

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

MICHAEL MORRISETTE
W49880

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: October 15, 2020

DATE OF DECISION: April 13, 2021

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On February 5, 1991, in Middlesex Superior Court, Michael Morrisette was found guilty of murder in the second-degree murder of 73-year-old Louis Pozyc. He was sentenced to life imprisonment with the possibility of parole.

Mr. Morrisette appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on October 15, 2020 and was not represented by counsel. This was Mr. Morrisette’s first appearance before the Board since his final revocation hearing in 2019. Mr. Morrisette was previously released on parole in 2004, and 2015 but was revoked due to parole violations. The entire video recording of Mr. Morrisette’s October 15, 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 that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole.¹ Reserve to approved home plan. Mr. Morrisette has been back in custody for approximately three years. Since his return to custody he has maintained a positive adjustment, completed the Restorative Justice Retreat, Criminal Thinking and has been employed in the sewing shop. Re-parole with the added conditions of GPS (mandatory) and polygraph at the parole officer’s discretion meets the legal standard. All other conditions to remain.

¹ Six Board Members voted to grant parole, and one Board Member voted to deny parole.

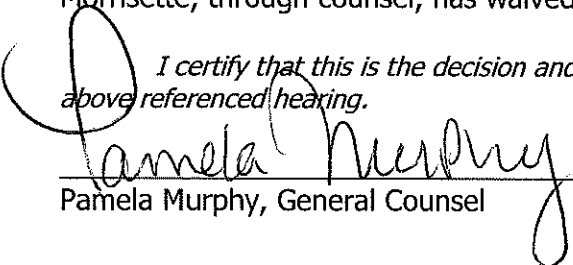
The applicable standard used by the Board to assess a candidate for parole is: "Parole Board Members shall only grant a parole permit if they are of the opinion that there is a reasonable probability that, if such offender is released, the offender will live and remain at liberty without violating the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

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

Special Conditions: Reserve to approved home plan; Must be at home between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. with the exception of employment; ELMO-electronic monitoring; Supervise for drugs; testing in accordance with agency policy; Supervise for liquor abstinence; testing in accordance with agency policy; Polygraph testing at P.O. discretion; Report to assigned MA Parole Office on day of release; No contact with victim(s) family; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition; L.E.A.P's if residing in Lowell.

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. Morrisette, 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

4/13/2021
Date