



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

ROBERT LODER

W46851

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: July 27, 2021

DATE OF DECISION: December 7, 2021

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On January 31, 1975, in Middlesex Superior Court, Robert Loder was convicted of rape and sentenced to life in prison. On that same date, Loder was also convicted of armed robbery and received a consecutive life sentence. He received an additional three-to-five-year sentence for unnatural acts, which was ordered to run concurrent with the subsequent life sentence. In 1976, Loder was convicted of escape and sentenced to 1 year to 1 year and a day.¹ In 1989, Mr. Loder was paroled from his life sentence to his consecutive life sentence.

Mr. Loder appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on July 27, 2021 and was represented by Northeastern University Law students Riley Grinkis and Tanvi Verma. This was Mr. Loder's fourth appearance before the Board, having been denied parole after hearings in 2004, 2009, and 2015. Mr. Loder postponed his December 2017 hearing. The entire video recording of Mr. Loder's July 27, 2021 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. Reserve to Community Resources for Justice – Transitional Housing or Long-Term Residential Treatment Program (LTRP) after 12

¹ This sentence is expired since it was ordered to run concurrent with the initial life sentence.

months in lower security and Middlesex County District Attorney clearance. Mr. Loder was 19-years-old when he was convicted of a 1974 armed robbery and rape of a woman in Cambridge. He has served approximately 47 years. In 1989 he was paroled to his consecutive sentence and has been on parole inside the institution without incident. He has not incurred any disciplinary reports in 32 years. He completed the Sex Offender Treatment Program in 2019 and has remained involved in maintenance and is a peer mentor. He has also been active in NA/AA for approximately 25 years and has been sober since 1982. The Board considered the psychological evaluation submitted by Dr. Robert Kinscherff. Mr. Loder will benefit from transition through lower security as he has been incarcerated for 47 years and was approximately 19 years old when he was convicted.

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. Loder'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. Loder's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Loder's case, the Board is of the opinion that Mr. Loder is rehabilitated and merits parole after 12 months in lower security, subject to special conditions.

Special Conditions: Reserve to Community Resources for Justice – Transitional Housing (CRJ-TH) or LTRP after 12 months in lower security (must complete); Waive work for LTRP or two weeks; 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 the victim's family; No contact with the victim's family; No contact with victim(s); Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition; AA/NA at least 3 times/week; Mandatory – adhere to "Sex A" conditions.

I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing.


Pamela Murphy, General Counsel


Date