



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

12 Mercer Road
Natick, Massachusetts 01760

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Thomas A. Turco III
Secretary

Telephone # (508) 650-4500
Facsimile # (508) 650-4599

Gloriann Moroney
Chair

Kevin Keefe
Executive Director

DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

SALAHUDDIN ALI

W66932

TYPE OF HEARING: **Review Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **September 10, 2019**

DATE OF DECISION: **May 14, 2020**

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

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 not a suitable candidate for parole. Parole is denied with a review scheduled in three years from the date of the hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On August 17, 1994, in Barnstable Superior Court, Salahuddin Ali was found guilty by a jury of armed robbery while masked and was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. The life sentence was ordered to be served from and after the balance of his 5 to 25 year sentence received for a bank robbery in 1983.

On September 25, 1993, Salahuddin Ali (age 35) and two co-defendants¹ robbed a bank in Cotuit, while armed and masked. Mr. Ali was on parole supervision at the time of this offense. At approximately 10:30 a.m., a dirt bike bearing two riders approached the Plymouth Savings Bank. The driver, Anthony Rose, was dressed in black and wore a full-faced red

¹ Mr. Ali's two co-defendants were Myles Miranda and Anthony Rose, both of whom were also convicted of armed robbery while masked.

motorcycle helmet. The passenger, Mr. Ali (also dressed in black), dismounted, rolled down a black ski mask, pulled out what appeared to be a gun, and entered the bank. Mr. Rose circled the dirt bike behind the bank.

Inside the bank, Mr. Ali brandished the "gun" (actually a lighter, but witnesses had described it as a weapon), ordered everyone to the floor, vaulted the counter, and told the bank's manager to empty the cash drawers into a bag.² He then ordered the manager to the floor and went into her office, where he broke a window. Mr. Ali tossed the bag full of money through the broken window in order to avoid a dye-detection device that may have been operating at the front door. He left the bank through the front door, recovered the bag of money, and escaped on the dirt bike with Mr. Rose. The thieves got away with approximately \$5,900. They later met with their third accomplice, Myles Miranda, who helped orchestrate the bank robbery, in order to split the proceeds.

II. PAROLE HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

Salahuddin Ali, now 61-years-old, appeared before the Parole Board on September 10, 2019, for a review hearing. He was represented by Attorney Eva Jellison. Mr. Ali was denied parole after his initial hearing in 2014. Mr. Ali provided an opening statement in which he expressed his regret and sorrow for placing bank staff and customers in fear, when he committed an armed robbery while masked. Additionally, he apologized to the court reporter for the threats he made, while being escorted out of the courthouse.

Mr. Ali provided the Board with a comprehensive overview of the offense that is consistent with the facts of the Commonwealth. It wasn't until his initial parole hearing in 2014, however, that he acknowledged his guilt and claimed to have been ashamed and embarrassed of his criminal history. Mr. Ali described the precipitants leading up to the bank robbery, which occurred while he was on parole supervision for an armed robbery and possession of a sawed-off shotgun. At the time of the offense, Mr. Ali had recently been released from the Department of Correction on parole supervision and was motivated by his desire for money and drugs. He had spent several years planning the robbery and used weapons during the commission of his crimes to place the victim(s) in fear. Mr. Ali provided the Board with a synopsis of his criminal history. At a young age, he started stealing to help his mother support the family and quickly became entrenched in anti-social behavior. He spent years honing his criminal skills, describing it as a lifestyle choice. After his first commitment for armed robbery in Massachusetts, Mr. Ali committed an armed robbery each time he was afforded the opportunity of parole supervision.

The Board discussed Mr. Ali's institutional adjustment; he is currently incarcerated at MCI-Shirley. He has been unemployed since 2016, due to the receipt of a disciplinary infraction; he has incurred five disciplinary infractions since 2014. Since his last hearing, Mr. Ali completed numerous programs, including Alternatives to Violence – Basic Level, Community Outreach Initiative, Cognitive Behavior, and Criminal Thinking – Thinking for a Change. He is currently enrolled in the Graduate Maintenance Program and attends Islamic Services once a week. Mr. Ali discussed the insight he has gained, as it relates to his causative factors and

² In addition to the gun facsimile, Ali carried a knife in the bag.

criminal thinking, through his participation in Community Outreach Initiative. He last used drugs in 1998.

Several family members and friends of Mr. Ali attended the hearing. The Board considered testimony from Mr. Ali's brother and two friends in support of parole.

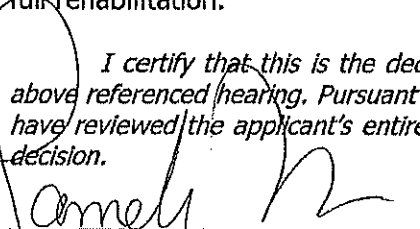
III. DECISION

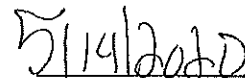
It is the opinion of the Board that Salahuddin Ali has not yet demonstrated a level of rehabilitative progress that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society. Mr. Ali has served approximately 26 years for an armed bank robbery while masked. He has a history of violating his parole as a result of being arrested for crimes committed while on community supervision. Mr. Ali should continue to maintain a positive deportment and continue to engage in all recommended treatment and programming to include pursuit of his HI-set.

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. Ali'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. Ali's risk of recidivism. After applying this standard to the circumstances of Mr. Ali's case, the Board is of the opinion that Salahuddin Ali is not yet rehabilitated and, therefore, does not merit parole at this time.

Mr. Ali's next appearance before the Board will take place in three years from the date of this hearing. During the interim, the Board encourages him to continue working towards his full rehabilitation.

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.


Pamela Murphy, General Counsel


Date