



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

**PAROLE BOARD**

*12 Mercer Road*  
*Natick, Massachusetts 01760*



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**Terrence Reidy**  
*Secretary*

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**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**EDWARD SIMPSON**

**W52573B**

**TYPE OF HEARING:**            **Review Hearing**

**DATE OF HEARING:**        **January 10, 2023**

**DATE OF DECISION:**       **February 9, 2023**

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

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On February 11, 2000, after a jury trial in Plymouth Superior Court, Edward Simpson was convicted of Burglary/Assault in a Dwelling and adjudicated as a Habitual Offender. He received two concurrent life sentences with the possibility of parole. On that same date, convictions for Larceny Over \$250, Malicious Destruction of Property, and Possession of a Class D substance were placed on file.

Mr. Simpson appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on January 10, 2023. Mr. Simpson was denied parole at his initial hearing in 2012 and at his review hearing in 2014. He waived his 2018 review hearing. He was represented by student attorneys from Harvard PLAP. The entire video recording of Mr. Simpson's January 10, 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.

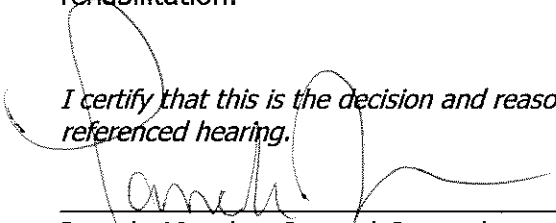
The Board is of the opinion that Edward Simpson has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. Mr. Simpson is serving a life sentence for his conviction for burglary as a habitual offender. The Board remains

concerned that Mr. Simpson struggles with self-regulation as he continues to exhibit sexually inappropriate behavior and repeated abuse of substances. Mr. Simpson has incurred numerous disciplinary reports for indecent exposure and drug use. The Board needs to see a sustained period of incident-free behavior wherein Mr. Simpson demonstrates that he has an interest in refraining from his pattern of inappropriate actions. He presented as receptive to the Board's suggestion that he pursue mental health counseling to identify and address his behavior. The Board encourages him to commit to his sobriety through programming like the Correctional Recovery Academy.

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

Mr. Simpson'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.*

  
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Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

  
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Date