



STATE OF ILLINOIS
 BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET: MEETING OF JUNE 29, 2017

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open en banc session at 512 S. 2nd Street, Illinois State Capitol Building, Room 212, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

C15356	George Knights
H39616	Lee Moseley
C70938	Robert Jones
C01581	Eugene Horton
C01838	Angel Soto
C66130	Jasper Glenn
L02079	Donald Grant
C56165	David Lott
C01871	Leon Bolton

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Findley
 Roll call was taken by the Recording Secretary: Robynn Davis

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. John Clough	X	
Ms. Edith Crigler	X	
Mr. Salvador Diaz		X
Mr. Donald Wayne Dunn	X	
Mr. Pete Fisher	X	
Ms. Vonetta Harris	X	
Ms. Ellen Johnson	X	
Mr. Tom Johnson		X
Ms. Virginia Martinez	X	
Mr. William Norton	X	
Mrs. Aurthur Mae Perkins	X	
Mr. Donald Shelton	X	
Mr. Ken Tupy	X	
Chairman Craig Findley	X	

12 Members Present

The Recording Secretary presented the following minutes for approval:
 Open Session Minutes from **May 25, 2017. (EC-BN)**. Leave

Meeting was adjourned (CF-DS). Leave.
 Submitted by: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **GEORGE KNIGHTS**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C15356**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for George Knights, IDOC #C15356.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

A parole assessment interview was conducted with George C. Knights on May 24, 2017 at Pinckneyville Correctional Center. Inmate Knights was born on January 8, 1947 in Chicago, Illinois. He is now 70 years of age, and has served over 46 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. He was admitted on February 2, 1972 for two counts of Murder, and he is now serving a sentence of 100-199 years. In the interview, the following items were considered: Inmate Knights' current status, the statement of facts, case procedural history, Inmate Knights' institutional adjustment, family history, and his post incarceration plan.

At the present time, Inmate Knights is in relatively good health. His health issues are polyneuropathy, atrial fibrillation, and high blood pressure. He is presently not on any work assignment at the correctional center. Since his last appearance before the Board, he has received one major IDR on August 27, 2014 for Intimidation/Threats and Insolence. In this incident Inmate Knights threatened a staff member's family, which resulted in one month of C grade and one month in segregation. Since his arrival at Pinckneyville Correctional Center on September 16, 2009, he has not participated in any programming.

The instant offense revealed that on the evening of July 17, 1970 Sergeant James Severin and Office Anthony Rizzato were on duty and wearing the uniform of the Chicago Police Department, when they were walking across a baseball field to investigate a report of shots being fired, near the Cabrini Green Housing Complex. The men had volunteered to join a "walk and talk" unit, whose goal was to establish good will and improve rapport between the residents of Cabrini Green Housing Complex and the Chicago Police Department.

Two individuals, Inmate Knights and Johnny Veal, were lying in wait with .30 caliber rifles. As the officers approached, Inmate Knights and Veal assassinated Sergeant Severin and



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Officer Rizzato. Other Chicago Police Officers in the vicinity also took fire from Inmate Knights and Veal while they were attempting to take the slain officers' off of the baseball field. Inmate Knights boasted after the shooting, "I shot the fuck out of those two police", and held out his hand for an individual to "give him five". Both officers were struck with fatal bullet wounds.

When Inmate Knights was questioned about the crime, he indicated that his is not guilty, and has never been guilty. He stated, "no one has pointed at me and said 'you killed those two Chicago Police Officers'". He indicated that he has never changed his story regarding the crime. He indicated that he lived in one of the buildings and worked in another building, both being part of the Cabrini Green Housing Complex.

Inmate Knights appealed his case to the Appellate Court, which sustained the original decision of the lower court. Then, he appealed his case to both the Illinois Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court, both of which refused to hear the case.

Inmate Knights has maintained contact with his family. He has one brother, who is a minister in California; two sisters; one son; one daughter; and three grandchildren. His daughter and grandchildren are planning to visit with him in the near future. Inmate Knights also maintains contact with Pastor Branch, whom he met while he was incarcerated at Stateville Correctional Center in 1992.

The assessment of Inmate Knights reveals that he has been incarcerated most of his adult life. He was admitted to IDOC when he was 24. Thirty-eight of his years in prison have been served in a maximum security prison.

When questioned about his parole plans, Inmate Knights indicated that he has an opportunity to be a law clerk/paralegal at a law firm in Chicago.

The Board considered the following facts in trying to make the decision regarding possible parole: the major ticket Inmate Knights received for intimidation/threats and insolence; the nature of the crime (in that it was premeditated); and that to parole Inmate Knights would show complete disrespect for the law and deprecate the serious nature of the offense.

Chairman Findley requested to know if Inmate Knights has received any previous votes. Member Dunn noted that that he has not received any past votes and has received 10 3-year sets. Chairman Findley advised that he had received a resolution from a Chicago alderman requesting that the Board deny parole.

Motion to go into Closed Session (VM-DS)
Motion to return to Open Session (DS-PF)

Member Shelton noted that it seems as though Inmate Knights does not take responsibility for his actions. Member Dunn acknowledged that he does not. Member Shelton



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

stated that one piece of evidence, a box with Inmate's Knights prints, and two guns were traceable to Inmate Knight by fingerprints on the bullet. Member Shelton requested to know if Inmate Knights was questioned about this. Member Dunn responded that he was not.

Member Crigler requested to know Inmate Knight's version and requested to know what evidence exists of his rehabilitation. Member Dunn advised that there is no evidence of Inmate Knight's rehabilitation and he has not completed any programs. Member Dunn also noted that Inmate Knights states he was in the area, but did not commit the crime.

Member Norton requested to know the outcome of the SPIN assessment. Member Dunn stated the SPIN assessment found that Inmate Knights was at a high-risk to reoffend.

Member Crigler inquired as to the state of Inmate Knight's health. Member Dunn noted that he has a couple of ailments, but nothing overly serious.

Commander Bower took the floor to speak in protest of granting parole. He thanked the Board for have him and the other officers at the hearing. He requested that on behalf of past, current, and present police officers, that the Board deny his parole. Police officers are considered the "thin blue line" between good and evil. In this case the good are the residents of the communities, the line represents the two officers in this case, and the evil is Inmate Knights. Commander Bower advised that there were no mitigating factors in this case. The two officers were looking to protect the good community and they were shot simply for the uniform they wore. He stated that Inmate Knights is evil and should die in the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections. The two officer's lives were taken by the defendant and he does not take responsibility even though the evidence points right at him. Commander Bower noted that the families of the officers continue to relive the events, with every parole hearing. He asked that the board please give Inmate Knights a 5-year set, as a 3-year set would fall on the 50th Anniversary of this crime.

Aviva Futorian spoke on behalf of Inmate Knights. She advised that new evidence has come to light and noted that their agency is attempting to get a lawyer to work with this new evidence. She is requesting a 1-year set.

Member Shelton requested to know if the new evidence would possibly result in a new trial. Ms. Futorian stated that that was an interesting question, but she could not say at this time.

State's Attorney Driscoll noted that the evidence in this case was overwhelming and his is unsure of any new evidence.

Chairman Findley requested to know if new evidence is introduced, would there be potential for a new trial.

State's Attorney Driscoll stated that that is accurate as new evidence could allow for a new case and decision of the Prisoner Review Board would be moot at that time.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Member Crigler requested to know if the witness in this case was a rival gang member. State's Attorney Driscoll advised that it was.

Member Shelton stated that using the possibility of new evidence to request a 1-year set seems to be a moot point.

Chairman Findley noted that he has no doubt of Inmate Knight's guilt in this case. He knew the Assistant State's Attorney for this case well. There also was not question as to the quality of representation received by Inmate Knights. He noted that two cases have troubled him the most – the man who murdered his children (Simon Nelson), and this case. The two officers killed were volunteering to work on the streets to build relations and were assassinated for no cause. Chairman Findley stated that he can't ever support parole/release for Inmate Knights.

Member Shelton reinstated that the two officers killed in the case had volunteered for the community work.

Motion to deny parole (DWD-CF). Motion prevails by a vote of 12 to 0. Leave.

Motion for a 5-year set (DWD-VM). Motion prevails by a vote of 10 to 2. Members voting in favor of the motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Norton, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **LEE MOSELEY**

IDOC Number & Institution: **H39616**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Lee Moseley, IDOC #H39616.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

On May 3, 2017, Inmate Lee Moseley was interviewed at Hill Correctional Center in Galesburg, Illinois. Inmate Moseley is a 62-year-old African American male, and will turn 63 on July 18th. Inmate Moseley states he suffers from arthritis in his right arm, and from a bullet wound in his right leg. He stated that he currently takes anti-depressants and muscle relaxers for sciatic pain.

On April 5, 2002, Inmate Moseley was convicted of the October 15, 1974 murder of Robert Shepherd. Inmate Moseley was sentenced to 25-75 years. He has been incarcerated for approximately 17 years.

Inmate Moseley's projected discharge date is February 11, 2035. This is Inmate Moseley's fifth consideration for parole. Prior to 2016, he had never received a vote. In 2016, he received a total of six votes.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On October 15, 1974, Inmate Moseley and two co-offenders, Jerry Mitchell and Ernest Johnson, obtained a gun after formulating a plan to rob someone. They chose a neighborhood currency exchange on Roosevelt at Kedzie in Chicago as the location to look for their victim. Inmate Moseley entered the currency exchange and observed people inside for around 15 minutes. As he watched people cash checks, he observed 60-year-old Robert Shepherd cashing multiple checks and receiving cash. As Mr. Shepherd left, Inmate Moseley and his co-offenders followed him down Kedzie. As the three offenders caught up to Mr. Shepherd, they grabbed him and forced him into a vacant lot, at 1257 S. Troy, at gunpoint. As they attempted to rob Mr. Shepherd he began to fight back.

Mr. Shepherd's common law wife, Pearline McGee, witnessed what was happening from their residence, which was adjacent to the vacant lot. Ms. McGee retrieved a gun to protect her



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

husband. Ms. McGee's 14-year-old son, Sammie McGee, was with her. After Ms. McGee heard a shot, she shot several times in the direction of the three offenders. Mr. Shepherd was observed lying on the ground with a gunshot wound to his back. Mr. Shepherd subsequently died from his injuries.

The Police investigation led to the October 22, 1974 arrest of Inmate Moseley and co-offender, Jerry Mitchell, for the attempted armed robbery and murder of Robert Shepherd. Eyewitness Anderson Slater identified Inmate Moseley as the shooter. Inmate Moseley and Jerry Mitchell were subsequently released, and re-arrested January 19, 1975. There was a finding of no probable cause and the case was discharged February 20, 1975. Inmate Moseley was again arrested for the murder of Robert Shepherd in 2000. Again, eyewitness Anderson Slater identified Moseley as the shooter in a written statement, and testified at trial to such. Inmate Moseley gave a videotaped statement admitting his involvement in the planning and commission of the armed robbery which led to the death of Robert Shepherd. He denied however being the shooter in the incident.

Moseley was subsequently convicted of the murder of Robert Shepherd on April 5, 2002. He was sentenced May 13, 2002 to 25-75 years. He has not filed any appeals or post-conviction petitions.

During my interview of Inmate Moseley, he admitted that he, Jerry Mitchell, and Ernest Johnson planned to rob someone. They chose to find a victim at the currency exchange in their neighborhood. He then described it as a robbery gone bad, "A robbery turned into a murder". He described the incident stating they planned to rob a man leaving the currency exchange. They followed him into an alley and jumped him at that point. He said the victim fought back. Inmate Moseley said that Jerry Mitchell had the gun, which was only brought to scare their victim. He said the gun contained one bullet (which he saw Mitchell load into the gun earlier). He said Mitchell fired the gun into the air. Inmate Moseley said at that point someone started shooting at them. He said the victim was still standing when they ran off.

Inmate Moseley stated the reason for the robbery attempt was to get money to get high. He said they were young and wanted to get some weed or something and get high. He said they had gotten the gun from what he described as one of their homey's and added that we had our own little clique. Which was his way of saying they were gang members.

He said his video confession was the reason he got locked up, and described himself as young and not knowing what he was doing, from doing drugs and being high all the time.

Inmate Moseley said he never saw anyone who could have been a witness at the time of the offense. He said the eyewitness originally could not identify them. He said the witness at trial said he told him about the murder while both were incarcerated.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Inmate Moseley was asked what happened to the weapon they had and he said they got rid of it. He said it was a .45 cal Smith & Wesson revolver. Inmate Moseley stated he had never messed with handguns, and described himself as a scatter gun or shot gun person. He said, "I did not shoot Mr. Shepherd".

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

Inmate Moseley is currently A grade, and has maintained that status since June 2, 2011. He has been incarcerated for 17 years and has been at Hill Correctional Center for over 13 of those years. He states he has received 3 IDR's in the last 9 years, adding that he believed that the tickets, which he received in 2015 and 2016, were dismissed. Overall, Inmate Moseley has received 16 disciplinary tickets since 2004, (6 major, 10 minor).

Inmate Moseley is currently unassigned. He stated he is trying to get work in the warehouse, and added that he does not want to go back to the kitchen. His last job assignment was in 2014. He has completed anger management in 2016.

PAROLE PLANS

Inmate Moseley maintains contact with his sister and a female friend through letters. He has not had a visitor since 2006 or 2007, as he recalls. He said, "I really have no one out there that I could really stay with". He also said that he would like to get into some kind of program with structure in it to help him adjust and allow him a better life. He added, "I don't want to go back around my people to fall back into old ways of drugs and things". He would like to pursue some kind of janitorial work, and wants to be a good example for young people that want to listen.

SUMMARY

Some points to consider with Inmate Moseley's case would first be the fact that he has an extensive criminal history, most of which occurred following the original discharge of the murder of Robert Shepherd. His criminal history includes: Burglary (February 11, 1973), Tampering with an Auto (April 1, 1973), Criminal Damage to Property (August 7, 1973), Burglary warrant (November 2, 1973), Gambling (February 10, 1974), Retail Theft (April 11, 1980), Theft (July 8, 1980), Theft (November 11, 1980), Attempted Theft (May 12, 1983), Burglary (January 25, 1984), Possession of Cannabis (June 9, 1986), Burglary (May 26, 1989), Theft (August 19, 1991), Burglary (January 14, 1993), Possession of a Controlled Substance (June 23, 1995), Possession of a Controlled Substance (January 13, 1997), and Unlawful Delivery of a Controlled Substance (July 3, 1997).

The claim that he was not the one who actually shot Mr. Shepherd changes nothing as to his accountability in this crime to which he admits to taking an active part in the planning and commission. Finally, Inmate Moseley has no parole plan, and understands without the structure he needs he will most likely fall back into old ways.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Although this is a very strange case from an investigative perspective to grant inmate Moseley parole at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Chairman Findley requested to know if Inmate Moseley had votes at his last hearing. Member Fisher noted that Member Crigler had voted for him.

Member Shelton question is this was the case where the victim's wife fired shots as well. Member Fisher confirmed that it was, and noted that it was his common-law wife and she was firing at the assailants as they fled. Member Shelton asked if the wife-s firearm was ever tested. Member Fished advised that he doesn't have that information.

Member Crigler noted that there was almost 30 years between the offense and the conviction, she requested to know why it took so long. Member Fisher stated he did not know and would like to know as well.

State's Attorney Driscoll noted that the first Preliminary Hearing was in 1974 and No Probable Cause was found. He is unsure what witness were presented for that hearing. He noted that Mr. Slater lived in a neighborhood and knew all involved. He walked by when the defendant grabbed the victim and pulled him into the alley. Mr. Slater was first introduced as a witness in 1975 and at that time gave all the names and gave the defendant as the person who shot the victim. He was cross-examined vigorously and his testimony did not waive 30 years later. Moseley admitted to involvement in the crime, but claimed another pulled the gun. The victim's wife was up in their apartment with their child and saw the initial abduction. She grabbed their gun and ran outside. By the time she reached the outside, the victim was already down.

Member Harris requested to know what happened that caused the case to be re-tried 30 years later.

State's Attorney Driscoll noted that the file most likely ended up on detective's desk as a cold case.

Member Crigler requested to know if the wife's gun was tested. Member Fisher stated that that information is unknown and he is also not sure if the bullet from her gun was recovered.

Member E. Johnson stated that the offender's weapon was a handgun and the wife had a rifle, if this is the case, then the wounds would be pretty distinguishable to each weapon.

State's Attorney Driscoll noted that under the accountability principle Inmate Moseley was just as culpable as the shooter, even if it was not him. The judge presented that in the case.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

Member E. Johnson requested to know what Inmate Moseley's sentence was. Member Fisher noted that it was 25-75 years.

Member Norton stated that one fact that the Board knows is that Inmate Moseley had a trial, evidence was provided, and he was found guilty. Member Norton requested to know the results of the SPIN assessment and asked if there was a prior criminal history. Member Fisher stated that the SPIN assessment was overall high. Member Fisher also noted that Inmate Moseley had an extensive criminal history between this offense and his conviction. His prior criminal history includes: Burglary, Tampering with Motor Vehicle, Burglary, Criminal Damage to Property, Retail Theft and Theft.

Member Crigler noted that there is too much ambiguity in this case.

Motion to deny parole (PF-DS). Motion prevails by a vote of 7 to 5. Members voting in favor of the motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Norton, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **ROBERT JONES**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C70938**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Robert Jones, IDOC #C70938.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Robert Jones was interviewed by a member of the Prisoner Review Board for parole consideration at Illinois River Correctional Center. Being considered during a review of his case were: his interview; his institutional adjustment; his criminal history; the incarcerating offense; his accomplishments while incarcerated; and his parole plans.

Inmate Jones is 75-years-old and is currently serving a 100-300 year sentence for Murder. His projected release date is July 3, 2127.

On June 16, 1977, the two victims, Samuel Thompson and Campbell Thompson, were planning on buying a car from Inmate Jones. Inmate Jones went with the two victims to the west side of Chicago to pick up the vehicle that the two victims were going to purchase. The inmate had the victims park in a lot at 3438 West Lake Street. Once there, Inmate Jones pulled out a gun and shot both victims in the back of the head. Both men died as a result of the shooting. Their bodies were found the next day and neither one had any money on their person. Inmate Jones gave the murder weapon to a neighbor when he was brought in for questioning. His neighbor contacted the police and provided them Inmate Jones' gun. The weapon was determined to be the gun used in the murders of the two brothers.

Inmate Jones stated that he committed the murders because the two brothers had beaten Inmate Jones' brother with a tire iron and put him in a coma. There is some indication in Inmate Jones' file that one the victims was having an affair with Inmate Jones' brother's wife. Inmate Jones stated that the judge in the case was known as a hanging judge, and stated in court that he wanted Inmate Jones to die in prison.

Inmate Jones has worked in the bakery, as a clerk, in dietary, and as a toxic clerk. He has received his GED, two Associate Degrees, a welding degree, and he has credits towards a



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

Bachelor Degree. Inmate Jones states that he is in fair health, although he does have high blood pressure and uses eye drops.

Inmate Jones stated that he has a place to parole to, should he be released. He has a friend, Carolyn Scott, who lives in Kankakee that would provide him a place to stay. He indicated that he could work in a barber shop to support himself and could get some federal assistance as another way to support himself. Inmate Jones indicated that he is remorseful and that he is the longest-serving inmate at Illinois River Correctional Center, as he has been in prison for nearly 40 years.

Inmate Jones' last ticket was in January of 2014 for Unauthorized Movement. Previous tickets include: Trading (2010); Insolence (2009); Unauthorized Movement (2009); Violation of Rules (2008); Failure to Report (2008), and Impairment of Surveillance (2007). Inmate Jones has received 3-year sets in 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2014, and 2016. Member Crigler voted present in 2013, and Inmate Jones has never received a vote for parole. The risk assessment indicates he has a low overall risk assessment with high protective factors.

The Cook County State's Attorney has protested Inmate Jones' parole and indicates he has a 1962 conviction for Theft; a 1963 conviction for burglary that was reduced to theft (6 months); a 1964 Burglary reduced to theft (eight months); 1965 Burglary (5 years' probation); and a second Burglary in 1965 while on probation for Burglary (1-10 years DOC and probation revoked). When Inmate Jones was released from the Illinois Department of Corrections in 1968 he received another charge for Attempt Burglary in 19679 (1-year DOC) and was paroled in 1970. He was again arrested in 1972 for Unlawful Use of a Weapon (2 years and one day) and paroled out for that charge in November of 1973. In September of 1974 charged with the two separate murders. On one charge he was found not guilty and the other murder charge, there was a finding of no probable cause.

Inmate Jones lured the two brothers, under the pretense of selling them a car, and in cold blood, shot both of them in the back of the head. He has an extensive prior criminal record. To parole Inmate Jones at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the crime and promote disrespect for the law.

Member Shelton requested to know further information on the previous murder case in Inmate Jones' criminal history. Member Tupy noted that Inmate Jones was found not guilty in that case. Member Shelton asked in Inmate Jones was at the scene to buy a car in that case as well. Member Tupy confirmed that he was.

Member Crigler requested to know what his parole plans are and if they are weak. Member Tupy stated that the first time he met with Inmate Jones, he stated he wanted to parole to a halfway house. However, at their second meeting, Inmate Jones advised that we would like to live with a friend of his in Kankakee County.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

Member Crigler requested to know how long Inmate Jones has been in prison. Member Tupy noted that he has been in prison since 1977, approximately 40 years. Member Crigler also inquired as to his institutional adjustment. Member Tupy noted that he has had some tickets.

Motion to deny parole (KT-CF). Motion prevails by a vote of 6 to 6. Members voting in favor of this motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Norton, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **EUGENE HORTON**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C01581**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Eugene Horton, IDOC #C01581.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

A parole assessment interview was conducted with Eugene Horton on May 24, 2017. No other individuals were present at the interview. Inmate Horton was born on June 13, 1950 and is currently 67 years of age, and was a resident of Pinckneyville Correctional Center on the date of the interview. According to the file, Inmate Horton is serving a sentence of 100-150 years for Murder (Cook County, 71-1267). Inmate Horton was sentenced for this offense on November 29, 1971, and despite the fact that Inmate Horton had only served about eleven years of this sentence, he was granted parole for this offense by the Illinois Prisoner Review Board on January 6, 1983 over the strong objection of the Cook County State's Attorney.

Approximately six months after being granted parole for the offense of Murder, Inmate Horton was arrested on July 30, 1983 and charged with the offense of Armed Robbery (Cook County, 83-8124). Inmate Horton was found guilty of this offense and on March 5, 1984 received a determinate sentence of 60 years. Following this new arrest and conviction for Armed Robbery, on July 18, 1984 the Illinois Prisoner Review Board declared Mr. Horton to be a parole violator as of July 30, 1983 and revoked his prior parole for the offense of Murder. Inmate Horton has now completed his sentence for the conviction of Armed Robbery and is again, for the second time since 2014, before the Board for parole consideration relating to his 1971 Murder conviction and sentence. Factors considered by the Board include, but are not limited to: testimony of the resident, a review of the file, the nature of the crime and offense, institutional adjustment, the Spin Assessment, and parole plans.

The file and record would indicate and reveal that the Murder offense took place on or about March 27, 1971 when Inmate Horton and two co-defendants, brother George Horton and Felton Peck, went to the apartment of Jacqueline Mack, located in a housing project on State Street in Chicago, Illinois. Also present at the apartment was victim Terry Tomalak, who was employed as a case worker for the Illinois Department of Public Aid. A party ensued and all



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

parties present were drinking beer and alcohol. As the party progressed, an argument started as to who would go out and purchase more alcohol. Ultimately, the Inmate Horton and co-defendants George Horton and Felton Peck got in a fight with Terry Tomalak, which resulted in Mr. Tomalak being severely beaten and stabbed sixteen times, ultimately causing his death. Inmate Horton was found guilty of the offense of Murder following a jury trial and received a sentence of 100-150 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on November 29, 1971.

Inmate Horton did not dispute or deny the basic facts of the offense but stated that he was under the severe influence of alcohol at the time of the offense. He feels that he is guilty of the offense because he did not stop the murder of Mr. Tomalak, but stated that he did not inflict the stab wounds that caused his death. As stated, despite only serving about eleven years of this sentence, Inmate Horton was granted parole for this Murder offense by the Illinois Prisoner Review Board on January 6, 1983 over the strong objection of the Cook County State's Attorney.

The file and record would further reveal that Approximately six months after being granted parole for this offense of Murder, Inmate Horton was arrested on July 30, 1983, and charged with the offense of Armed Robbery when Inmate Horton stopped victim Eustace Roland claiming he needed help getting his car started. After Mr. Roland pulled over, Inmate Horton pulled a gun and forced his way into the vehicle of Mr. Roland. Mr. Roland was able to flee and exit the vehicle and then notified police. Inmate Horton was arrested by police shortly thereafter and was still in possession of his loaded handgun. Inmate Horton was found guilty of the offense of Armed Robbery following a jury trial and received a sentence of 60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections on March 5, 1984. Inmate Horton did not dispute the basic facts of this offense.

The parole assessment as completed by the Illinois in Department of Corrections would report that Inmate Horton was originally admitted to the Illinois Department of Corrections on December 3, 1971. He has remained in the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections since that time, except for the period from January 6, 1983 to July 30, 1983, when he was on parole for his Murder offense. The parole assessment would further indicate that the institutional adjustment of Inmate Horton has been poor during his approximate 45 years of incarceration. Inmate Horton has had numerous transfers including two separate placements at Tamms Correctional Center. His disciplinary record includes approximately ten pages of IDRs, with infractions that include staff assaults, dangerous disturbances gang involvement, and activity of drug paraphernalia. The discipline of Inmate Horton has shown recent improvement since his transfer to Pinckneyville Correctional Center on December 28, 2015. His last major IDR was on April 12, 2014 for gang activity.

Inmate Horton reported that he has attained his GED but does not have a current work assignment. Inmate Horton further reported that he was never married and has no children. Inmate Horton further advised that his closest living relatives are his father, James Horton, his brothers George Horton and James Horton, Jr. and his sister Linda Oten. Inmate Horton reported



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

that he served in the U.S. Army from 1967-1971 and received a less than honorable discharge following his arrest for Murder. Inmate Horton further stated that he is in good health but has high blood pressure and has been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD) but that both issues are being treated by medication. Inmate Horton stated that if given parole consideration he would plan to live with his brother, James Horton, Jr., in Dalton, Illinois. Inmate Horton was pleasant, polite, and attentive during the parole assessment interview.

After a complete review, and after giving consideration to all factors, the Board feels that a release at this time would not be in the interest of public safety, would deprecate the serious nature of the crime and promote a lack of respect for the law.

Member Martinez stated that Assistant State's Attorney DeWald was present at the protest hearing for this case and mentioned disturbing writing by the inmate. State's Attorney Driscoll requested a mental health evaluation due to the nature of these writings. Member Norton noted that Inmate Horton submitted a lengthy letter that was difficult to read and very strange.

Member Shelton requested to know in what manner the letter was strange. Member Norton replied that Inmate Norton talks about Korea and some parts of the letter seem threatening. His writing is very random.

Member Crigler recommended a psychiatric evaluation be completed.

Member E. Johnson requested to know the status of the co-defendants. Member Norton responded that his brother served 34 years and was paroled. Peck filed an appeal and was resentenced to 14 years and discharged.

State's Attorney Driscoll stated that this is a horrendous crime. All three of the defendants participated in the crime. Peck filed an appeal, plea negotiations occurred, and he received 14 years. In 1984, all this information was presented to the Board, which may have affected the outcome. After six months, Inmate Horton committed a new crime. Inmate Horton has bad institutional adjustment and has been to some of the strictest institutions, based upon his behavior. The Cook County State's Attorney's Office does not believe he is deserving of a second parole term.

Chairman Findley requested to know if Inmate Horton lost good time for staff assaults. Member Norton confirmed that he did lose good time.

Member Norton noted that he was prepared to motion for a 3-year set, however due to the psychiatric evaluation recommendation, waiting 3 years to review the case again may not be the best option.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Chairman Findley requested to know if Inmate Horton seemed different at this interview. Both Member Norton and Member Harris noted that Inmate Horton seems more put together this time.

Member Harris asks that the Board consider a 3-year set. The Board also needs to consider Inmate Horton's illness and need for medication.

Member Shelton is concerned that a 3-year set will cause the Illinois Department of Corrections to drag their feet on completing a psychiatric evaluation.

Member Crigler notes that she supports an assessment and no set.

Member Norton noted that three years ago the 3-year set vote was unanimous.

Motion to deny parole (WBN-JC). Motion prevails by a vote of 12 to 0. Leave.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **ANGEL SOTO**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C01838**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Angel Soto, IDOC #C01838.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

A parole assessment interview was conducted with Angel Soto on May 2, 2017. No other individuals were present at the interview, other than Inmate Soto and Board Member Norton. Inmate Soto was born on October 14, 1949, and is currently 67 years of age. He was a resident of Graham Correctional Center on the date of the interview. According to the file, Inmate Soto is serving a sentence of 100-300 years for Murder, a sentence of 10-20 years for Attempt Murder, and a sentence of 20-60 years for Armed Robbery, with all the above sentences to run concurrent (Cook County, 72-2697). Factors considered by the Board include, but are not limited to: testimony of the inmate; a review of the file; the nature of the crime; the sentence for the offense; institutional adjustment; the Spin Assessment; and parole plans.

The file and record indicate that on or about July 24, 1972, Inmate Soto and a co-offender entered Polls Liquors, a liquor store and bar located at 6142 N. Milwaukee in Chicago, Illinois. Both offenders were armed with a handgun and both offenders were wearing a nylon mask over their head to conceal their face and identity. As they entered the building at approximately 11:45 p.m., the offenders announced a "stick up" as they confronted bar and store owner Walter Schnoor and the only customer in the store, Thaddeus Zurowski. The co-offender jumped over the bar, pushed owner Walter Schnoor aside, and removed the metal cash register tray containing approximately \$150.00. Inmate Soto remained by the front door, holding his gun on both victims during the robbery. As the co-offender ran toward the front door with the cash register tray, Inmate Soto pulled the slide back on his semi-automatic weapon causing a live round of ammunition to expel on the floor. Then, without provocation or resistance from the victims, Inmate Soto fired one shot hitting victim Walter Schnoor in the stomach and a second shot striking victim Thaddeus Zurowski in the back. Both offenders then fled the store. A witness in the immediate area outside was able to observe both suspects and was able to identify Inmate Soto, as he had removed the nylon stocking from his face and was still carrying his handgun. Both victims were taken to the hospital. The patron, Thaddeus Zurowski, died the following day.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

as a result of his gunshot wound, leaving surviving his wife and children. The bar owner, Walter Schnoor, survived his gunshot wound but required three major surgical procedures.

Two days later, on July 26, 1972, police responded to a call of a subject firing a gun. Two girls described a man who had shot at them while they walking home from a restaurant. The police arrested the suspect, who was positively identified by the two girls. At the time of his arrest Inmate Soto was carrying and armed with a blue steel automatic handgun. Bullets recovered from the two shooting victims at Polls Liquors were matched to the handgun in the possession of Inmate Soto at the time of his arrest.

Inmate Soto was found guilty of Murder, Attempt Murder, and Armed Robbery following a jury trial. On January 24, 1974, he received a sentence of 100-300 years for Murder, 10-20 years for Attempt Murder, and 20-60 years for Armed Robbery. These sentences were to be served concurrent and Inmate Soto was admitted to the Illinois Department of Corrections on February 22, 1974. Inmate Soto did not dispute the basic facts of the offenses. He admitted that he was the offender who shot the victims and expressed mild remorse for his actions, stating that he was unemployed and intoxicated at the time of the offense.

The parole assessment as completed by the Illinois Department of Corrections would report that Inmate Soto has been in the custody of the Illinois Department of Corrections for approximately 43 years, and that his institutional adjustment has been marginal. Since 2002, Inmate Soto has received approximately fifteen IDR's, including a recent IDR on July 12, 2016 for Possession of Contraband and an IDR on March 9, 2017 for Disobeying a Direct Order, which resulted from him refusing housing. The refusal of housing in March of 2017 led to his transfer from Jacksonville Correctional Center to Graham Correctional Center.

Inmate Soto does not have a current work assignment and despite only having a fifth-grade education, has not participated in any academic or vocational programs. Inmate Soto appeared to be in good health, but stated that he is an old man with health problems, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, and poor vision.

Inmate Soto reported that he was born and raised in Puerto Rico and that he came to the United States in 1967 or 1968 to live with his cousin in Chicago. He has a prior criminal history including but not limited to a prior conviction for Theft and at least two convictions for Unlawful Use of a Weapon. Inmate Soto stated that his parents are deceased and that he was never married and has no children. He stated that his closest relatives would be a sister, who lives in Puerto Rico and a sister who lives in Philadelphia. Inmate Soto further advised that his last visit was in about 1978, by his sister Amelia who lives in Philadelphia.

Inmate Soto stated that he does not have any parole plan at this time. His former parole plan was to try to live with his sister in Philadelphia, but he stated this was no longer an option as he feels as though his sister has given up on him. Inmate Soto was pleasant, polite and attentive during the parole assessment interview.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

After a complete review, and after giving consideration to all factors, the Board feels that a release now would deprecate the serious nature of these senseless crimes and offenses and promote a lack of respect for the law.

Member Shelton noted that in the past Inmate Soto has refused to be interviewed several times at his hearings. Member Shelton stated that he got the impression that the reason he did not want to be interviewed was because he did not think he deserved to be released. Inmate Soto appreciates the horrible thing that he did.

Member E. Johnson stated that Inmate Soto's comments seem almost contrary to what Member Shelton stated. Her other concern is Inmate Soto's lack of hopelessness towards placement.

Member Crigler noted that in the last couple of months she has sat with long-term inmate. In her discussions with them, it was found that it is hard to reintegrate without strong family support. She also heard that after being in jail for so long, other inmates become family and it's hard to transition away from them. Inmate Soto has no parole plan or support upon his release.

Member Fisher stated that when he interviewed Inmate Soto, he got a strange vibe from him. It seems like Inmate Soto has some deep-seated anger and he would not want to have Inmate Soto as his neighbor.

Chairman Findley advised that he interviewed Inmate Soto several times. The staff find him not to be overly troubling. Jacksonville Correctional Center is a dormitory style housing center and Chairman Findley can understand him getting a ticket to be transferred. Chairman Findley noted that he does not see him as high-risk to reoffend and will support him.

Member Shelton stated that he also spoke the staff about Inmate Soto and they noted the is one of the few people who does what is asked of him, with no expectation of return favors.

State's Attorney Driscoll noted that from the time that Inmate Soto entered the United States until the time of this murder, he has had a constant criminal record. Inmate Soto shot the victims with no resistance; they were just sitting at the bar, there was no struggle. Inmate Soto was caught with the murder weapon in his possession. No sense of remorse was demonstrated by Inmate Soto.

Member Norton advised that this was a senseless and horrendous crime, plus Inmate Soto has no parole plan. Additionally, Inmate Soto has not tried to improve himself. Overall Inmate Soto's risk to reoffend is high.

Both Member Crigler and Member E. Johnson noted that they were torn on their vote and both request a stronger parole plan for consideration at the next en banc hearing.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

The Board believes that a parole release would deprecate the seriousness of these brutal crimes and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole (WBN-JC). Motion prevails by a vote of 8 to 4. Members voting in favor of the motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Norton, Ms. Perkins, and Mr. Tupy.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **JASPER GLENN**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C66130**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Jasper Glenn, IDOC #C66130.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

In making the final decision on possible parole, the Board considered the following factors: current status; the statement of facts; the inmate's version of events; case procedural history; prior criminal history; institutional adjustment; family history; and Inmate Glenn's release/parole plan.

Inmate Glenn is a 58-year-old African-American, having been born in Clarksdale, Mississippi on October 5, 1958. He is currently residing in Bid Muddy Correctional Center in Ina, Illinois. Presently, he is assigned to the dietary department, and prior to that he successfully completed a floor maintenance assignment. He is currently an A grade, and has been since 2014. When asked about his health, Inmate Glenn indicated that he has type 2 diabetes for the past 11 years, and he currently take two injections per day for this condition. He indicates that he exercises on a regular basis.

Per the file, he was admitted to the Illinois Department of Corrections on March 9, 1976. He was convicted of Murder/Intent to Kill/Injure (100-150 years), Aggravated Battery/Great Bodily Harm (3-9 years), and Armed Robbery (10-25 years).

On February 13, 1975, Inmate Glenn and 2 co-offenders enter the home of Mr. and Mrs. Horvat, and their 35-year-old mentally challenged son, for the purpose of Armed Robbery. During the two-hour crime, all three people were severely beaten, resulting in the death of Mr. Horvat, and the hospitalization of Mrs. Horvat and her son. After the severe beating, both Mr. and Mrs. Horvat had their right ears severed, and both were spray painted with metallic gold paint.

Per the interview, Inmate Glenn indicated that he was with Cunningham and Wilson. He relates that they were all 17-18 years of age, and admitted that they had been drinking, and



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

needed more money for more alcohol, weed, LSD, and drugs. He related that he rang the doorbell. It was around midnight on February 13, 1975, and he forces his way into the home. He stated, "Mr. Horvat shot him in the eye with a starter pistol". He further stated that Mr. Horvat hit all three people with the air rifle. Inmate Glenn admits to ransacking the house, but he really places the blame on his co-conspirators, by referring to "they" in nearly all of his reenactments of the crime. Inmate Glenn never really accepted responsibility for the crime he committed.

Even though Inmate Glenn was approximately 17 years of age at the time of the offense, he did have prior contact with the Criminal Justice System. He has a prior conviction for Damage to Property (court supervision), Theft (one year of probation), and Assault and Battery on a School Teacher (supervision).

In the Supplemental Program Consideration Report completed May 2, 2017, it was noted that Inmate Glenn arrived at Big Muddy Correctional Center on September 13, 2000 on an inmate-requested transfer. Since being at Big Muddy Correctional Center, he has received 15 minor and 6 major IDRs. Inmate Glenn received his last ticket on February 24, 2016 for Unauthorized Movement.

Inmate Glenn indicated that he has four brother and sisters. Presently, he only has two brothers left, with the younger of his bothers living in East St. Louis. He indicated that he called his younger brother a few weeks ago. In 2016, he had an aunt that came for a visit with him. Inmate Glenn is a single man and has no children.

When asked why he deserved to be paroled, Inmate Glenn responded "everybody deserves a change". He further elaborated that he would like to reside at a halfway house in East St Louis, Illinois if paroled.

After reviewing all relevant data, the Board found that to parole Inmate Glenn, at this time, would deprecate the seriousness of the offense, and promote disrespect for the law.

Member Harris requested to know how long Inmate Glenn has been in prison. Member Dunn noted that he has been in IDOC since March 9, 1976.

Member Dunn noted that Inmate Glenn's SPIN Risk Assessment, shows that he is high-risk.

Member Crigler requested to know Inmate Glenn's MSR date. Member Dunn noted that his MSR date is June 18, 2056.

Member Harris requested to know if the murders took place in East St Louis. Member Dunn confirmed that they did.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Member Shelton advised that Inmate Glenn chose the house because the owners were elderly. He had been watching the house.

Motion to deny parole (DWD-AMP). Motion prevails by a vote of 12 to 0. Leave.

Motion for a 3-year set (DWD-DS). Motion prevails by a vote of 10 to 2. Members voting in favor of the motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Harris, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Norton, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **DONALD GRANT**

IDOC Number & Institution: **L02079**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Donald Grant, IDOC #L02079.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

On March 8, 2017, Inmate Donald Grant was interviewed at Dixon Correctional Center. Inmate Grant is a 62-year-old African-American male, and will be 63 next months. He states that he is in good health, other than some knee problems, for which he takes pain medication.

In August of 1981, Inmate Grant was convicted of the May 24, 1976 murder and armed robbery of Robert Jackson. Inmate Grant was sentenced to 60-180 years for Murder and 20-60 years for Armed Robbery.

Inmate Grant is currently A grade, low escape risk. Inmate Grant has been incarcerated over 35 years. He has been at Dixon Correctional Center for the last 17 years. According to his overview, he has received two major and seven minor disciplinary tickets since 2002. The most recent ticket was in November of 2016 for an altered hot pot. Inmate Grant has a projected discharge date of October 10, 2066 according to IDOC inmate status; however there appear to be different discharge dates of June 10, 2064 and February 3, 2064 on his offender overview sheet and offender tracking system sheet.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On May 24, 1976, at approximately 8pm, Robert Jackson, a retired Peoria County Sheriff's Deputy, was murdered by Inmate Grant while Mr. Jackson was working as a grocery store security guard.

Inmate Grant had been removed from the grocery store the previous day, by Robert Jackson, for an attempted shoplifting. Upon confronting Inmate Grant, a verbal confrontation ensued between Mr. Jackson and Inmate Grant, and Inmate Grant was subsequently put out of the store.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

The evening of May 24, 1976, Inmate Grant returned to the Red Fox Grocery store, at 4105 SW Adams, in Peoria. Inmate Grant was driven to the location by Martin Ray Williams. Inmate Grant, who was humiliated by being removed from the store the previous day, entered the store and approached Robert Jackson from behind. Inmate Grant then put a loaded .22 caliber handgun to the ear of Robert Jackson's head and fired one round. After the victim, Robert Jackson, fell to the ground, Inmate Grant took Mr. Jackson's .38 caliber service revolver from his holster and fled the scene.

Robert Jackson was a retired Deputy of the Peoria County Sheriff's Department who had served for 18 years. The night of his murder he was in uniform as a security officer.

During the interview of Inmate Grant, he stated he that he was accused of shoplifting by Mr. Jackson because there was a package of meat next to him. He said that he did not steal it or attempt to steal it. He said that he was not a shoplifter. Inmate Grant said Mr. Jackson had accused him and they got into a heated argument. At that point, Mr. Jackson reached for his gun and took Inmate Grant out of the store.

Inmate Grant said he was still angry and humiliated the next day when he and friends began drinking. He said that his friend had "geeked him up", saying to go back and confront Mr. Jackson. Inmate Grant said he got a .22 from a female friend, and Martin Ray Williams drove him back to the store.

Inmate Grant said he was going to put the gun to Mr. Jackson's head, then take Mr. Jackson's gun, and confront him. Inmate Grant said that as soon as he put the gun to Mr. Jackson's head, it went off. Inmate Grant stated he went there trying to make a point. He added, "But it was stupid I know". When asked why he took Robert Jackson's service weapon he didn't really have an answer.

Inmate Grant stated he threw the .22 in the river, which was witnessed by Martin Williams. He added that he traded Mr. Jackson's service weapon for a stereo. That weapon was later recovered by law enforcement, after it was used in an unrelated armed robbery and the suspect was arrested.

It was not until 1981 until inmate Grant was arrested, convicted, and sentenced for the offense, due to his being incarcerated in Wisconsin for Armed Robbery.

Inmate Grant stated before the murder of Robert Jackson he had committed several armed robberies between October '75 and May '76. He said he used a sawed off shotgun during those crimes. He said he didn't believe it really worked, as he put it, and eventually threw it in the river. Inmate Grant stated the shotgun was recovered by Federal agents who also had information on him.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

He was subsequently charged for the armed robberies and sentenced to 4 years in Wisconsin. He was paroled for that crime in June of 1980.

INTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

According to Inmate Grant's offender overview, he has an exceptional work history. He has been rotated through the print shop, employee commissary, and administration building. He stated he is currently assigned in the print shop. His adjustment is described as excellent.

While incarcerated he has earned an Associate's of Arts Degree, and Associate of Applied Science degree. He has also earned certificates for business management, construction occupations, and photography and graphic arts. He served as a violence prevention peer facilitator from 2008 to 2016. He has also completed lifestyle redirection and anger management programs. He has worked in many specialized positions while at Dixon.

Inmate Grant stated he served in the Marine Corps from 1972 to 1974 and received an honorable discharge. He stated he was in Vietnam during the cease fire and did not see live combat.

He stated, "They don't have to worry about me doing anything negative again, and I'm no threat to anyone. I never want to be a burden. I'm truly sorry to Mr. Jackson and his family. I think of him every day. He guides me."

PAROLE PLANS

Inmate Grant has been pre-approved to reside at St Leonard's House in Chicago. He said he has several interests for employment, and said he likes to work with his hands.

SUMMARY

The murder of Robert Jackson was just one incident of a spree of violent crimes committed by Inmate Grant within an 8-month period. The murder remained unsolved for five years, until Inmate Grant was paroled for another crime and began talking to friends about the murder. The senseless execution of Robert Jackson was for revenge, and was pre planned.

Inmate Grant does not have what should be considered a solid parole plan. To allow Inmate Grant parole at this time would seriously deprecate the seriousness of this offense, and promote disrespect of the law.

Chairman Findley requested to know if Inmate Grant has received votes in the past. Member Fisher noted that he has had some votes in the past, as many as two or three.

Member E. Johnson inquired as to whether or not Inmate Grant had any family. Member Fisher stated that Inmate Grant is divorced with 5 children. His last family visit was in 2014.

Member Tupy requested to know how many prior armed robberies Inmate Grant committed. Member Fisher stated that he had 3-4 prior armed robberies.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Member Shelton asked if Inmate Grant was still receiving tickets. Member Fisher advised that his last ticket was in 2014. Inmate Grant has had 2 major tickets and 7 minor tickets since 2002.

Member Harris requested to know why Member Fisher is not supporting parole. Member Fisher said he cannot support parole due to the murder being a senseless act. Furthermore, he had an ok parole plan, but not a strong one.

Motion to deny parole (PF-KT). Motion prevails by a vote of 10 to 2. Members voting in favor of the motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Harris, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Norton, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **DAVID LOTT**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C56165**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for David Lott, IDOC #C56165.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

David Lott was interviewed on March 15, 2017 at Shawnee Correctional Center. During the interview, the following items were taken into consideration: current status of the inmate; the inmate's version of events; prior criminal history; institutional adjustment; statement of facts; family history; and parole plans.

Per the program report completed on Inmate Lott, he is a 60-year-old African-American male, serving two consecutive sentences of 150-300 years for two Murder convictions. Inmate Lott also has an additional sentence of four years for an Aggravated Battery conviction from 1980, which resulted from an attack on a Correctional Office while Inmate Lott was a resident of Pontiac Correctional Center. Inmate Lott was admitted to the Illinois Department of Corrections on December 11, 1975. He was transferred to Shawnee Correctional Center, but has not participated in any educational programming, since his transfer in April of 2015.

In his assessment, Inmate Lott was listed as a low escape risk, A grade. He has been an A grade since July 23, 2013 and has not had an IDR since January 21, 2013.

On the evening of July 28, 1974, Walter McDowell and Roscoe Gilmer were at a package liquor store in East St. Louis, Illinois. Inmate Lott, along with his co-conspirator, Willie Cotton, were also present at the liquor store. Inmate Lott and Willie Cotton were observed to be leaving the store, prior to the victims, and getting into the victim's car. After everyone had gotten into the car, witnesses heard a single gunshot, followed by two more gunshots. The victims' bodies were found in the street, close to the liquor store. The bullets were removed from the body of Walter McDowell and traced back to a gun belonging to Inmate Lott. In a statement from Inmate Lott, he admitted to the jailer that he shot the passenger because he was old, and he shot the driver because the driver had begged Inmate Lott to spare him. Later, Inmate Lott admitted to Detective Terry Delaney that he had robbed and killed both men.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

The St. Clair State's Attorney's Office initially sought the death penalty, but after the Supreme Court found the death penalty to be unconstitutional, Inmate Lott was sentenced to two consecutive prison terms for the murders. When appealed to the Illinois Appellate Court, the conviction and sentences received by Inmate Lott were upheld.

In the interview, Inmate Lott indicated that he has five siblings: Ms. Robinson; Charles Lott; William Lott and Joyce Ann. He also has four children, one of whom is deceased. He attended school through high school and attended Mortuary Science school in both Arkansas and Chicago, and received his license. Inmate Lott is single, and per his report was a drug lord in the area, "I was the biggest in the area, at the time". He also admitted to being a member of the Vice Lords and indicated that Cotton was his right-hand man. Roscoe Gilmer was in charge of the money and the other victim was his bodyguard.

Later in the interview, Inmate Lott admitted that he was guilty of the charges. He indicated that Cotton served 33 years in prison, for his part in the crimes. Regarding his health, Inmate Lott noted that he has glaucoma, for which he receives monthly injections. Aside from that, he is in good health. His last visit was from his sister, Joyce Ann in 2013.

During the interview, Inmate Lott was very cooperative, mannerly, and talkative. If paroled, he plans to move to Bakersfield, California to live with his mother's brother, George. When asked why he deserved to be paroled, Inmate Lott stated, "his accomplice, Willie Cotton, was paroled after 33 years, and he has served more time than that". He indicates that the judge in the original case was white and his case was presented before an all-white jury. He also believes that Judge Cunningham used him as a "standard".

The member of the board reviewed and discussed this case in detail and have voted to deny parole. The Board continues to feel that parole would deprecate the seriousness of the offense, and promote disrespect for the law.

Member Crigler inquired as to Inmate Lott's institutional adjustment. Member Dunn advised that his adjustment has been very good and his SPIN assessment shows that he is a low risk to reoffend.

Member Crigler also requested to know the overall impression of his rehabilitation while in prison. Member Dunn noted that it is hard to be opposed. Inmate Lott refused to speak to the Board four times and has had six prior 3-year sets. The offender is amiable and is not a great risk to reoffend.

Member Tupy asked if Inmate Lott had a parole plan. Member Dunn stated that Inmate Lott plans to live with his mother's brother in California.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

Member Shelton requested to know if Inmate Lott provided any explanation for the offense. Member Dunn advised that Inmate Lott claims it stemmed from a war between two gangs, but Inmate Lott has shown no remorse.

Member E. Johnson asked if Inmate Lott is paroled, would his next prison sentence begin. Member Dunn noted that it would not, he would be strictly on parole.

Member Fisher requested to know the parole date for Inmate Lott. Member Dunn noted that the date is April 10, 2275.

Member Norton asked if he received a new sentence while incarcerated. Member Dunn stated that he picked up a charge of Aggravated Battery/Great Bodily Harm in 1981. Member Norton asked if that case would run consecutive. Member Dunn advised that the 1981 sentence has already been satisfied.

Motion to deny parole (DWD-CF). Motion prevails by a vote of 11 to 1. Members voting in favor of the motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Harris, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Norton, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
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Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— JUNE 29, 2017

Inmate Name: **LEON BOLTON**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C01871**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 401 S. Spring Street, Illinois Stratton Building, Room A-1, Springfield, Illinois, on June 29, 2017 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Leon Bolton, IDOC #C01871.

Members present were: J. Clough, E. Crigler, D.W. Dunn, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, V. Martinez, W. Norton, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, K. Tupy and Chairman Findley.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Inmate Bolton was interviewed on March 22, 2017 at the Western Correctional Center. Inmate Bolton is a 65-year-old African-American male. His date of birth is October 30, 1952. In 1971, Inmate Bolton was sentenced to 90-250 years for Murder. The conviction was reversed upon appeal, and Inmate Bolton was awarded a new trial. His discharge date is April 20, 2039.

Statement of Facts

On the evening of December 15, 1970, Leon Bolton, along with Charles Marshall, Leo Collins, Tommy Watkins, and a juvenile, went to the rural home of Bernice Vanzant. The home was located in Pembroke Township in Kankakee County, Illinois. Inmate Bolton and his accomplices entered the home, spoke with Mrs. Vanzant, and then dragged her into an adjoining bedroom and raped her. Later, Inmate Bolton and the others gagged and blindfolded Mrs. Vanzant before dragging her across a field and into a wooded area near her home. At that point, Inmate Bolton and his accomplices shot the victim six times; five times with a .38 caliber weapon and once with a .22 caliber rifle. The victim was shot twice in the head, twice in the back, and twice in the hips.

They left her body in the woods and all returned to her home. In the home, they removed food stamps from her purse and cashed them in the next day at a local store. The body of the victim was discovered by her family on December 20, 1970. On December 22, 1970, warrants were issued for Inmate Bolton and his accomplices. On January 7, 1971, Inmate Bolton was indicted by the Grand Jury for the charge of Murder. Inmate Bolton was sentenced to a term of not less than 90 years, nor more than 150 years.

On October 24, 1973, the Third Appellate Court reversed the conviction of the defendant and remanded the case for a new trial. The results were the same; guilty of Murder and Inmate Bolton was once again sentenced to 90-150 years in the Department of Corrections.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Other Facts

On the afternoon of December 16, 1970, Inmate Bolton, along with his associates, robbed Orville Asker, a bread truck driver in the Pembroke Township area. After robbing the victim, the assailants beat him and then fired multiple shots at him, one of which struck him in the head. The bullet from Orville Asker's head proved to be a bullet from the same gun which was used in the murder of Mrs. Vanzant. This bullet was used as evidence at Mrs. Vanzant's murder trial, in order to establish the identity of the defendants.

Inmate Interview

Inmate Bolton was 18-years-old at the time of the crime. He stated that Marshall was the person who shot Mrs. Vanzant, but he stated that they all raped her. He gave no explanation as to why he or his accomplices raped her. He said that he, Marshall, and Watkins were all tried together, but that Collins had a separate trial because he was used as a witness. Inmate Bolton stated that he is very sorry for his actions and he wishes that he could change what happened. He has asked God to forgive him. He stated that he is now older and more mature; he accepts responsibility for his actions.

Family History

Inmate Bolton dropped out of school at the age of fifteen and was sent to St. Charles because he missed a court date. He was convicted of Burglary in 1965. The police picked up Inmate Bolton at school because his grandmother was unable to get him to court. His mother was in the hospital giving birth at the time. He has three sisters, all of whom have passed away, and three brothers. His family stays in touch with him, most of whom are his nieces and nephews. He was married in Centralia in either 1994 or 1995.

Institutional Adjustment

Upon entering prison, Inmate Bolton joined a gang for protection. However, he does not have a gang affiliation at this time. He has been in the following institutions:

- Stateville Correctional Center – 18 years
- Dixon Correctional Center – 2.5 years
- Centralia Correctional Center – 6 years
- Logan Correctional Center – 6 years
- Graham Correctional Center – 2.5 years
- Illinois River Correctional Center – 2.5 years
- Western Correctional Center – 9 years

He has received no major tickets and only one minor ticket. He is currently an A grade and has no demotions. He is currently not working because he has not had an assignment at Western Correctional Center.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
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PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Craig Findley, Chairman

Parole Plans

Inmate Bolton would like to parole to live with his nephew, Ernest Lockett, who currently resided in Chicago, Illinois.

Summary

Inmate Bolton's institutional adjustment, given his prison beginnings, is excellent. He has educated himself and has done well to prepare for his eventual release. He currently suffers from diabetes, hypertension, and neuropathy in his feet. He does not seem himself as a threat to anyone and he does express remorse for his part in this horrible crime.

The tremendous, horrific crime that was committed does not warrant parole at this time. The Board felt that to grant parole would show complete disrespect for the law and deprecate the serious nature of the offense.

Chairman Findley request to know if Inmate Bolton was the youngest adult of the assailants. Member Perkins confirmed that Inmate Bolton was the youngest.

Member Perkins noted that the SPIN assessment found that Inmate Bolton was overall at a high risk to reoffend. She noted that Inmate Bolton was pleasant to talk with, but that his demeanor did not negate his crime.

Member Harris requested to know Inmate Bolton's age. Member Perkins confirmed that he was 65 years of age.

Member Fisher asked if the victim was shot with two separate weapons. Member Perkins confirmed that she was.

Member Shelton stated that a letter received from the family only requested continued justice from Inmate Bolton and Marshall, but not the others. The men left the woman to die in a field.

Motion to deny parole (AMP-DS). Motion prevails by a vote of 12 to 0. Leave.

Member Crigler noted that she would like to see a stronger parole plan.

Motion for a 2-year set (EJ-KT). Motion prevails by a vote of 7 to 5. Members voting in favor of the motion are Mr. Clough, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Norton, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm."