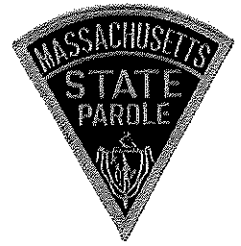


*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*

**PAROLE BOARD**

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*Executive Director*

**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**MICHAEL MORAN**  
**W89858**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Review Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** January 14, 2025

**DATE OF DECISION:** April 24, 2025

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

**VOTE:** Parole is denied with a review in 1 year from the date of the hearing.<sup>1</sup>

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:** On October 29, 2003, following a jury trial in Plymouth County Superior Court, Michael Moran was convicted of murder in the second degree for the death of Viktoria Moran. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. Parole was denied following an initial hearing in 2022. On January 14, 2025, Michael Moran appeared before the Board for a review hearing. He was represented by Attorney Deidre Thurber. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Michael Moran's January 14, 2025, hearing.

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On September 5, 2003, 21-year-old Michael Moran was living with his girlfriend and their two children. On that date, the children's mother took their older daughter to the doctor and, at Mr. Moran's insistence, left their seven-week-old daughter, Viktoria, in his care. Upon return, Viktoria's mother checked on her daughter, who appeared to be fine. Later that evening, however, Viktoria stopped breathing. Paramedics arrived and transported Viktoria to the hospital, where she died. During questioning, Mr. Moran told police that he "slammed" Viktoria into her crib and her head hit the crib railing.

**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


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<sup>1</sup> Three Board Members voted to deny parole with a review in 2 years.

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 (if applicable).

**DECISION OF THE BOARD:** This is Mr. Moran's second appearance before the Board. He has had no disciplinary reports since his last hearing. Mr. Moran has not completed institutional programming since his last hearing, but reports he has completed programming through ACCI. The Board notes Mr. Moran should continue with therapy to address his trauma and work to continue to address areas of need, including Victim Empathy and Insight. The Board finds he should reflect on accountability. The Board also recommends programs that will promote further insight into the dynamics of family violence. The Board also encourages Mr. Moran to develop a reentry plan that addresses his on-going needs. The Board again considered the 2022 expert forensic evaluation authored by Dr. DiCataldo. The Board considered the lack of forthrightness by Mr. Moran regarding his account of the crime, considering the circumstances. The Board considered testimony from three members of Mr. Moran's family in support of parole. The Board considered the testimony of Viktoria's mother and sister in opposition to parole. The Board also considered the testimony of Plymouth County Assistant District Attorney Karen Palumbo in opposition to parole. The Board concludes that Michael Moran has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society.

*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