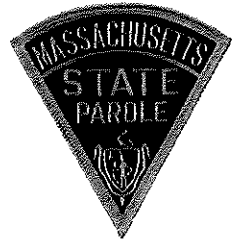




The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

JAMES COLANTONIO
W44855

TYPE OF HEARING: **Review Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **April 18, 2024**

DATE OF DECISION: **August 20, 2024**

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

VOTE: Parole is granted two weeks after issuance of Decision to Sober Home or Long-Term Residential Program with additional special conditions.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On May 10, 1988, following a jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, James Colantonio was convicted of murder in the second degree for the death of William Moran. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. Parole was denied after an initial hearing in 2003, and after review hearings in 2008, 2013, and 2018. Mr. Colantonio was granted parole in 2021, but was returned to custody following a parole violation. His revocation was affirmed in October 2023. On April 18, 2024, Mr. Colantonio appeared before the Board for a review hearing. He was not represented by counsel. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Colantonio's April 18, 2024 hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On August 27, 1986, at approximately 10:55 p.m., 20-year-old James Colantonio murdered William Moran during an altercation near the Jeffries Point Yacht Club in East Boston. Mr. Colantonio's friend, James All, Jr., had confronted and grabbed Mr. Moran outside of the club. Mr. Colantonio then struck Mr. Moran on the head with a baseball bat, fracturing his skull. Mr. Moran lapsed into a coma and died two days later from the injuries inflicted by Mr. Colantonio. Both Mr. Colantonio and Mr. All, Jr. were indicted.

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

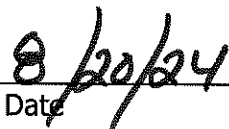
that, if the prisoner is released with appropriate conditions and community supervision, the prisoner will live and remain at liberty without violating the law and that release is not incompatible with the welfare of society.” M.G.L. c. 127, § 130. In making this determination, the Board takes into consideration an inmate’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 inmate’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 inmate at the time of the offense, the criminal record, the institutional record, the inmate’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. Colantonio has been incarcerated for the 1986 death of William Moran. He was paroled in 2021. Mr. Colantonio appeared before the Board after his parole was revoked in September 2023 for exposing himself on an MBTA train. The Board considered that Mr. Colantonio was released to parole supervision in May 2022. During his time in the community, he tested negative on all drug tests, graduated from Charlestown Recovery Home, and was employed. Mr. Colantonio expressed his remorse to the Board for his actions on the train, noted he was ashamed, and said alcohol consumption was a contributing factor. He noted various stressors in his life at the time. The Board notes Mr. Colantonio’s successes on parole before this violation and finds the factors which led to the positive parole decision after the 2021 hearing still applicable.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Waive work for program; Curfew: must be home between 10PM & 6AM at Parole Officer’s discretion; Electronic monitoring at Parole Officer’s discretion; 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 mental health evaluation and follow recommendations to rule out/exclude sexual offense behavior counseling needs (New England Forensic Associates may be an option); Must have substance abuse evaluation and must comply with recommended treatment needs; Counseling for adjustment/transition; Long-Term Residential Program or Sober House program.

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