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PAROLE BOARD

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Tina M. Hurley
Chair

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

JORGE HUERTAS

W48187

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: September 27, 2022

DATE OF DECISION: December 7, 2022

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Tina Hurley, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Dr. Maryanne Galvin, James Kelcourse, Colette Santa

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On March 30, 1990, after a jury trial in Hampden Superior Court, Jorge Huertas was convicted of two counts of second-degree murder in the deaths of 29-year-old Paul Miner and 30-year-old Robert Dale and he was sentenced to concurrent terms of life in prison with the possibility of parole. On the same date, Mr. Huertas received a three to five-year concurrent sentence for unlawful possession of a firearm.

Mr. Huertas appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on September 27, 2022. He was not represented by counsel. Mr. Huertas was denied parole at his 2002 and at his review hearings in 2008, 2013, and 2018. The entire video recording of Mr. Huertas' September 27, 2022, 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 unanimous vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole.

Reserve to halfway house after one year in lower security. Mr. Huertas was involved in the shooting deaths of Paul Miner and Robert Dale. He has served over thirty-three years for the murders. He accepts full responsibility for his crime. His last disciplinary report was in 2016 and has had no disciplinary reports for drug use since 2013. He is employed in the institution and volunteers in the community garden. He has committed to his rehabilitation as evidenced

by the completion of CRA, Anger Management, Alternatives to Violence, and Emotional Awareness. Mr. Huertas' family is very supportive and will benefit him greatly in his transition back into the community. The Board notes he has engaged in vocational training, pursued his GED, and became OSHA-certified. He scores as low risk to reoffend. The Board is prescribing one year in lower security to allow Mr. Huertas to complete the automotive program.

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. Huertas' 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. Huertas' risk of recidivism. Applying this standard to the circumstances of Mr. Huertas' case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Jorge Huertas is rehabilitated and, therefore, merits parole at this time.

Special Conditions: Reserve to halfway house; Waive work for two weeks; Curfew at PO's discretion; 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 or association with known gang members; No contact with victim's family; Must have substance abuse evaluation and follow recommendations; Counseling for adjustment/transition.

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

Pamela Murphy pp CED
Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

12/7/22
Date