



Charles D. Baker  
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*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*

**PAROLE BOARD**

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Tina M. Hurley  
Chair

Kevin Keefe  
Executive Director

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**KEVIN KEMPT**

**W51449**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Review Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** August 31, 2021

**DATE OF DECISION:** December 6, 2022

**PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS<sup>1</sup>:** Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Tina Hurley, Colette Santa

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On November 7, 1991, in Suffolk Superior Court, Kevin Kempt<sup>2</sup> pleaded guilty to the second-degree murder of 19-year-old Calvin Reese and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole.

Mr. Kempt appeared for a parole review hearing on August 31, 2021. He was represented by Attorney Adam Narris. Mr. Kempt was denied parole after his initial hearing in 2005 and following review hearings in 2009, 2011, and 2016. The entire video recording of Mr. Kempt's August 31, 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 LTRP after nine months in lower security. On November 2, 1990, 18-year-old Mr. Kempt and his codefendant shot and killed 19-year-old Calvin Reese. At this most recent hearing, he accepted full responsibility for his role in the murder. The Board considered his

<sup>1</sup> Former Chair Gloriann Moroney and Sheila Dupre were no longer board members at the time of the vote.

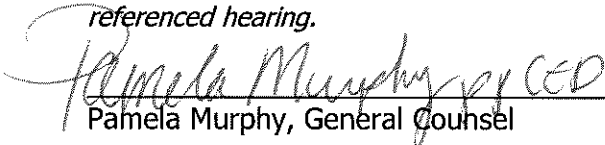
<sup>2</sup> On a previous occasion, Mr. Kempt has testified that his true name is Jeffrey Hilton and that he has never legally adopted the name "Kevin Kempt". Rather, "Kevin Kempt" was an alias used during his arrest and prosecution for the murder of Mr. Reese.


challenging upbringing and youth at the time of the offense and how they contributed to his criminal past. His institutional adjustment has considerably improved as he matured throughout his incarceration. He has accepted the recommendations of the Board and invested in his rehabilitation and education. The Board encourages him to further pursue his education during his time in lower security. He has significant community support. The time in lower security will aid in his gradual transition back into the community.

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

**Special Conditions:** Reserve to LTRP – must complete; Waive work for program; Curfew – Must be at home between 10pm and 6am; 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; No contact with witness(es); 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, General Counsel

  
Date