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PAROLE BOARD

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Tina M. Hurley
Chair

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

MALEIN "CHARLIE" MEAS

W97574

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: November 8, 2022

DATE OF DECISION: January 18, 2023

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Tina Hurley, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Dr. Maryanne Galvin, James Kelcourse, Colette Santa

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On November 22, 2010, after a jury trial in Middlesex County Superior Court, Mr. Meas was convicted of second-degree murder in the death of Jose Anthony "Tony" Villanueva and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. He was also convicted of Unlawful Possession of a Firearm and was sentenced to a concurrent term of four to five years in state prison.

Mr. Meas appeared before the Parole Board for an initial hearing on November 8, 2022. He was represented by student attorneys from Boston College Law School. The entire video recording of Mr. Meas' November 8, 2022, 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 that the inmate is not a suitable candidate for parole.¹

The Board is of the opinion that Malein Meas has not yet demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. On January 20, 2008, 24-year-old Mr. Meas shot and killed 36-year-old Tony Villanueva. He accepts


¹ One Board member voted to grant parole to an approved home plan after eighteen months in lower security.

responsibility for the murder. As a teenager, Mr. Meas became involved in a gang. He only recently was accepted into DOC's renunciation program. At the time of the murder, he was self-medicating with drugs and alcohol and has received a disciplinary infraction for homebrew in the institution. The Board recognizes that he is engaged in educational courses and has obtained his GED. He has made progress in his rehabilitation through the completion of programs. He should complete his college degree and pursue additional programs to include Restorative Justice and CRA. He should immediately begin attending AA/NA and develop a strong relapse prevention plan. The Board encourages him to resume counseling. The Board strongly recommends he remain disciplinary report-free as the Board is concerned with his prior 12-month DDU placement for an STG-related fight.

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. Meas' 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. Meas' risk of recidivism. After applying this standard to the circumstances of Mr. Meas' case, the Board is of the opinion that Malein Meas is not yet rehabilitated and, therefore, does not merit parole at this time.

Mr. Meas' next appearance before the Board will take place in two years from the date of this hearing. During the interim, the Board encourages Mr. Meas to continue working towards his full rehabilitation.

I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing.


Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

1/18/23
Date