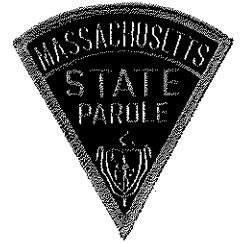


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

**JEFFREY ANTHONY
W101789**

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: March 14, 2024

DATE OF DECISION: May 14, 2024

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Tina M. Hurley, James Kelcourse¹

VOTE: Parole is granted upon 2 weeks after the issuance of Decision after 90 days in lower security to home plan.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On December 5, 2012, in Norfolk County Superior Court, Jeffrey Anthony pleaded guilty to second-degree murder for the death of Osahon Ighodaro. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. Mr. Anthony also pleaded guilty to two counts of unarmed robbery and one count of unarmed burglary, for which he received a 12 to 15-year concurrent sentence, and one count of kidnapping, for which he received a 9 to 10-year concurrent sentence. On March 14, 2024, Mr. Anthony appeared before the Board for an initial hearing. He was represented by student attorneys from the Boston College Lifer Parole Clinic under the supervision of Attorney Frank Herrmann. The Board's decision fully incorporates, by reference, the entire video recording of Mr. Anthony's March 14, 2024, hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On the morning of July 11, 2008, Holbrook police officers located 25-year-old Osahon Ighodaro deceased in his apartment. He had been hog tied and was found lying face down on the floor. Another occupant of the apartment reported that on the previous evening, she heard someone knock on the door, followed by men entering the apartment screaming. They tied her up, and she eventually passed out. When she woke up the following morning, she untied herself, found Mr. Ighodaro's body, and ran out of the apartment to seek

¹ Board Member Sarah Coughlin was recused.

help. Investigators processed the scene for fingerprints and other forensic evidence and determined that several belongings and currency had been stolen from the apartment. On May 6, 2009, Mr. Anthony was arrested in Chelsea for assault and battery. The fingerprints he provided resulting from that arrest matched a latent print that had been lifted from the wall near Mr. Ighodaro's body. The other occupant of the apartment later identified Mr. Anthony from a photo array as one of the men that tied her up on the night of the murder. Upon arrest, Mr. Anthony admitted his involvement in the murder of Mr. Ighodaro, along with three other individuals. Mr. Anthony was 20-years-old at the time of the offense.

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: This was Mr. Anthony's first appearance before the Board. He was forthcoming in his role in the murder of 25-year-old Osahon Ighodaro. He presented with insight and remorse with regards to the harm he has caused the victim's family, his family, and his community. Mr. Anthony was 20-years-old at the time of the offense. This was his first incarceration of any kind. He has completed over 50 programs that addressed his need areas. He was instrumental in creating other programs to assist with furthering his rehabilitation, as well as others. Mr. Anthony has invested in Restorative Justice, NEADS, and earned his Bachelor of Arts (cum laude) from Boston University. He has a history of consistent employment. He has invested in self-development by identifying the precipitants to this offense and addressing the areas in need of change. He has a strong support system and re-entry plan. The Board considered public testimony from his wife, family member, and friend who spoke in support of his parole. The Board also considered testimony from the victim's family, friend, and an Assistant District Attorney from Norfolk County. The Board concludes that Mr. Anthony has demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Approve home plan before release; Waive work for 2 weeks; Curfew - must be at home between 10PM and 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 substance abuse evaluation and must comply with recommended treatment plan; Counseling for transition/adjustment.

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