



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

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DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

GERARD BEAULIEU

W37117

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: September 7, 2017

DATE OF DECISION: June 19, 2018

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Paul M. Treseler, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Lucy Soto-Abbe

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. Parole is denied with a review scheduled in five years from the date of the hearing.

I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On May 21, 1979, in Middlesex Superior Court, Gerald Beaulieu pleaded guilty to three counts of rape. He received three concurrent life sentences. On that same date, he received a concurrent sentence of 10 to 12 years for armed assault in a dwelling and concurrent sentences of 7 to 10 years for sodomy, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, kidnapping, and assault with intent to murder.

On February 4, 1979, at approximately 6:30 p.m., Mr. Beaulieu (after drinking throughout the course of the day) entered the home of a 16-year-old girl under false pretenses. Mr. Beaulieu knew the girl's mother, but had never met the girl. After learning that the girl's mother was not at home, he devised a plan to gain entry by requesting to use the phone. The girl assumed that he was a friend of her mother and allowed him entry. Once inside, he threw the girl on the bed,

removed her clothing, and raped her. He tied her with a phone cord, which he ripped off the wall, and then forced her into his car. After stopping the car, he raped her again two more times. After raping her for the third time in a wooded area, Mr. Beaulieu began to stab the victim with a knife. At a certain point, the victim was able to run away from Mr. Beaulieu. She was assisted by passing motorists and taken to the hospital for her injuries.

II. PAROLE HEARING ON September 7, 2017

Mr. Beaulieu, now 67-years-old, appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on September 7, 2017. He was not represented by counsel. Mr. Beaulieu was denied parole after his initial hearing in 1994, as well as after his review hearings in 1996, 2001, 2006, and 2012. In Mr. Beaulieu's opening statement, he apologized to the Board about his actions during the last hearing. He said it just "hit him" when he heard live testimony at the last hearing, and he didn't care whether he was paroled or not. During the hearing, Mr. Beaulieu was asked by a Board Member whether he went to bars with the motive of getting a woman drunk in order to have sex with her. He said, "Was there consent? Not if they were drunk because they probably didn't know what they were doing." When asked by a Board Member if that would be considered sexual assault, he stated, "Yes." Mr. Beaulieu was asked about how many different women he took advantage of in this way. He could not specify exactly, but said it occurred about 20 or 30 different times. He acknowledged this to be a public safety concern, stating that he would target women who were drinking alone in the bar.

Mr. Beaulieu was first charged with rape in 1977, but it was dismissed in 1978. Regarding this incident, he stated that he had sex with a 16-year-old girl, but didn't know her age at the time. He had met the girl in a bar and, one night when she did not want to have sex with him, he forced himself on her. He stated, "It was all about me." Regarding the facts of the underlying offense, Mr. Beaulieu stated that he had been with the victim's mom previously. He said he knew that the girl was 16 because her mother had told him. He explained that he called the house one night, and the girl told him that her mother was not at home. So, he made plans to go over there with the purpose of having sex with her. He said that at the time, he was "screwed up" and had "crazy thinking." After raping the victim a third time, he realized that he didn't want to get caught, so he had to kill her. He was asked by a Board Member how many times the victim was stabbed. He stated, "I didn't know at the time, but when I was arrested, I found out it was five times." When asked about the victim's injuries, he stated, "It was pretty close to dying."

Mr. Beaulieu stated that both alcoholism and anger were contributing factors in his actions. It was mentioned that Mr. Beaulieu was a victim of priest abuse as a child, and Mr. Beaulieu stated that he had anger issues for years. Board Members asked him what he would consider to be a high risk situation, if paroled. He stated that going to bars, being out late at night, getting drunk, and seeing women walking into bars alone were among the situations that he would consider to be high risk. Further, Mr. Beaulieu admitted that if a female was under the influence of alcohol, she would be at risk of him raping her. Regarding program participation, he stated that since his last hearing, he has attended AA/NA, but "not that often" because "he slacked off on it for a while." The Board noted that his participation in the sex offender treatment program was not consistent. In addition, Mr. Beaulieu did not have a specific plan if paroled, except that he wished to move to New Hampshire. At the conclusion of the hearing, Mr. Beaulieu stated, "After hearing the things that were said and thinking about what I should do, I don't think that I

should get a parole." He went on to say, "I'm probably going to refuse every parole after today. So everyone can live in peace and they won't have to live in fear."

The Board considered letters of opposition which were read to the Board, including a letter from the victim, the victim's husband, the victim's daughter, and another individual. The Board considered testimony in opposition to parole from Middlesex County Assistant District Attorney Jason Chandler.

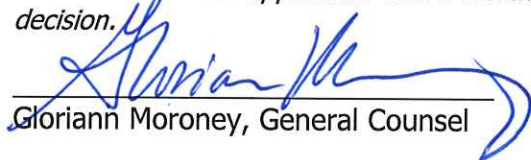
III. DECISION

The Board is of the opinion that Gerard Beaulieu has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. Mr. Beaulieu did not present as rehabilitated. He has a concerning history of sexual assaults and violence against women. In his closing, Mr. Beaulieu stated that he will not appear before the Board again.

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

Mr. Beaulieu's next appearance before the Board will take place in five years from the date of this hearing. During the interim, the Board encourages Mr. Beaulieu 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. 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.



Gloriann Moroney, General Counsel



Date