

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security



PAROLE BOARD

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Kevin Keefe
Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

WILLIAM LAPAGE

W62025

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: July 14, 2022

DATE OF DECISION: October 19, 2022

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Tina Hurley, James Kelcourse, Colette Santa¹

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: On January 29, 1997, after a jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, William LaPage was convicted of first-degree murder in the death of 33-year-old Sharilee Banks. On appeal, a new trial was ordered. On March 23, 2005, after a second jury trial in Suffolk Superior Court, he was convicted of second-degree murder and was sentenced to serve life in prison with the possibility of parole.

Mr. LaPage appeared before the Parole Board for a review hearing on July 14, 2022. He was represented by Attorney Chetan Tiwari. Mr. LaPage had been denied parole at his initial hearing in 2013 and review hearing in 2018. The entire video recording of Mr. LaPage's July 14, 2022 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 vote that the inmate is a suitable candidate for parole.

Reserve to LTRP after DA clearance. On February 25, 1995, Mr. LaPage murdered 33-year-old Sharilee Banks. He has been incarcerated for twenty-seven years and has received only one sanctioned disciplinary report. Since his last hearing, he has participated in correspondence courses related to domestic violence and cognitive life skills. He has also maintained

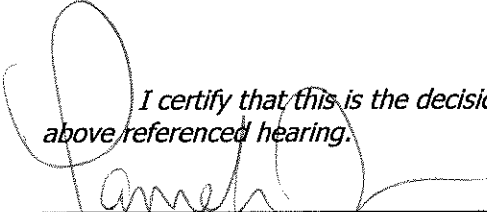
¹ Chair Moroney recused.

employment, pursued vocational training, and engaged in the NEADS program. He has been sober since the date of offense. At the hearing, a reentry specialist testified on his behalf that she has worked with him to identify programs, including those affiliated with the veteran community, to aid in his reentry. Mr. LaPage will benefit from the structured environment provided by an LTRP.

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

Special Conditions: Reserve to LTRP – Must Complete; Waive work for program; Curfew at PO's discretion; ELMO-electronic monitoring at PO's discretion; Must take prescribed medication; 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 the victim's family; Must have counseling for adjustment/transition; AA/NA at least 3 times/week; Mandatory – DA clearance.

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



Pamela Murphy, General Counsel

10/19/22
Date