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PAROLE BOARD

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Tina M. Hurley
Chair

Daniel Nakamoto
Acting Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

PEDRO VALENTIN

W52545

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: April 11, 2023

DATE OF DECISION: June 7, 2023

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Tina Hurley, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Dr. Maryanne Galvin, James Kelcourse, Colette Santa

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On May 15, 1992, after a jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, Pedro Valentin was convicted of first-degree murder in the death of 27-year-old Timothy Bond and was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. As a result of post-conviction motions, Mr. Valentin's first-degree murder conviction was reduced to a second-degree murder conviction on May 21, 2021, and he was resentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole.

Mr. Valentin appeared before the Parole Board for an initial hearing on April 11, 2023. He was represented by Attorneys Elizabeth Doherty and Kate Welch. The entire video recording of Mr. Valentin's April 11, 2023, 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.

The Board is of the opinion that Pedro Valentin has demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. Reserve to approved home plan. On July 15, 1991, Mr. Valentin participated in the shooting death of 27-year-old Timothy Bond. Mr. Valentin is now 58 years old. He was released pending a stay of execution while the underlying conviction was reviewed in court. Mr. Valentin had no issues while out on the stay of execution. He has scored low on COMPAS and TCD. He has not had a

sanctioned disciplinary report since 2015. Shortly before this hearing, he completed the Criminal Thinking Expansion Program. He participated in the Restorative Justice Retreat and Alternatives to Violence, among other rehabilitative programs. The Board notes that he has renounced his STG affiliation and sought out numerous education opportunities. The Board notes he has a large support network. Mr. Valentin presented a thoughtful parole plan and indicates that he will work with a CPCS social worker to aid in reentry services. He has identified potential employers and volunteer opportunities.

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." 120 C.M.R. 300.04. In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Mr. Valentin'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. Valentin's risk of recidivism. After applying this standard to the circumstances of Mr. Valentin's case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Pedro Valentin is rehabilitated and, therefore, merits parole at this time.

Special Conditions: Reserve to approved home plan; Waive work for two weeks; Curfew at PO's discretion; ELMO-electronic monitoring at PO's discretion; 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 evaluation and follow recommended treatment; Must have substance abuse evaluation and follow recommended treatment; Counseling for adjustment/transition.

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

6/7/23
Date