

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*



PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

**JOSEPH CARDOZO
W39662**

TYPE OF HEARING: **Review Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **June 3, 2021**

DATE OF DECISION: **November 15, 2021**

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On April 11, 1983, in Norfolk Superior Court, Joseph Cardozo pleaded guilty to the second-degree murder of Joyce Dapper and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole.

Mr. Cardozo appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on June 3, 2021 and was not represented by counsel. This was Mr. Cardozo's third appearance before the Board since his revocation hearing in 2010. Mr. Cardozo was previously released on parole on October 16, 2008 but was revoked due to parole violations. The entire video recording of Mr. Cardozo's June 3, 2021 hearing is fully incorporated by reference to the Board's decision.

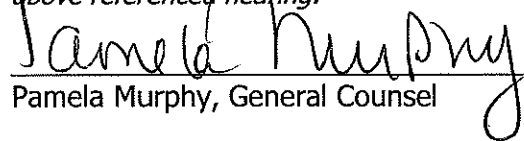
DECISION OF THE BOARD: After careful consideration of all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, the age of the inmate at the time of offense, criminal record, institutional record, the inmate's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing or in written submissions to the Board, we conclude by unanimous vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole. Reserve to an approved home plan. Mr. Cardozo has been incarcerated for the past 11 years due to a parole revocation. Since his return, he has had an overall positive adjustment having completed numerous programs from which he appears to have benefitted. Mr. Cardozo has been transparent about his missteps. He has a support system including his employer who will rehire him and provide him with housing. He has also connected with his biological family who will provide support. Reincarceration has served its purpose.

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."

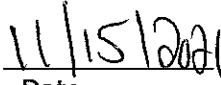
In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Mr. Cardozo's institutional behavior, as well as his participation in available work, educational, and treatment programs during the period of his incarceration. The Board has also considered a risk and needs assessment and whether risk reduction programs could effectively minimize Mr. Cardozo's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Cardozo's case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Mr. Cardozo is rehabilitated and merits parole at this time, subject to special conditions.

Special Conditions: Reserve to approved home plan; Waive work for two weeks; Location – not to enter Cumberland, RI without PO consent; 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; AA/NA at least 3 times/week; Mandatory - sponsor.

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



Pamela Murphy, General Counsel



Date