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

**PAROLE BOARD**

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Paul M. Treseler  
Chairman

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Executive Director

**DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**KEVIN VALLIERE**

**W40593**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Review Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** October 25, 2016

**DATE OF DECISION:** March 16, 2017

**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 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 majority vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole.<sup>1</sup> After successful adjustment to 18 months in lower security, parole is granted to a long-term residential program with special conditions.

**I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

On June 29, 1984, in Bristol Superior Court, Kevin Valliere pled guilty to the second degree murder of John Jamoulis. Mr. Valliere was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole.

On February 6, 1984, Kevin Valliere (then 18-years-old) and his two juvenile co-defendants went to Jamoulis' Market in Fall River with the intent of robbing the owner. They specifically targeted the store because they knew that the owner, John Jamoulis, was elderly and would be easy to steal from. During the robbery, Mr. Valliere brutally assaulted Mr. Jamoulis, causing his death from severe head injuries.

<sup>1</sup> Five Board Members voted to parole Mr. Valliere after successful completion of 18 months in lower security. One Board Member voted to deny parole.

## **II. PAROLE HEARING ON OCTOBER 25, 2016**

Ms. Valliere, now 50-years-old, appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on October 25, 2016, and was represented by Northeastern University Law School Student Attorney Joanna Clark. Mr. Valliere was denied parole after hearings in 1999, 2004, 2007 and 2011. In his opening statement to the Board, Mr. Valliere apologized and expressed remorse for taking the life of John Jamoulis. He told the Board he was deeply ashamed of his actions and takes full responsibility for the senseless death of the victim.

Mr. Valliere discussed the events leading up to Mr. Jamoulis' murder. He was 18-years-old and living (without any family support) with his girlfriend and their baby daughter. He told the Board that he would drink and smoke marijuana every day, having more interest in partying than parenting. After he and his co-defendants awoke on the morning of the murder (after a night of partying), Mr. Valliere said he immediately began drinking. He and his co-defendants decided to rob Mr. Jamoulis' store for money to buy more alcohol and drugs. Later that day (when they were in the store), one of the co-defendants punched Mr. Jamoulis in the face, causing him to fall backwards into Mr. Valliere. Mr. Valliere said that he and the victim fell to the ground, at which point he grabbed the victim's head and began slamming it against the floor. He said his goal was to render Mr. Jamoulis unconscious, so that he and his co-defendant could escape without being caught. Mr. Valliere attributed his unaddressed anger issues, impulsivity, and intoxication to the beating of an innocent victim.

Board Members acknowledged Mr. Valliere's difficult childhood, as well as his lack of any adult support and guidance. Mr. Valliere told the Board he frequently moved around the country as a child, after his father left the family when he was around 4-years-old. His mother moved him (and his twin sister) from Maine to California, Hawaii, back to California, and then, finally, to Massachusetts when he was around 10-years-old. He said that while living in California, his stepfather gave him beer and marijuana at the age of five, and that his life revolved around his mother's and stepfather's partying lifestyle. As a result, Mr. Valliere became addicted to alcohol and drugs. He continued to drink and smoke throughout his entire youth and into his first years of incarceration. He said that he dropped out of school in sixth grade and bounced around foster homes and group homes in Massachusetts. Mr. Valliere's girlfriend became pregnant when he was 17, and they moved in together in an apartment in Fall River.

The Board questioned Mr. Valliere about his impressive institutional adjustment change over 32 years of incarceration. Mr. Valliere acknowledged that during the first part of his incarceration, he was ill-tempered and received numerous disciplinary reports. He told the Board that around 1996/1997, he became sober for the first time in his life. He got married and began to change his behavior and attitude. He has successfully participated in many programs, including those focused on anger management, victim empathy, mental health, and substance abuse. He has been sober for about 17 years, and credits positive institutional programming in understanding his anger, impulsivity, and violent behavior that led him to kill Mr. Jamoulis. Most meaningful to Mr. Valliere was the NEADS program, as well as his acceptance into the Medical Assistant Program, where he will be trained as a nurse's assistant to help other inmates who are mentally and/or physically incapacitated. Mr. Valliere was one of only ten inmates to be accepted to the program (of the 100 inmates who applied).



Since his last hearing, Mr. Valliere has completed or participated in many programs including: NEADS program; Focus on Wellness; Anger Management; Countdown to Freedom; Asking for Help Workshop; Facilitator for the Alternatives to Violence Program; Using Self-Control; MassCor training; and Negotiating Workshop. He has also been consistently employed, and continues to receive positive employment and housing evaluations. When questioned as to how he has successfully avoided returning to impulsive and violent behaviors, Mr. Valliere told the Board that he became sober, changed his associations, and utilized programming that transformed his thinking and behavior.

Mr. Valliere had many supporters in attendance at his hearing, including his mother, sister, and nephew. Mr. Valliere's nephew spoke on behalf of his family in support of parole. The Board considered oral testimony from the victim's son and son-in-law, who spoke in opposition to parole. Bristol County Assistant District Attorney Aaron Strojny also spoke in opposition to parole.

### **III. DECISION**

Kevin Valliere has been incarcerated for 32 years and has embraced rehabilitation. Incarceration has served its purpose. Mr. Valliere has demonstrated that he is suitable for parole at this time.

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. Valliere's institutional behavior, as well as his participation in available work, educational, and treatment programs during the period of his incarceration. The Board also considered a risk and needs assessment and whether risk reduction programs could effectively minimize Mr. Valliere's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Valliere's case, the Board is of the majority opinion that Kevin Valliere is a suitable candidate for parole.

Parole is granted to a long term residential program, after successful adjustment to 18 months in lower security where he must remain disciplinary report-free.

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** Waive work for Long Term Residential Program; Not to enter Fall River, MA; Must be home between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am; GPS for six months, then at Parole Officer's discretion; 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; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition; Long Term Residential Treatment; AA/NA at least three times per week.

*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.*

  
Gloriam Moroney, General Counsel

3/16/17  
Date