



Maura T. Healey
Governor

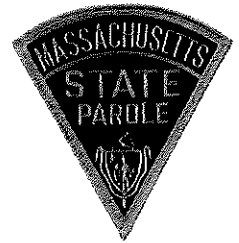
Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Terrence M. Reidy
Secretary

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

PAROLE BOARD

12 Mercer Road
Natick, Massachusetts 01760



Tina M. Hurley
Chair

Lian Hogan
Executive Director

RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

WILLIAM NADWORNY
W40533

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: July 25, 2024

DATE OF DECISION: December 9, 2024

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Edith J. Alexander,¹ Dr. Charlene Bonner, Tonomey Coleman, Sarah B. Coughlin, Tina M. Hurley, James Kelcourse, Rafael Ortiz

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

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On June 12, 1984, after a jury trial in Essex Superior Court, William Nadworny was found guilty of second-degree murder in the killing of 17-year-old Lisa Belmonte. On February 26, 1985, Mr. Nadworny was released from custody based on the Massachusetts Appeals Court ruling for a stay of execution of sentence. On December 11, 1985, that stay of execution was vacated after the Supreme Judicial Court affirmed the conviction. Mr. Nadworny was then returned to MCI-Cedar Junction to continue serving the life sentence.

Mr. Nadworny, now 67-years-old, appeared before the Massachusetts Parole Board for his seventh parole hearing on July 25, 2024. He was represented by Northeastern University Law student attorneys Jaylen Cavil and Mariam Hassan. Mr. Nadworny was denied parole after his initial hearing in 2000, and after his 2005, 2010, 2015, 2021, and 2023 review hearings. The Board heard testimony from Danielle Lapenta M.A. regarding Mr. Nadworny's submitted forensic psychological evaluations. The Board also heard testimony from Reentry Specialist Lauren Honigman from the Greater Boston Legal Services Housing Unit in support of Mr. Nadworny's parole plan. Two family members also testified in support of parole. In addition to a letter of

¹ Board Member Alexander was not present for the hearing but reviewed the video recording of the hearing and the entirety of the file prior to vote.

² Three Board Members voted to grant parole after 9 months in lower security to Interstate Compact.

opposition, one of Ms. Belmonte's family members testified in opposition to parole on behalf of the five family members in attendance. The Essex District Attorney's Office submitted a letter of opposition and Essex Assistant District Kristen Jiang testified in opposition to parole. The entire video recording of William Nadworny's July 25, 2024, hearing is hereby incorporated, by reference, into this decision.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE: In 1981, Lisa Belmonte was a high school student, residing with her family in Lynn. She had been acquainted with members of the Nadworny family, including William Nadworny, for some time prior to her death. Ms. Belmonte and Mr. Nadworny became romantically involved in the summer of 1981, when she was 16 and he was 24. Mr. Nadworny allowed Ms. Belmonte to stay at his residence periodically throughout their relationship. In the fall of 1981, Ms. Belmonte ran away from home and was found hiding in a storage bin in Mr. Nadworny's basement.

In January 1982, Ms. Belmonte began to reconsider her relationship with Mr. Nadworny. A friend of Ms. Belmonte reported that Mr. Nadworny had spoken to her about his relationship with Ms. Belmonte, indicating that he would be devastated if it ended. When Mr. Nadworny and Ms. Belmonte exchanged letters in March 1982, Ms. Belmonte indicated that she intended to end their relationship. She visited Mr. Nadworny's residence on March 18, 1982, after expressing to a counselor that she intended to end the relationship. She did not return home that evening and was never again seen alive. On that same day, Mr. Nadworny's friend/coworker reached out to him at approximately 7:00 p.m., inquiring as to whether he could spend the night at his residence. Mr. Nadworny informed him that Ms. Belmonte was present at his residence and asked him to come over later that evening at around 9:00 p.m. When the friend/coworker arrived, he did not receive an answer at the door, despite observing a light on in the apartment and Mr. Nadworny's car parked outside.


On July 20, 1982, police located Ms. Belmonte's badly decomposed body in the trunk of a vehicle registered to Mr. Nadworny. The body was wrapped in a bag and bound with electrical cord. Mr. Nadworny spoke with police and admitted to placing Ms. Belmonte's body in a canvas bag and storing it in a storage bin in the basement of his apartment. He also admitted that he moved the body to the trunk of his vehicle and parked it at a work site. Mr. Nadworny maintains that he found Ms. Belmonte's deceased body in his apartment in early April 1982. He admits that he did not contact the police.

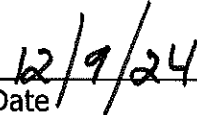
APPLICABLE STANDARD: Parole "[p]ermits shall be granted only if the Board is of the opinion, after consideration of a risk and needs assessment, that there is a reasonable probability that, if the prisoner is released with appropriate conditions and community supervision, the prisoner will live and remain 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 incarcerated individual'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 incarcerated individual'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 incarcerated individual at the time of the offense, the criminal record, the institutional record, the incarcerated individual's testimony at the hearing, and the views of the public as expressed at the hearing and/or in written submissions to the Board (if applicable).

DECISION OF THE BOARD: This was William Nadworny's seventh appearance before the Parole Board. He has been incarcerated for 40 years. He has continued to maintain his innocence, which the Board has challenged in prior hearings due to the nature and circumstances of the offense. While Mr. Nadworny has made progress in appreciating how his age versus the victim's age and developmental stage in her life should have dissuaded him from engaging in any intimate relationship with her, he distanced himself from the harm he caused her and her family. Rather than accept accountability, he blames the victim's family and victim for his decisions. This further demonstrates his lack of empathy. The Board remains concerned about his level of insight, candor, lack of empathy, and judgment. Mr. Nadworny's most recent disciplinary report for lying/concealing shows traits consistent with the governing offense, such as deceit and concealment. Mr. Nadworny is encouraged to pursue programs and opportunities that will increase his ability to empathize and will address the ongoing concerns with regards to his judgment and candor.

Mr. Nadworny'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.


Tina M. Hurley, Chair


Date