



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*



**PAROLE BOARD**

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**RECORD OF DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**VINNY NUNEZ**

**W65250**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Review Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** July 9, 2019

**DATE OF DECISION:** March 26, 2020

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

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:** On September 14, 1998, in Essex Superior Court, Mr. Nunez pleaded guilty to the second-degree murder of 20-year-old Jason Cox and was sentenced to life with the possibility of parole. On the same date, he was also convicted of carrying a firearm without a license for which he received a 2 and one-half to three year concurrent sentence, which has since expired.

Mr. Nunez, now 43-years-old, appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on July 9, 2019 and was represented by Attorney John Rull. This was Mr. Nunez's third appearance before the Board, having been denied parole in 2012 and 2016. The entire video recording of Mr. Nunez's July 9, 2019 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 decision that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole. Reserve to Interstate Compact – Florida but not before one year in lower security. Mr. Nunez has served 22 years for the murder of Jason Cox. It is the opinion of the Board that the goals of incarceration have been met, as he has immersed himself in rehabilitation. Release is not incompatible with the welfare of society.

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

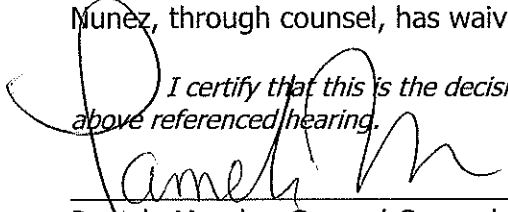
probability that, if such offender is released, the offender will live and remain at liberty without violating the law and that release is not incompatible with the welfare of society." 120 C.M.R. 300.04.

In forming this opinion, the Board has taken into consideration Mr. Nunez'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. Nunez's risk of recidivism. After applying this appropriately high standard to the circumstances of Mr. Nunez's case, the Board is of the unanimous opinion that Mr. Nunez is rehabilitated and merits parole at this time.

**Special Conditions:** Reserve to Interstate Compact – Florida after one year in lower security; Waive work for 2 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 victim's family; Must have mental health counseling for adjustment/transition; Must attend AA/NA at least 3 times per week.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The above decision is an abbreviated administrative decision issued in an effort to render an expedited resolution in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Nunez, through counsel, has waived his right to a full administrative decision.

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

  
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Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

  
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Date