

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Terrence Reidy
Secretary

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

12 Mercer Road
Natick, Massachusetts 01760

Telephone # (508) 650-4500
Facsimile # (508) 650-4599



Gloriann Moroney
Chair

Kevin Keefe
Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

JEFFERSON HUDSON
W49922

TYPE OF HEARING: **Review Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **July 20, 2021**

DATE OF DECISION: **December 6, 2021**

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Colette Santa¹

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On February 8, 1991, in Suffolk Superior Court, Jefferson Hudson pleaded guilty to unlawful possession of a firearm, armed assault with intent to rob, armed burglary, and armed robbery. He also pleaded guilty to the second-degree murders of Edward Jackson and a male of uncertain identity, referred to as "Henry Bersine." Two concurrent sentences of life in prison with the possibility of parole were imposed on Mr. Hudson for the murders of Mr. Jackson and Mr. Bersine. Mr. Hudson was also sentenced to a term of not more than 5 years and not less than 4 years for his conviction of unlawful possession of a firearm, two terms of not more than 20 years and not less than 10 years for each of his convictions of armed assault with intent to rob and armed burglary, and a term of not more than 20 years and not less than 15 years for his conviction of armed robbery. All sentences were ordered to run concurrently with each other.

On April 19, 1991 (and unrelated to the aforementioned convictions), Mr. Hudson pleaded guilty in Brockton District Court to unlawfully carrying a firearm and possession of a Class B substance with intent to distribute. These convictions stemmed from Mr. Hudson's arrest during a raid on a crack house in Brockton, where he had been found in possession of a firearm. Mr. Hudson was sentenced to a term of one year in the House of Correction for each of these convictions. These sentences were ordered to run concurrently with each other and to the previously imposed sentences.

¹ Chair Moroney recused.

Mr. Hudson appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on July 20, 2021 and was represented by Northeastern University Law student Theresa Lane. This was Mr. Hudson's sixth appearance before the Board having been denied parole after his hearings in 2005, 2010, 2013, 2016 and 2019. The entire video recording of Mr. Hudson's July 20, 2021 hearing is fully incorporated by reference to the Board's decision.

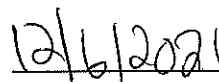
DECISION OF THE BOARD: After careful consideration of all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, the age of the inmate at the time of offense, criminal record, institutional record, the inmate's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing or in written submissions to the Board, we conclude by a unanimous vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole. Reserve to the Gavin Foundation or an alternative Long Term Residential Program, but not before nine months in lower security. Mr. Hudson is serving a life sentence for the murder of two individuals. He has served over 31 years during which time he has maintained his sobriety and addressed the precipitants to his criminal offending. He has remained disciplinary report free and engaged in rehabilitative programming for the past 12 years to include education, vocational training and Restorative Justice (32-week program). Mr. Hudson appears to have gained insight and heightened empathy as to the impact of his crime on the victims, their families, and the community.

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." In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Mr. Hudson'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. Hudson's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Hudson's case, the Board is of the opinion that Mr. Hudson is rehabilitated and merits parole after nine months in lower security, and subject to special conditions.

Special Conditions: Reserve to Gavin Foundation or Long Term Residential Program (LTRP) after nine months in lower security (must complete); Waive work for two weeks or program; Curfew must be at home between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; ELMO-electronic monitoring; 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 counseling for adjustment/transition and substance abuse.

I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing.


Pamela Murphy, General Counsel


Date