



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

MARVIN TAITT
W99123

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: September 26, 2024

DATE OF DECISION: December 18, 2024

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sarah B. Coughlin, Tina M. Hurley, James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz

VOTE: Parole is granted to CRJ, but not before a 6 month step down to lower security.¹

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On August 12, 2011, following a jury trial in the Plymouth Superior Court, Marvin Taitt was convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to life imprisonment with the possibility of parole. On September 26, 2024, Mr. Taitt appeared before the Board for an initial hearing. The Board's decision fully incorporates, by reference, the entire video recording of the September 26, 2024 hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On the night of September 4, 2009, Steven St. Louis and Marvin Taitt were in a bar in Brockton. While in the bar, Mr. St. Louis approached Mr. Taitt and gave him a tap on the head. Mr. Taitt left the bar and returned one hour later with two other men. One of these men approached Mr. St. Louis and began to argue with him. While they argued, Mr. Taitt left the bar and obtained a firearm. The two men left the bar, and Mr. St. Louis followed them out to the street. As Mr. St. Louis talked with the two men, Mr. Taitt returned to the area, brandished a firearm, and began walking towards Mr. St. Louis. Mr. St. Louis, who was unarmed, began approaching Mr. Taitt, yelling words to the effect, "What are you going to do with that?" and "If you pull out a gun, you better kill me. What are you going to do with that gun?" Mr.

¹ One Board Member voted to parole to CRJ, but not before a 1 year step down to lower security.

Taitt then raised the firearm and shot five rounds, killing Mr. St. Louis. Mr. Taitt was 21-years-old at the time of 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 incarcerated individual'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 incarcerated individual'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 incarcerated individual at the time of the offense, the criminal record, the institutional record, the incarcerated individual's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing and/or in written submissions to the Board (if applicable).

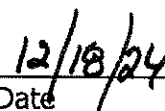
DECISION OF THE BOARD: Mr. Taitt has completed numerous programs, including Jericho Circle and Victim Impact. He has been employed in various roles. His most recent disciplinary report was in 2017. He obtained his HiSet in 2019. Mr. Taitt has employment opportunities in the community. He presented with an understanding of his support needs in the community and identified resources to reach out to. Mr. Taitt scores medium risk on the LSCMI risk assessment tool. He expressed remorse for his actions.

The Board considered the testimony of the Mr. St. Louis's family in opposition to parole. The Plymouth District Attorney also opposed parole.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Waive work for program; Curfew - must be at home between 10 PM & 6 AM for first six months; Electronic monitoring for first six months; Must take prescribed medication; Supervise for drugs with testing in accordance with Agency policy; Supervise for liquor abstinence with 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 and must comply with recommended treatment plan; Counseling for transition, diagnosis of other specified trauma, and stressor-related disorder; CRJ Program.

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.


Tina M. Hurley, Chair


Date