



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

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Chair

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

SHAQUAN JACOBS

W101416

TYPE OF HEARING: **Initial Hearing**

DATE OF HEARING: **August 7, 2025**

DATE OF DECISION: **January 14, 2026**

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Sarah B. Coughlin, Angelo Gomez Jr., James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz.¹

VOTE: Parole is granted on/after 6 months total in lower security to CRJ.²

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: Shaquan Jacobs was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole after pleading guilty to second-degree murder on October 2, 2012, in Middlesex Superior Court.³

On August 7, 2025, Mr. Jacobs appeared before the Board for an initial hearing. He did not have legal representation. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Mr. Jacobs' August 7, 2025, hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On September 30, 2010, at approximately 11:00 p.m. in Waltham, Shaquan Jacobs (age 18), Wallace Duarte, Benjamin Peirce and Daniel Louis robbed 29-year-old Adam Coveney. During the robbery, Mr. Coveney was shot and killed by Daniel Louis. Although the plan to commit a robbery originated with Mr. Peirce, Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Duarte agreed to

¹ Board Member Bonner and Board Member Gomez were not present at the hearing but reviewed the recording of the hearing and the entirety of the file prior to vote. Board Member Coleman was present for the hearing but departed the Board prior to vote.

² The Board unanimously voted to grant parole. One Board Member voted to reserve to CRJ after nine months in lower security.

³ On the same date, Mr. Jacobs pleaded guilty to other offenses. He received a 4-5 year concurrent sentence for attempt to commit a crime. Mr. Jacobs' convictions for armed robbery and possession of a firearm were placed on file.

participate. The three men went to the Dollar Store in Waltham to buy supplies to commit the robbery. The men then met Daniel Lewis in Boston to obtain a gun to use in the robbery. Mr. Lewis got in the car with at least one firearm with the intent of committing the robbery. The men attempted to break into a home, but were unsuccessful. Mr. Peirce suggested robbing Mr. Coveney, whom Mr. Peirce believed sold Percocet. A meeting was set up with Mr. Coveney to buy Percocet and a fifth person, a female, got into the car. All five people discussed the plan to rob Mr. Coveney.

The meeting between Mr. Peirce and Mr. Coveney occurred behind a building in Waltham. Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Louis jumped from cover. The three men proceeded to beat Mr. Coveney, who surrendered the pills he had with him. While Mr. Coveney was on the ground, Mr. Louis shot him. The men fled the scene. After the killing, Mr. Jacobs hid a firearm in his backyard. He subsequently made a statement to the police in which he acknowledged being aware of the plan to rob Mr. Coveney.

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: Mr. Jacobs was 18-years-old at the time of the offense. He is currently 33-years-old and has been incarcerated for 15 years. Since his incarceration, he has earned his BA from Tufts, he has invested in his rehabilitation, and has completed programs that address his need areas, including but not limited to, Cognitive Skills, Restorative Justice, Violence Reduction and Victim Impact. His disassociation from a STG (Security Threat Group) was completed in 2018. He also engaged in the NEADS Program and acquired employment skills. Mr. Jacobs has a significant support system and a re-entry plan to assist him with successful re-entry into the community. The Board considered the testimony of Mr. Jacobs’ mother and numerous members of the community in support of parole. The Board considered testimony from Mr. Coveney’s sister on behalf of the Coveney family. The Board also considered testimony from Middlesex County Assistant District Attorney Alicia Walsh. The Board concludes that Shaquan Jacobs has demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make his release compatible with the welfare of society.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: Waive work for 2 weeks; Electronic monitoring for 6 months; Curfew – must be home between 10 PM and 6 AM at discretion of parole officer; Supervise for drugs with testing in accordance with Agency policy; Supervise for liquor abstinence with 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 counseling for adjustment; Long Term Residential Program - CRJ.

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

January 14, 2026
Date