

Terrence M. Reidy Secretary

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security PAROLE BOARD

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Tina M. Hurley Chair

Lian Hogan Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

RAN SREY W98005

TYPE OF HEARING:

Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING:

March 21, 2024

DATE OF DECISION:

June 20, 2024

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

VOTE: Parole is denied, with a review in one year from the date of the hearing.²

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On February 4, 2011, in Middlesex Superior Court, Ran Srey pleaded guilty to murder in the second degree for the death of a 17-year-old victim. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. On the same date, Mr. Srey received three concurrent 10 to 15-year sentences for armed assault with intent to kill. He was also sentenced to five years of probation for convictions of assault and battery by means of a dangerous weapon, possession of a firearm, and possession of ammunition. A conviction for discharging a firearm was placed on file. On March 21, 2024, Mr. Srey appeared before the Board for an initial hearing. He was not represented by counsel. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Srey's March 21, 2024 hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On May 12, 2009, Mr. Srey (age 24), was involved in a verbal altercation with another man who sought to hide from Mr. Srey at 26 Willie Street, Lowell. Later that night, the victim was traveling in a vehicle to 26 Willie Street to watch a basketball game with two other individuals. When the vehicle pulled up outside the home, Mr. Srey approached it on his bike. The driver observed Mr. Srey drop his bike, lift his shirt, and pull out a chrome object, causing the driver to flee. Mr. Srey fired a gun at the vehicle, striking the

¹ Board Member Coughlin was not present at the hearing, but reviewed the materials and recording of the hearing, and participated in the vote.

² Three Board Members voted to grant parole and three Board Members voted to deny parole with a two-year review. A two-thirds vote is required for parole to be granted. Because of the split vote, the Board will conduct Mr. Srey's review hearing in one year from the date of this hearing.

victim, who was the front seat passenger, in the head. Her companions removed her body from the vehicle, where it was soon located by a passerby. The victim's cause of death was a .25 caliber gunshot wound to the head. A search of Mr. Srey's home revealed a bag of .25 caliber bullets. Following the murder, he secreted himself at home in Lowell and was ultimately arrested following a standoff with law enforcement.

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: This was Mr. Srey's initial hearing before the Board. He has been incarcerated since 2009. Mr. Srey's early period of incarceration was especially troubled, with multiple disciplinary reports. The Board notes that he has had no disciplinary reports for almost ten years. Mr. Srey has engaged in programming related to violence reduction and to address his adverse childhood experiences and trauma. Having been exposed to early influences of violence and anger, Mr. Srey states that he has developed coping mechanisms to manage anger and impulsiveness. He earned his GED and noted the benefits of the CRA program. He expressed insight into the damage his actions caused. However, the Board also has concerns regarding Mr. Srey's adjustment. The result was in a divided Board, resulting in a review hearing in one year. The Board considered opposition testimony from Assistant District Attorney Alicia Walsh and opposition from the victim's family. The Board concludes that Mr. Srey 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 abovereferenced 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