



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

Gina K. Kwon
Secretary

Telephone: (508)-650-4500

Facsimile: (508)-650-4598

Angelo Gomez, Jr.
Chair

Lian Hogan
Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

KEVIN ROBINSON
W89597

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: October 9, 2025

DATE OF DECISION: March 11, 2026

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner¹, Sarah B. Coughlin, Angelo Gomez Jr., James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz

VOTE: Parole is denied with a review 3 years from the date of the hearing.²

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On March 26, 2007, after a jury trial in Middlesex County Superior Court, Kevin Robinson was convicted of two counts of murder in the second degree. He was sentenced to two concurrent terms of life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, Mr. Robinson was convicted of arson of a dwelling house and causing injury to a firefighter, for which he received two concurrent terms of 5 to 10 years in prison to be served from and after his life sentences. The Appeals Court affirmed his convictions, and the Supreme Judicial Court denied Mr. Robinson's request for further appellate review.³ Parole was denied following an initial hearing in 2020.

On October 9, 2025, Mr. Robinson appeared before the Board for a review hearing. He was represented by Attorney Molly Strehorn. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Robinson's October 9, 2025, hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: At around noon on August 6, 2005, a fire broke out on the second floor of a three-story apartment building located at 17 Warren Street in Cambridge. Although

¹ Board member Bonner was not present for the hearing but reviewed the video recording of the hearing and the entirety of the file prior to vote.

² Two Board members voted to deny parole with a review 2 years from the date of the hearing.

³ Commonwealth v. Robinson, 78 Mass. App. Ct. 714 (2011); Commonwealth v. Robinson, 459 Mass 1111 (2011)

the fire was eventually extinguished, it claimed the lives of Regina (age 76) and Benita (age 8) Antoine, who lived on the third floor and were unable to escape the blaze. The building sustained heavy damage. A cause and origin expert determined that the fire was intentionally set, as gasoline residue was found on the floor where the fire started.

Kevin Robinson, who was in the vicinity when the fire broke out, told firefighters precisely where it had started. However, he gave police inconsistent statements regarding his whereabouts both before and during the fire. Laboratory tests found gasoline residue on the clothing he wore on the day of the fire. Mr. Robinson had an ongoing, bitter feud with the building's landlord and, in the days leading up to the fire, made several statements indicating that he planned to wreak some sort of havoc on the building. Just minutes before the fire broke out, Mr. Robinson took a piece of paper from his wallet and asked his girlfriend, who was a tenant in the building, for a lighter, which she provided. Ultimately, Mr. Robinson was arrested and charged with multiple offenses.

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.

DECISION OF THE BOARD: Mr. Robinson has been incarcerated for approximately 20 years. The Board reviewed the evaluation of Dr. Long. The Board notes his medium risk on risk assessment tools. Mr. Robinson needs to establish a level of readiness for parole. The Board finds he would benefit from gaining perspective from victim empathy programming. Mr. Robinson is encouraged to establish a re-entry plan which he feels comfortable that will support his needs. The Board concludes that Mr. Robinson has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his 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.



Angelo Gomez Jr., Chair

March 11, 2026
Date