



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

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Natick, Massachusetts 01760

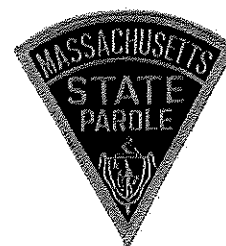
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Angelo Gomez, Jr.
Chair

Lian Hogan
Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

DAMIEN LOCKHART
W64441

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: March 5, 2026

DATE OF DECISION: July 23, 2026

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Sarah B. Coughlin, Angelo Gomez Jr., James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz¹

VOTE: Parole is granted to a long-term residential program or CRJ after 90 days in minimum security, but not before DA Clearance.²

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On September 2, 1997, Damien Lockhart pleaded guilty to the second-degree murder of a 17-year-old young woman.³ He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On that same date, he pleaded guilty to attempted rape and was sentenced to a concurrent term of 9 to 12 years in prison. Both sentences were ordered to run consecutively to an unrelated armed robbery sentence he was serving at the time of this conviction. Parole was denied after an initial hearing in 2013, and after review hearings in 2018, 2023 and 2025.

On March 5, 2026, Mr. Lockhart appeared before the Board for a review hearing. He was represented by Attorney Kim Jones. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Lockhart's March 5, 2026, hearing.

¹ Chair Gomez Jr. and Board Member Ortiz were 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 in 2 years.

³ The identity of the victim is withheld. G.L. c, 265, 524C

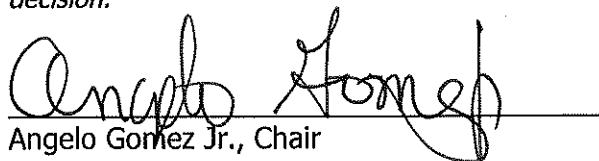
STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On August 10, 1996, Damien Lockhart sexually assaulted and murdered a 17-year-old young woman in Framingham. Her body was discovered by the edge of a railroad dirt access road known as "the Weeds." She suffered seven distinct blows to her head and face, along with multiple cuts and bruises on her hands (consistent with defensive wounds). There were also indications of sexual assault. Blood consistent with the victim's blood was found on Mr. Lockhart's shorts. Footprints at the crime scene matched the tread of sneakers that Mr. Lockhart wore on the night of the murder. Additionally, eyewitnesses reported seeing Mr. Lockhart with the victim near the time and place of the murder. When Mr. Lockhart went to the Framingham Police Department for questioning, he was arrested for the murder.

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. Lockhart appeared before the Board after receiving a 1 year set-back. Mr. Lockhart has followed the Board's recommendations – since the last hearing he has completed Enhancing Empathy. The Board considered Dr. DiCataldo's evaluation in rendering this decision. Mr. Lockhart uses a wheelchair due to spinal and hip issues. Mr. Lockhart has family and friend support and a re-entry plan to meet his needs. The Board concludes that Damien Lockhart has demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. The Board considered testimony in support of parole from two of Mr. Lockhart's family members. The Board also considered testimony in opposition to parole from three members of the victim's family and Middlesex County Assistant District Attorney Alicia Walsh.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Waive work for 2 weeks or disability; Must be home between 10 PM & 6 AM at PO's discretion; 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 victim of unarmed robbery; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment; LTRP or CRJ; Mandatory: DA Clearance; Sex A Conditions – no polygraph, no journal.

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

July 23, 2026
Date