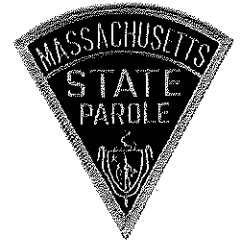


*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*



PAROLE BOARD

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Gloriann Moroney
Chair

Kevin Keefe
Executive Director

AMENDED RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

**MICHAEL HISKIN
W54868**

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing
DATE OF HEARING: September 29, 2020
DATE OF DECISION: February 8, 2021

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On July 28, 1993, in Plymouth Superior Court, Michael Hiskin¹ pleaded guilty to second-degree murder of 22-year-old Henry Bynum. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with the possibility of parole. On that same day, Mr. Hiskin pleaded guilty to two counts of armed assault with intent to murder, two counts of assault and battery by means of a dangerous weapon, and two counts of unlawfully carrying a firearm. Mr. Hiskin received two 12-20-year sentences for armed assault with intent to murder. He received two 9-10-year sentences for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. He received two 3-5-year sentences for unlawful possession of a firearm. All sentences were ordered to be served concurrently. In addition, on January 26, 1993, Mr. Hiskin escaped from Brockton District Court. He was apprehended and convicted of escape. He received a one-year sentence, which was ordered to be served from and after his life sentence.

Mr. Hiskin appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on September 29, 2020 and was represented by Attorney Ed Fogarty. This was Mr. Hiskin's fourth appearance before the Board, having been denied in 2006, 2011, and 2016. The entire video recording of Mr. Hiskin's September 29, 2020 hearing is fully incorporated by reference to the Board's decision.

DECISION OF THE BOARD: On January 19, 2021, the Supreme Judicial Court in William Dinkins & Another v. Massachusetts Parole Board, 486 Mass. 605 (2021) invalidated 120 Code Mass. Regs. § 200.08(3)(c) and held that the Board must aggregate the parole ineligibility period of a life sentence with the parole ineligibility period of consecutive sentences for purposes of determining a single parole ineligibility date. In accordance with the SJC ruling, Mr.

¹ Michael Hiskin is alias, according to Mr. Hiskin. His birth name is Sam Jones.

Hiskin's parole eligibility was recalculated in order to determine a single parole eligibility date. The Board subsequently amended its original decision paroling Mr. Hiskin to his consecutive sentence and, 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, the Board is now paroling Mr. Hiskin to a long term residential treatment program, but not before nine months in lower security.²

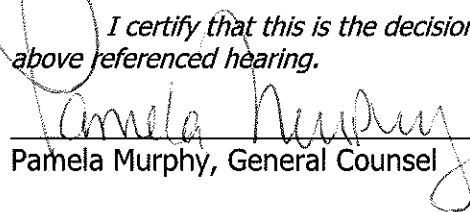
The applicable standard used by the Board to assess a candidate for parole is: "Parole Board Members shall only grant a parole permit if they are of the opinion that there is a reasonable probability that, if such offender is released, the offender will live and remain at liberty without violating the law and that release is not incompatible with the welfare of society."

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


SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Reserve to a long term residential treatment program, but not before nine months in lower security; Waive work for long term residential program; 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 mental health counseling for adjustment, transition, and depression; Must complete LTRP; AA at least 3 times/week; Must obtain sponsor.

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. Mr. Hiskin, 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



Date

² The decision was unanimous.