



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

12 Mercer Road
Natick, Massachusetts 01760

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Thomas A. Turco III
Secretary

Telephone # (508) 650-4500
Facsimile # (508) 650-4599

Gloriann Moroney
Chair

Kevin Keefe
Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF
MARTINE PRESSAT
F80000

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: October 20, 2020

DATE OF DECISION: March 4, 2021

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Gloriann Moroney, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sheila Dupre, Tina Hurley, Karen McCarthy, Colette Santa

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On September 15, 2000, in Norfolk Superior Court, a jury convicted Martine Pressat of second-degree murder in the death of 77-year-old John Weil. She received a life sentence with the possibility of parole. She was also convicted of five counts of larceny, and those charges were placed on file.

Ms. Pressat appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on October 20, 2020 and was represented Northeastern University Law student Gabriela Maria. This was Ms. Pressat's third appearance before the Board having been denied in 2012 and 2017. The entire video recording of Ms. Pressat's October 20, 2020 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 by unanimous vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole. Reserve to her United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainer. Ms. Pressat has served approximately 23 years for the murder of 77-year-old John Weil in his home in Westwood. Ms. Pressat has availed herself to all recommended treatment and programming over the course of her incarceration. Programming includes Culinary Arts, Domestic Violence and she graduated from Boston University with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Ms. Pressat presented a solid release plan in her native land (Haiti) to include re-integration services via Alternatives Chance. Release is not incompatible with the welfare of society.

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."

In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Ms. Pressat's 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 Ms. Pressat's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Ms. Pressat's case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Ms. Pressat is rehabilitated and merits parole at this time.

Special Conditions: Reserve to his United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainer; Approved home plan before release (in the event Ms. Pressat is released from ICE custody); Waive work for two weeks; Must be at home between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; ELMO-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; Must have substance abuse evaluation, adhere to plan; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The above decision is an abbreviated administrative decision issued in an effort to render an expedited resolution in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Pressat, through counsel, has waived his right to a full administrative decision.

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



Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

3/4/2021

Date