



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

**PAROLE BOARD**

*12 Mercer Road*  
*Natick, Massachusetts 01760*



**Maura T. Healey**  
*Governor*

**Kimberley Driscoll**  
*Lieutenant Governor*

**Terrence M. Reidy**  
*Secretary*

*Telephone: (508)-650-4500*

*Facsimile: (508)-650-4599*

**Tonomey A. Coleman**  
*Acting Chair*

**Lian Hogan**  
*Executive Director*

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**KATHERINE MCGLINCY**

**AKA KATHERINE DICKSON**

**F36166**

**TYPE OF HEARING:**        **Review Hearing**

**DATE OF HEARING:**       **March 20, 2025**

**DATE OF DECISION:**     **August 19, 2025**

**PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:** Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman,<sup>1</sup> Sarah B. Coughlin, James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz<sup>2</sup>

**VOTE:** Parole is denied with a review in 1 year from the date of the hearing.<sup>3</sup>

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:** On September 1, 1994, in Plymouth Superior Court, Katherine McGlincy pleaded guilty to murder in the second-degree for the deaths of Eero and Lillian Helin. She was sentenced to two concurrent terms of life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, Ms. McGlincy also pleaded guilty to unlawfully carrying a firearm and armed assault with intent to murder Mark Walther. She was sentenced to a concurrent term of 3 to 5 years in state prison and a consecutive term of 5 to 10 years in state prison to run from and after the life sentences, respectively. Parole was denied after an initial hearing in 2008, and after review hearings in 2011, 2016, and 2021<sup>4</sup>.

On March 20, 2025, Katherine McGlincy appeared before the Board for a review hearing. She was represented by Attorney John Cunha. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Katherine McGlincy's March 20, 2025, hearing.

---

<sup>1</sup> Board Member Coleman was not present for the hearing, but he reviewed the video recording of the hearing and the entirety of the file prior to vote.

<sup>2</sup> Former Chair Tina Hurley participated in the hearing on this matter but departed from the Board prior to this decision.

<sup>3</sup> One Board Member voted to grant parole to GRIT or GLE via DMH.

<sup>4</sup> Ms. McGlincy postponed her review hearing in 2024.

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On December 3, 1992, 40-year-old Katherine McGlincy robbed and murdered Eero Helin, age 72, and Lillian Helin, age 65, in the couple's home in Pembroke. The bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Helin were discovered on December 10. Ms. McGlincy had a long history of substance abuse and criminal activity. She was smoking crack cocaine at the house she shared with her father on the day of the murders. In order to buy more drugs, Ms. McGlincy decided to rob an elderly couple who lived nearby. Armed with a handgun, she knocked on the Helin's door and was allowed in by Mrs. Helin. Displaying the gun, Ms. McGlincy demanded money. Mrs. Helin gathered money from various places in the house and turned it over to Ms. McGlincy. Ms. McGlincy then forced Mrs. Helin to lie face down on the floor and fatally shot her three times in the back. Ms. McGlincy then went upstairs to Mr. Helin's bedroom. Mr. Helin suffered from Parkinson's disease and had limited mobility and strength. Mr. Helin died from suffocation. Ms. McGlincy has never provided a credible account of how she killed him.

The murders were not solved immediately, and Ms. McGlincy committed another violent crime six weeks later. While hitchhiking, she had been given a ride by Mark Walther. Ms. McGlincy shot him multiple times and then stole his car. Mr. Walther survived, and Ms. McGlincy was apprehended at a roadblock that day. A .22 caliber gun was recovered from Ms. McGlincy; ballistics analysis revealed it to be the weapon used to murder Mrs. Helin. When police interviewed Ms. McGlincy, she admitted to entering the Helin residence with a gun. However, she said that she had no memory of shooting Mrs. Helin. Although she remembered seeing Mr. Helin in bed, she had no memory of harming him. Ms. McGlincy was arrested for the murders.

**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 (if applicable).

**DECISION OF THE BOARD:** Ms. McGlincy has a history of violence and criminal convictions related to substance misuse. While she was disciplinary report free for several years, she had a disciplinary report a few months prior to her hearing. The Board has concerns regarding Ms. McGlincy's re-entry plan. She has little community supports. The Board hopes for a more comprehensive re-entry plan, which addresses her mental health and substance use, including any DMH supports available. Additionally, given Ms. McGlincy's history, a forensic evaluation, which includes risk assessments, would assist the Board in determining whether her release is compatible with the welfare of society and what her needs may be in the community. The Board considered testimony in opposition to parole from two members of the community and from Assistant District Attorney Arne Hantson. The Board concludes that Ms. McGlincy has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make her 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.*



\_\_\_\_\_  
Tonomey A. Coleman, Acting Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

8/19/25