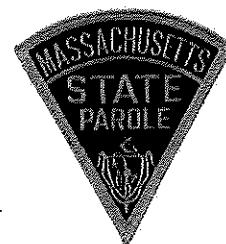


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

JUSTINA TALBOT
F80066

TYPE OF HEARING: Initial Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: March 3, 2026

DATE OF DECISION: July 21, 2026

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

VOTE: Parole is denied with a review in 2 years from the date of the hearing.¹

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On April 27, 2001, after a jury trial in Hampden Superior Court, Justina Talbot was found guilty of two counts of forcible rape of a child under 16 and sentenced to 35-to-40-years in prison. On that same date, she was sentenced to 20 years of probation, from and after the state prison sentence, for indecent assault and battery on a child under 14, and 10 years of probation, concurrent with the state prison sentence, for forcible rape of a child under 14. After an appeal, the sentences were vacated and remanded to the Superior Court for resentencing. In May 2007, Ms. Talbot was resentenced to life with the possibility of parole for two counts of forcible rape of a child under 16 and 20 years of probation, from and after her life sentence.

On March 3, 2026,² Ms. Talbot appeared before the Board for an initial hearing. She was represented at the hearing by Attorney Pamela Berman. The Board's decision fully incorporates by reference the entire video recording of Ms. Talbot's March 3, 2026, hearing.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: Justina Talbot, who has four children, had a lengthy relationship with Fernand Daviau that ended in December 1998. Ms. Talbot told her daughters, who were not

¹ Three Board Members voted to deny parole with a review in 3 years. Because the Board was split on the duration of the setback, the review will take place in 2 years.

² Ms. Talbot elected to postpone her initial hearings in 2016 and 2020.

Mr. Daviau's children, that she was going to prepare them for marriage. She demonstrated (on Mr. Daviau) some acts of which she claimed was expected sexually. Mr. Daviau separately engaged the girls in sexual activity, including fellatio and digital penetration. Sexual intercourse was "reserved" until the girls' 13th birthday. By December 1998, Ms. Talbot's older daughter, who was 14-years-old, and the younger daughter, who was 10-years-old, endured this treatment for four and two years, respectively, out of fear that they would be beaten either by Mr. Daviau or Ms. Talbot, or by both.

On December 19, 1998, Mr. Daviau beat Ms. Talbot with his fists. Fearing she would be the next victim, Ms. Talbot's younger daughter ran away from home. The older daughter went looking for her and eventually found her. Rather than return home, the two girls sought help from a family friend, who telephoned police. Officers arrived shortly, and the girls were removed from the family home.

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: Ms. Talbot is 62-years-old and appeared for her initial hearing. Ms. Talbot was in an abusive relationship with Fernand Daviau. The Board reviewed the evaluation of Dr. Carson. The Board acknowledges the work Ms. Talbot has done to address her own trauma history, but also notes that she has not yet fully addressed the trauma she has caused to her daughters. Ms. Talbot continues to deny culpability in contrast to the evidence which has been presented. Ms. Talbot's institutional history reflects a long history of disciplinary reports. She has not yet completed the Sex Offender Treatment Program. The Board concludes that Justina Talbot has not demonstrated a level of rehabilitation that would make her release compatible with the welfare of society. The Board considered testimony in opposition to parole from the victims' father, who read statements from the two victims, as well as Hampden County Assistant District Attorney Lee Baker.

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 21, 2026
Date