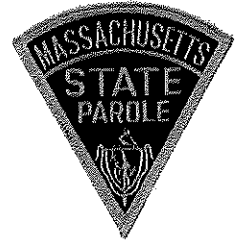


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

OSCAR ROSA
W91542

TYPE OF HEARING: **Review Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **February 26, 2026**

DATE OF DECISION: **July 15, 2026**

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Sarah B. Coughlin, Angelo Gomez Jr., James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz

VOTE: Parole is granted to an LTRP after 6 months in minimum security.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On February 19, 2008, following a jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, Oscar Rosa was convicted of murder in the second-degree for the death of Craig Viera. He was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. Parole was denied after an initial hearing in 2022 and review hearing in 2024.

On February 26, 2026, Mr. Rosa appeared before the Board for a review hearing. He was represented by Attorney Debra Beard-Bader. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Rosa's February 26, 2026, hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On November 26, 2006, 20-year-old Oscar Rosa, stabbed and killed 32-year-old Craig Viera in Boston, MA. On that date, Mr. Rosa entered the Embassy Nightclub in Boston with several friends. However, they were asked to leave the premises by security personnel due to their behavior at the establishment. Craig Viera, a security officer at the Embassy Nightclub, spoke with Mr. Rosa's group outside the establishment and attempted to deescalate the situation. Mr. Rosa proceeded to stab Mr. Viera and then flee the scene with a bloody knife, which was later recovered. Mr. Viera was treated in the hospital for a stab wound in the abdomen. Although he was discharged to his home within several days of the incident, Mr. Viera died due to complications from his injuries on December 8, 2006. After his death, Mr. Rosa (who had already been charged with assault and battery by means of a dangerous weapon and

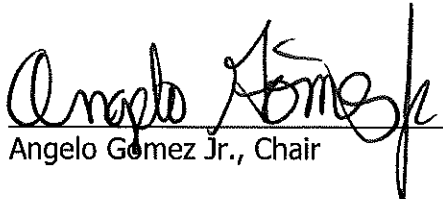
released on bail) was indicted for murder and arraigned in Suffolk Superior Court on February 8, 2007.

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 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.

DECISION OF THE BOARD: This was Mr. Rosa's third appearance before the Board. Mr. Rosa has completed four programs since his last hearing. He accepted the recommendations of the Board. After the last hearing the Board requested an evaluation to better understand his need areas. The Board reviewed the forensic evaluation of Dr. Winsmann. The evaluation provided insight into Mr. Rosa's cognitive deficits and their effect on his daily level of functioning. The Board agrees with Dr. Winsmann's recommendations and will structure conditions of supervision in accordance to them. The Board considered testimony in support of parole from two of Mr. Rosa's friends and a family member. The Board also considered testimony in opposition to parole from Mr. Viera's mother, and two of Mr. Viera's friends. Suffolk ADA Montez Haywood attended the hearing but did not provide testimony. The Board finds with sufficient supports and programming; Mr. Rosa's release is compatible with the welfare of society.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Waive work for 2 weeks or SSI; Must be home between 10 PM and 6 AM PO's discretion; Electronic monitoring for 6 months; 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; no contact with victim's family; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment; Long term residential program; AA at least 3 times per week: online @ PO's discretion; Mandatory: Engage with MA rehab; Mandatory: Enroll in CJSC for services and assessment.

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.


Angelo Gomez Jr., Chair

July 15, 2026
Date