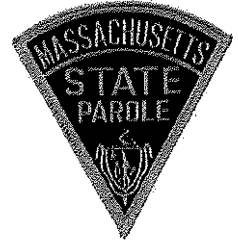


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

JONATHAN NIEMIC
W100821

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: August 28, 2025

DATE OF DECISION: January 20, 2026

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Sarah B. Coughlin, Angelo Gomez Jr., James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz¹

VOTE: Parole is denied with a review in 2 years from the date of the hearing.²

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On June 1, 2012, following a jury trial in Bristol Superior Court, Jonathan Niemic was convicted of murder in the first degree for the death of Michael Correia. He was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. On September 17, 2015, following an appeal, Mr. Niemic's guilty verdict was vacated and set aside. On September 30, 2016, following a jury trial in Bristol Superior Court, Mr. Niemic was convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. On November 19, 2019, following a second appeal, Mr. Niemic's guilty verdict was set aside and the Commonwealth moved to have another jury trial. On October 23, 2023, following a jury trial in Bristol Superior Court, Mr. Niemic was convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole.

On August 28, 2025, Mr. Niemic appeared before the Board for an initial hearing. He was represented by Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project Student Attorneys Monica Dey and Matt Jelen, under the supervision of Attorney John Fitzpatrick. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Niemic's August 28, 2025, hearing.

¹ Board Member Coughlin was not present for the hearing but reviewed the video recording of the hearing and the entirety of the file prior to vote. Board Member Coleman participated in the hearing but departed the Board prior to vote.

² One Board Member voted to deny parole with a review hearing in 3 years.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On October 20, 2010, 22-year-old Jonathan Niemic stabbed and killed Michael Correia in New Bedford. In the summer of that year, Mr. Niemic was dating a woman he later learned had simultaneously begun a romantic relationship with Mr. Correia. Mr. Niemic was told that Mr. Correia had been bragging about taking his girlfriend. Mr. Niemic was reported to have been "looking for" Mr. Correia, stating that he would punch him when he saw him. On the evening of October 20, 2010, Mr. Niemic, his girlfriend, and several friends went to an AA meeting being held in New Bedford, where there were between 70 and 120 people in attendance. At around 7:30 p.m. there was a break in the meeting. Many of the meeting participants were heading outside when a friend of Mr. Niemic's pointed out that Mr. Correia was there.

Mr. Niemic approached Mr. Correia, indicating that he wanted to talk. Mr. Niemic's girlfriend appeared to try to "pull him back" from talking to Mr. Correia. Mr. Niemic walked over, however, and stated, "I've been hearing some things. I feel disrespected." When Mr. Correia asked what he had heard, Mr. Niemic began punching him (aiming at his head). Mr. Correia attempted to ward off the blows. After Mr. Niemic lunged at him four to five times, Mr. Correia ran into the building. Mr. Niemic followed. About twenty seconds later, Mr. Niemic ran out of the building and into the vehicle he had arrived in.

Emergency medical technicians arrived within a few minutes and transported Mr. Correia, who had lost consciousness, to the hospital where physicians attempted emergency surgery. Efforts to revive Mr. Correia were unsuccessful. Mr. Correia was determined to have suffered five stab wounds, any of which could have been fatal.

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.

DECISION OF THE BOARD: Mr. Niemic made his initial appearance before the Board. The Board has significant concerns regarding Mr. Niemic's continued threatening conduct while incarcerated. He continues to receive disciplinary reports. Mr. Niemic has made minimal investments in rehabilitative programming, and his work history has been inconsistent. The Board finds that Mr. Niemic would benefit from a forensic evaluation so the Board may consider his need areas and possible supervision and programming needs in the future and assist the Board. The Board considered opposition testimony from the Bristol County District Attorney's Office, as well as from three of Mr. Correia's family members. The Board concludes that Jonathan Niemic has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society.

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.


Angelo Gomez Jr., Chair

January 20, 2026
Date