



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

12 Mercer Road
Natick, Massachusetts 01760

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Daniel Bennett
Secretary

Telephone # (508) 650-4500

Facsimile # (508) 650-4599



Paul M. Treseler
Chairman

Michael J. Callahan
Executive Director

DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

KEVIN COE
W38150

TYPE OF HEARING: **Review Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **July 7, 2016**

DATE OF DECISION: **October 31, 2016**

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Paul M. Treseler, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Lucy Soto-Abbe

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 the 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 not a suitable candidate for parole. Parole is denied with a review scheduled in five years from the date of the hearing.

I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On April 6, 1981, in Bristol Superior Court, Kevin Coe pleaded guilty to second degree murder in the beating death of Frank Sikorski and was sentenced to life imprisonment with the possibility of parole.

On July 30, 1980, Mr. Coe had been using angel dust and drinking for several hours with two brothers, Shawn and Derrick Dickinson. They met Frank Sikorski outside a Taunton bar sometime after midnight and asked him for a ride. Mr. Sikorski agreed and gave the three men a ride. Mr. Coe and Shawn Dickinson beat the victim to death, apparently in order to steal his money and car. After disposing of the body in Oakland Pond in Taunton, they robbed a gas station in West Bridgewater at 2:50 a.m. and led police on a high speed chase at 4:00 a.m. They were stopped and arrested at a roadblock in Raynham. After the arrest, Derrick Dickinson

gave police information about the murder which led to the charges against Mr. Coe and Shawn Dickinson.

II. PAROLE HEARING ON JULY 7, 2016

Kevin Coe, now 66-years-old, appeared before the Parole Board on July 7, 2016 for a review hearing. This was Mr. Coe's sixth appearance before the Board. He was denied parole at his last hearing with a five year review.

In Mr. Coe's opening statement, he apologized to the victim's family. During the hearing, Parole Board Members questioned Mr. Coe about the reasons he was denied parole at his last hearing. Mr. Coe believes that it was because he showed no remorse for his crime. The Board also questioned Mr. Coe about several fights and assaults on Department of Correction staff while incarcerated. Mr. Coe responded that he didn't know what caused that behavior and said, "I'm just an angry person, I guess." Mr. Coe also said that he had been going to AA off and on for a number of years. He stated, however, that he stopped going a year ago since he was not an alcoholic and, therefore, didn't need it anymore. When questioned by the Board, Mr. Coe stated that he did not recall receiving seven disciplinary reports since his last parole hearing. When asked why he has not been able to comply with Department of Correction Rules and Regulations, he said, "I don't know." Further, he does not know why he has a hard time controlling his temper and his mouth, but said that it is "just the way I am."

The Board Members questioned Mr. Coe about his crime. Mr. Coe stated that the victim "made a sexual advance" on him. Upon questioning as to why he never said anything about this to the police when first arrested, Mr. Coe said that he "wasn't thinking right at the onset." Mr. Coe admitted that the first time he alleged the victim made a sexual advance on him was at his first parole hearing. He does not know why this information wasn't mentioned in the testimony of his co-defendants. Mr. Coe said he had never met the victim before that night, but had known his co-defendants for about a year prior to the murder. During the hearing, Mr. Coe admitted to killing the victim in a drunken rage.

In response to a question from the Board as to why he thinks that he has not been granted parole, Mr. Coe responded, "Guess my behavior." He said he does not want to be released to the outside world yet; he wants to go to a minimum security prison as a reentry step. Mr. Coe stated that he thought he was somewhat rehabilitated, as the CRA program made him realize how bad drugs and alcohol are. Mr. Coe said, however, that he doesn't know what else he needs to work on. He told the Board that he cannot think of any programs that would help him, and that he could not remember the last program he attended.

Mr. Coe stated that he works as a janitor at the institution and has held this job for a few years. He said he lost his job at MassCor because he had a mental health issue. He said that he has bouts of paranoia. A Board Member stated that the information before the Board showed that Mr. Coe had been fired from MassCor. Mr. Coe also said that he never pursued a GED while incarcerated, and that he is not on any wait lists for programs. The Board questioned Mr. Coe as to whether he really wants to be paroled, or whether he has just given up hope of ever being paroled. Mr. Coe said that he has not given up, but that he was not motivated. The Board recommended that Mr. Coe engage in programs that could help mitigate

reverting back to anti-social behavior. The Board advised Mr. Coe that he cannot be a part-time alcoholic; if he is going to participate in AA/NA programming, he needs to stick to it. The Board encouraged Mr. Coe to find a mentor in order to guide him in the right direction.

There was no testimony in support of Mr. Coe's parole. A letter from the victim's family in opposition to parole was read at the hearing by a Victim Service Coordinator. Bristol County Assistant District Attorney Dennis Collins testified in opposition to parole. ADA Collins noted that there was no indication that Mr. Coe had reformed his conduct or character, in any way, since his last parole hearing.

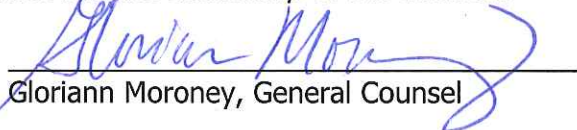
III. DECISION

The Board is of the opinion that Mr. Coe has not yet demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. The Board believes that a longer period of positive rehabilitative adjustment and programming would be beneficial to Mr. Coe's rehabilitation. The Board found that Mr. Coe had minimal program involvement throughout incarceration. Mr. Coe was issued seven disciplinary infractions since his last hearing, and he does not appear motivated to address causative factors.

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. Coe's educational and treatment programs during his period of incarceration. The Board has also considered whether risk reduction programs could effectively minimize Mr. Coe's risk of recidivism. After applying this standard to the circumstances of Mr. Coe's case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Mr. Coe is not yet rehabilitated and, therefore, does not merit parole at this time.

Mr. Coe's next appearance before the Board will take place in five years from the date of this hearing. During the interim, the Board encourages Mr. Coe to continue working towards his full rehabilitation, to pursue programming options, and to comply with the rules and regulations of the Department of Correction.

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.


Gloriann Moroney, General Counsel

10/31/16
Date