



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

**LARON "RONNY" ELLIOT
W62780**

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: September 4, 2025

DATE OF DECISION: January 8, 2026

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Dr. Charlene Bonner, Angelo Gomez Jr., James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz¹

VOTE: Parole is granted to an approved home plan two weeks from the date of the Decision.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On May 30, 1997, following a jury trial in Suffolk County Superior Court, Mr. Elliot was convicted of murder in the second-degree by joint venture for the death of Cassius Love. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, he received a 9-to-10-year concurrent sentence for assault with intent to kill and a 4-to-5-year concurrent sentence for possession of a firearm. Parole was denied following an initial hearing in 2012, and after a review hearing in 2014. Mr. Elliot was initially granted parole in 2019; however, this decision was rescinded in 2020. Mr. Elliot was granted parole again in 2021, but was revoked in 2023. He was re-paroled in February 2024. Mr. Elliot's parole was again revoked later in 2024. On September 4, 2025, Mr. Elliot appeared before the Board for a review hearing. He was represented by Attorney Richard Goldman. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Elliot's September 4, 2025, hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On July 10, 1998, Laron "Ronny" Elliot (age 17), co-defendant Michael McAfee, and three other individuals were involved in a fight at a McDonald's restaurant in Roxbury with a young man named Steve Clinton. Another man named Alvaro Sanders intervened. Later in the day, the violence escalated as Mr. Sanders and another man, Cassius Love, located Mr. Elliot and Mr. McAfee on Walnut Avenue in Roxbury. After a brief chase, they

¹ Board Members Alexander and Coughlin were recused. Board Member Coleman was present for the hearing but departed the Board prior to vote.

stopped in front of Mr. Elliot's house. Mr. Elliot ran inside his house and emerged with a rifle. He raised the rifle and pointed it at Mr. Sanders and Mr. Love, while Mr. McAfee reportedly yelled, "Lace them." He fired once at Mr. Sanders as he ran from the scene. Mr. Love collapsed at the scene and was pronounced dead a short time later at Boston City Hospital.

Mr. Elliot and Mr. McAfee fled the scene. Two days later, after being identified by Mr. Sanders, Mr. McAfee was arrested. Mr. Elliot had fled the area and stayed in various places evading police. He was arrested two months after the offense.

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. Elliot was before the Board after a return to custody. Since his return to custody, he has completed Anger Management, Parenting, and Cognitive Skills. He appears to have learned from his recent experiences. He testified about how he has gained insight into his behaviors. He continues to have strong community support and would benefit from counseling in the community. The Board concludes by unanimous decision that Ronny Elliot has demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Approve home plan prior to release; Waive work for 2 weeks; 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; Stay away from victim; Stay away from victim's family; Must have Mental Health counseling for anger management and healthy relationships.

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

January 8, 2026
Date