs, testing in accordance with Agency policy; Must be supervised 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 mental health

evaluation and follow any recommendation(s); Must have substance abuse evaluation and follow any recommendation(s); Long-Term Residential Treatment.

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


Date