



STATE OF ILLINOIS
 JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following individuals in custody:

C83534	BROWNELL, CURTIS
L01404	PITTS, EDDIE*
C92772	JOHNSON, FRANKLIN*
C62434	MARTIN, FREDDIE*
C57883	BAKER, JAMES
R00176	INOCENCIO, PATRICK
C61253	NORALS, RICARDO*
C72908	WEST, RICHARD*

The meeting was called to order by Madam Chair Crigler.

Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Tracy Buckley.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Jared Bohland	X	
Ms. Edith Crigler	X	
Ms. Lisa Daniels	X	
Mr. Rodger Heaton	X	
Ms. Miller	X	
Mr. Donald Shelton	X	
Ms. Robin Shoffner	X	
Mr. Ken Tupy	X	

8 Members Present

The Board heard and voted upon the cases of Curtis Brownell, Eddie Pitts, Freddie Martin, James Baker, and Patrick Inocencio as detailed in the individual case minutes.

Meeting was adjourned (EC—LM). Leave.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022**

Inmate Name: **CURTIS BROWNELL**

IDOC Number: **C83534**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Curtis Brownell C83534.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley.

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

The basis for the Board's decision at this time is as follows:

Curtis Brownell, age 67, was heard for parole consideration on February 16, 2022 by a member of the Prisoner Review Board via videoconference, with the participation of his counsel. Subsequent Board discussion included a review of the criminal case, including transcribed statements to police during investigation of the crimes and a report on the conclusions of multiple doctors and clinical psychologists prior to sentencing. The Board considered Mr. Brownell's institutional adjustment and health status, family support and parole plan. Also considered was substantial opposition to parole release.

CRIMINAL CASES & CRIMINAL HISTORY

Prior to the crimes for which he now serves Mr. Brownell was convicted of making obscene phone calls (April 1977). A victim in that case had been receiving the calls for approximately 21 months when a phone trap by the phone company successfully identified the phone number belonging to Mr. Brownell and his wife as having made three of the calls. Brownell served a period of probation for those crimes. His court-imposed counseling requirement was satisfied in December 1977, at which point his "sexual deviation of making obscene phone calls" was thought to be resolved by a staff psychologist.

On September 27th, 1977, and at the age of 22, Mr. Brownell raped and killed 17yr old Louise Betts a student at Harlem High School of Machesney Park. He abducted her at knifepoint, raped her, strangled her and left her nude body, which was discovered six months later, in a Boone County cornfield. Mr. Brownell was married at the time and had two children, ages 2 and 4.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

For those offenses he is serving a 100–300-year sentence for Murder – originally imposed as a Death Sentence; and a 30–90-year sentence for Rape

That crime was preceded by a similar crime in Rockford (Winnebago County), wherein Brownell approached victim Kathy Brickey in a laundromat; struck her on the head with a pistol, rummaged through her purse; forced her into his vehicle at gunpoint; and drove away with her; put the gun to her head; and offered her the choice of submitting to him or being shot. He sexually assaulted her inside the car, ordered her out of the car, and knocked her to the ground by striking her repeatedly about the head with the gun. After backing up his vehicle, Brownell intentionally ran over the lower half of her body.

Ms. Brickey survived with no broken bones, apparently because of the amount of snow on the ground, but Brownell’s intention to kill her is clear.

Brownell quickly became a suspect in the Rockford case because he had been identified as having followed another lady in a car the previous day. He was positively identified from a line-up - and arrested on February 22, 1978.

For these crimes he is serving five sentences of 150 years for Attempt Murder; Armed Violence; Rape; Armed Robbery; and Aggravated Kidnapping.

After his arrest the victims of other crimes began to come forward. He subsequently confessed to the rape and murder of Louise Betts.

It was later learned that Mr. Brownell, while driving around in his car, continued to seek out female victims. He admitted forcing at least two other women out of his car while he was driving at high speeds, one of whom he gave a specific statement about to police following his arrest.

The notations, observations and diagnoses of five (5) evaluating physicians prior to Mr. Brownell’s conviction & sentencing were discussed in closed session.

INTERVIEW

Inmate Brownell was cooperative and seemed eager to answer questions. He spoke of his divorce, which occurred shortly after conviction; he spoke of his “first crime” being his worst, referring to the murder of Miss Betts (He appeared to become emotional when he spoke of it). He spoke of his remorse and appreciation for the pain he caused the victim’s family. He spoke of the sexual abuse he experienced between the ages of 8 and 10 at the hands of a family member – experiences he was finally able to make peace with during a visit from the family member during which they talked about it. He also spoke of his Associate Degree in Drafting, and of other certificates and programming, reminding the Board that he entered the institution with only a G.E.D.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

ADJUSTMENT TO INSTITUTIONAL LIFE

Previous interviewing members have for years reported good to excellent institutional adjustment in terms of few disciplinary referrals of a minor nature. This is still true.

OPPOSITION / SUPPORT FOR RELEASE

The State's Attorneys of Winnebago County and then Boone County spoke in opposition to parole. Also present were family members of victim Louise Betts.

PAROLE PLAN

Counsel has located an acceptable placement, if parole were to be granted, at Haven House of Marion, Illinois.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Member Shelton verified a commutation that had been pending. Mr. Brownell's Attorney stated it was denied.

Attorney Kylie Wood recognized with Attorney Ann MacDonald. Ms. Wood stated that Mr. Brownell is a prime candidate for parole for several reasons. He is 67 years old and has made several efforts toward rehabilitation for his release. He is remorseful for the harm caused and other actions for the first 23 years of his life. She states that he has a strong parole plan and has been eligible for parole for some time, but this is the first time he has had counsel.

Attorney Woods further stated that Mr. Brownell takes full responsibility for his dark past. He committed horrific acts, molested his daughter and he has been honest about his past with the Board. He doesn't make excuses or diminish the harm he caused. He has penned letters to the victims and expressed remorse. He has not sent the letters. He enrolled in programming for sex offenders and showed a desire to change. His family petitioned for a transfer to be able to begin the program and understands the trauma he had as a child. Mr. Brownell's family member molested him for years. His father was an alcoholic. He came home at 15 to find his father who had attempted suicide. His father never returned home. Not an excuse but he learned that his past contributed to his crime. He lacked self-respect, learned his triggers and learned how to slow down and think through his actions and how it affected those around him. He was asked to serve as a therapist assistant in the program. When he returned to Dixon he had the opportunity to confront his abuser and it was a pivotal moment in his rehabilitation.

Madam Chair Crigler requested more information on the parole plan.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

Attorney Wood spoke about the parole plans to Marion Veterans' home the Haven House. They have tools to help individuals with limited mobility. There are no limitations on how long he could stay. The manager of the haven house is willing to accept him.

Madam Chair Crigler inquired about Mr. Brownell's family and asked if the facility was co-ed.

Attorney Wood responded that he has two sisters in Illinois and one out of state.

Winnebago County State's Attorney Jay Hanley read a poem from the victim. He stated that Mr. Brownell raped and discarded women. Mr. Brownell raped Kathy Brickly and tried to run over her son. He makes quote from the parole petition. He deserves his just desserts. He hasn't shown rehabilitation. There is no record to show that his is rehabilitated in the documentation in the State's possession. He roamed and preyed upon young women. If he can do all the assignments he has in prison, he could hold a knife to a woman. He should be denied because he is still a danger to society. He should be punished. State's Attorney Hanley described the details of the crimes and discussed how Mr. Brownell's actions affected the community. He further stated that the victims fear he will hurt someone else.

Boone County State's Attorney Tricia Smith recalled the facts of the cases. She recalled how one of the victims laid in a cornfield. State's Attorney Smith read the statements of a doctor who examined Mr. Brownell at that time, stating the doctor believes Mr. Brownell was disconnected from humans. She further spoke to the Administrative Code reasons for denial for parole. She further read the aggravating factors that are found in this case.

State's Attorney Smith made arguments about not receiving the information of the psychological report.

Madam Chair Crigler addressed the report as being HIPPA covered and Mr. Brownell would have to give permission for those records.

State's Attorney stated that he should be denied and set out for 5 years.

Attorney Wood rebutted that Mr. Brownell has served 44 years and has received two citations in prison; one being a candy bar he stole and exiting the yard. There is nothing in his records that state he couldn't conform; he has attained several degrees and worked jobs consistently. He still works although he has limited mobility. He recognizes the harm that the caused.

Member Shelton stated that no mitigation could cover the crime. We know that he was making obscene phone calls. We know that he raped and tried to kill a woman that survived. He continued to drive around and looked for victims. He further stated that Mr. Brownell is the type



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

of individual that prison is designed to hold for a long time. He hasn't been tested with the types of victims he preys on while in prison.

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to deny parole (DS—KT). Motion prevails by a vote of 7–1. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Madam Chair Crigler, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Shelton and Mr. Tupy. Ms. Daniels dissented.

Motion for a 3-year set (DS—LM). Motion prevails by a vote of 6-2. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy. Madam Chair Crigler and Ms. Daniels dissented.

After thorough consideration of Mr. Brownell's case, the Board voted to deny parole. The Board feels that parole release at this time would not be in the interest of public safety, as parole release at this time would deprecate the serious nature of the offenses and promote a lack of respect for the law.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged."



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**
OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022

Inmate Name: **RICHARD WEST**

IDOC Number: **C72908**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Richard West C72908.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley.

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

Mr. West was interviewed by Board Member Edith L. Crigler on March 21, 2022, via WebEx. Mr. West was pleasant and responsive to all questions. His attorneys Carolyn Klarquist and Pamela Rubeo were also present.

Richard West C72908 is 65 years of age with a date of birth of January 24, 1957. He is serving a sentence of 25-100 years for the murder of his father in 1974. He has been in custody for over 45 years. His projected discharge date is December 16, 2037.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On December 2, 1974, Mr. West was a 17-year-old who shot and killed his father, Alphonso West. A week before the murder, Mr. West asked Bryant Clemons for a ride in exchange for money. Mr. West told Mr. Clemons that he was looking for a man who was messing with him. Mr. Clemons saw Mr. West go into his home, located at 7608 S. Eggleston Ave., Chicago and retrieve a shotgun, which was wrapped in some clothes and a plastic cleaner's bag. Mr. Clemons saw the butt of the gun when Mr. West placed it in the trunk of the car.

The day before the murder, at about 5:30pm., Mr. west spoke with two neighborhood men, William Hudson and Ned Smith. Mr. West offered them \$5.00 for a ride. Mr. Hudson agreed, and Mr. West went into his home at 7608 Eggleston Ave, in Chicago. He came out with a shotgun, packed in a 3-4 foot long by 6-inch-wide cardboard box. Mr. West instructed Mr. Hudson to drive around the corner from his home to 76th Street, between Eggleston and Normal Street. Mr. West took the shotgun out of the box. Mr. Smith, who was also in the car, asked Mr. West why he had a gun and Mr. West responded he was "going to bump a guy off". Mr. West



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

said the man for which he was looking for would be driving into the alley. This was the alley behind Mr. West's

home, where he lived with his father. At 6:30pm., Mr. West asked for the time and then indicated he had to leave. Mr. Hudson then drove Mr. West around the corner to his home.

The next day, at 5:45pm., Mr. West offered another man, Gregory Smith, \$6.00 for a ride. As he did the day before, Mr. West brought out a shotgun in a cardboard box and instructed Mr. Smith to drive around the corner and park by the alley, which went behind Mr. West's home. A short time after, Mr. West took the gun from the box. Mr. West's father, Alphonso West, then drove into the alley. Mr. West got out of the car, with the box, and walked up to his garage with the shotgun. Mr. West was seen saying something into the garage and pointing the gun into the garage and shooting. Mr. Smith then saw the victim, "stumble through the gang way." Mr. West then went back to Mr. Smith's car and was driven around the corner to his home, where Mr. West got out of the car with the shotgun, walked up to his home, and handed the gun to someone. Mr. West then returned to the car. Mr. West told Mr. Smith to drive him to the cleaners, and if anyone asked Mr. Smith should say he gave Mr. West a ride to the cleaners. Mr. West went into the cleaners, picked up some dry cleaning, and Mr. Smith drove Mr. West back home. And received the \$6.00 from Mr. West.

Within an hour of the shooting, at approximately 6:30pm Chicago Police saw the body of Mr. Alphonso West lying in the gang way between two houses at 7608 S. Eggleston. There was a trail of blood from the garage to Mr. West's body. He died at the scene from a gunshot blast to the chest.

Mr. West was arrested six days later for the murder of his father. Mr. West was found guilty following a bench trial and was sentenced on July 14, 1977. He was out on bond but had been confined since being sentenced.

MR. WEST'S VERSION OF THE OFFENSE

Mr. West shared that he was out of control as a teenager and wished his parents would have gotten him into counseling. He stated his parents were from the south and that they did not believe in counseling. Mr. West appears to have this overwhelming need to protect his family.

Richard West did not reveal anything about what happen on December 2, 1974. He did admit that his life began to turn bad when he was a teenager. He also admits it did not take much for him to react violently at times and that he is and was extremely protective of his brothers and sisters. Especially the younger ones. He admits his parents were strict, but that he loved them equally.

He stated he learned of his father being shot and killed but did not share where he was or what he was doing. He stated that day changed his entire family for life. He stated is very sorry



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

his father was killed, and he is not proud that he was convicted of his murder. He stated he thinks of his father every day and all the sacrifices he made for the family.

He did share that he had a friend Ronald Bean who promised he would testify on his behalf, but never did. He stated Bean visited him in the county jail in 1977 and told him he was threatened if he showed up.

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

His institutional adjustment was extremely poor in his younger years of incarceration. He stated that he did not respond well because of negative comments from the officers which caused him to get tickets. He stated that now that he is older, he does not react the same way to negative comments.

PAROLE PLANS

Mr. West plans to live with one of his two Sisters, Phyllis Stratton or Katrina if granted parole.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Member Heaton asked if there was any defense at the trial.

Madam Chair Crigler stated that there was none just the testimony of those that offered him a ride. She stated that the only negative in his case was his institutional adjustment in his early years.

Member Daniels inquired as to how long it had been that his institutional adjustment had improved since his early years.

Madam Chair Crigler stated that it was in 2017.

Attorney Pamela Rubio stated that Mr. West was a juvenile at 17 and is now 65 and served a defacto natural life sentence after serving 45 years. She stated that the Cook County State's attorney supports his release and she read a confirmation from their office as such. He has been in contact with his siblings. The victim's family is in support of his release.

Katrina West Beard is Richard West's sister. She states that her brother has been incarcerated for most of his life. She said they miss him. They have a plan when he is released to reunite with the family.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

Mr. Shelton presented this case last year. Attorney Carolyn Klarquist responded that Mr. Ruggiero heard the case last year.

Madam Chair Crigler stated that a plan has been created for him to go to St. Leonard's house. She also stated that she couldn't understand why he would not speak about the day of the murder. She stated Mr. West may have felt betrayed by his friend and the only thing that convicted him were the four men that testified.

Member Bohland stated that he was having a hard time with the information that he didn't have a gun. Mr. West had been arrested for a UUW months prior. He wanted to reiterate the seriousness of his institutional adjustment. During that time, he was involved in a hostage take over that lasted for hours. He stated that knives and pipes were used and he was highly involved in it. He had 120 IDR's most with starting fires, stabbing officers, this speaks to the notion that he showed violence.

Attorney Pamela Rubio stated that Mr. West was only 19 years old in 1979. She stated that science reports that segregation causes mental health issues, but his last ticket was a verbal reprimand in 2017. Last year, Mr. West received six votes for parole meaning he took the Board's comments to heart. He tried to enroll in educational courses, and he is on a waiting list for racial issues and joined a runner's club and has made great strides and advancements.

Attorney Carolyn Klarquist – St. Leonard's House can provide counseling; the state says they don't have any further interest; last five years with no tickets; he has changed and transformed.

Member Shelton stated that he has no difficulty believing some of the information that was given knowing what the 70s and 80s were like in mitigation.

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to grant parole (EC—DS). Motion prevails by a vote of 6–2. Members voting in favor of the motion were Madam Chair Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner. Mr. Bohland, and Mr. Tupy dissented.

After a complete review of Mr. Jones's case, and after giving thoughtful discussion and consideration to all factors, the Board decided and voted to grant parole to Mr. Jones, subject to conditions of parole release as set by the Board and by law. The Board hereby finds that Mr. Jones is an appropriate candidate for parole release.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**

OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022

Inmate Name: **FREDDIE MARTIN** IDOC Number: **C62434**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Freddie Martin C62434.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley.

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

On March 10, 2022, Mr. Martin was interviewed by Board Member, LeAnn Miller via WebEx at Illinois River Correctional Center in Canton, Illinois. The interview started at 9:00 a.m. with Mr. Martin being sworn in.

Mr. Martin stated that he is 73 years old. He has 3 sisters and 1 bother. He stated that one sister is deceased. Mr. Martin stated that his mother is also deceased. He stated that he is married, and his wife is still living. He thinks she is living in Virginia, but not sure. Mr. Martin stated that he and his wife had a girl, and she died in 1973. He says that only contact he has with family and friends is through letters. His last visit was on 9/26/93 and it was with his mother and sister-in-law.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

In the early evening hours of January 15, 1976, Mr. Martin entered the home of Herbert and Catherine Alferink, ages 79 and 76 respectively, at 15210 Park Avenue in Harvey, Illinois. Upon gaining entry, Mr. Martin tied and bound both victims and searched the house for valuables. He stole wedding rings, money, a television, and a pendant watch. He then stabbed both victims repeatedly in the chest, until they were both dead. Before leaving the house, Mr. Martin turned on the gas stove.

After Martin robbed and murdered Mr. and Mrs. Alferink, he went to a lounge nearby where he met Johnnie Thompson and asked him for a ride to Chicago. Mr. Thompson noticed that Martin had blood on his shirt and pants. Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Martin if he had been in a fight. Mr. Martin said that he had killed two people down the street. Mr. Thompson said he



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

did not want to get involved in something like that. Mr. Martin then threatened Mr. Thompson with a knife, but Mr. Thompson was able to run away.

Mr. Martin left the lounge and was stopped by police officers at 147th and Halsted at about 9:30pm. He was carrying a television. He explained to the officers that his car had broken down. The officers wrote down information about Martin and then released him. Martin then called for a taxicab. A cab picked him up at the Shell station at 147th and Halsted and took him to 89th and May, a half block from his house.

The daughter of Herbert and Catherine Alferink, Ruth Bronson came to their house on the following day (1/16/76) and discovered the bodies of her parents on the kitchen floor. Her father was lying face down, while her mother was on her back with a knife stuck in her chest. The hands and feet of both Mr. and Mrs. Alferink were bound with rope. When the police turned Mr. Alferink's body over, they discovered that a knife was also embedded in his chest. An autopsy revealed that Catherine Alferink had been stabbed five times in the upper chest. She had abrasions on her lower and mid-chest and right thigh as well as hemorrhages in the areas of her ankles and right wrist. The cause of death was a stab wound, which had severed her aorta and lung. Herbert Alferink had two stab wounds in his upper chest, one of which penetrated the bone and one of which cut the pulmonary artery and aorta. The police found the two bedrooms of the Alferink house ransacked.

That same day, a 1976 Oldsmobile, the property of Daniel Latronica, was stolen from his business at 7545 South Western in Chicago. A few hours later, Chicago Police officers spotted the stolen car in the vicinity of 81st Street and California Avenue. Martin was driving. The police tried to stop the car, but Martin took off at a high rate of speed and tried to elude the police. He abandoned the car at 7940 South Western and fled on foot. The police caught him and found a revolver and several keys on his person. Mr. Martin was charged with theft of the automobile. After a bench trial, Judge Louis Garippo found him guilty. On June 4, 1976, Judge Garippo sentenced Martin to 1 to 4 years in the penitentiary.

After Martin was taken into custody for the theft of Mr. Latronica's car, the Harvey Police Department received a tip from an informant regarding the homicides of Mr. and Mrs. Alferink. The information provided, resulted in a search warrant of Martin's house. The police executed that search warrant and recovered the television stolen from Mr. and Mrs. Alferink's home. The police then were directed to the house of Martin's wife. The police recovered two rings stolen from Mr. and Mrs. Alferink at Martin's wife's home. The police were then directed to go to the home of Albert Beard where they recovered a \$1000.00 bond from Mr. and Mrs. Alferink. Martin's wife told the police that she got the rings from Martin and that he gave Albert Beard the \$1000.00 bond. She also told the police that Martin showed her a large bundle of money he had in his sock.

Mr. Martin was charged with the murders, armed robbery and burglary. Mr. Martin chose to have a jury trial. The jury found Martin guilty on all counts. On December 2, 1976,



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

Judge James E. Sullivan sentenced Martin to 150 to 450 years in the penitentiary for the murder of Herbert Alferink, 150 to 450 years for the murder of Catherine Alferink, 20 to 60 years for Armed Robbery and 3 to 9 years for burglary. All sentences to be served concurrently.

At Mr. Martin's jury trial, the Prosecutor brought up two other murders that were being investigated where Mr. Martin was the prime suspect. However, no charges were ever filed on the two cases.

MR. MARTIN'S VERSION AS TO THE OFFENSE

Mr. Martin stated, "I don't want to talk about the crime because it was a bad situation and if you keep talking about it, you won't make it in life." Mr. Martin stated that he was very remorseful for the situation that occurred. He said, "You gotta have respect for human life and that comes with time and life."

CRIMINAL HISTORY

Mr. Martin has been incarcerated 3 times. Mr. Martin was paroled in 1971 and less than 6 months, he had committed another crime. In 1975, Mr. Martin was paroled and less than 4 months, he committed the murders of Mr. and Mrs. Alderink. His criminal history is from 1968-1976. Most of the prior charges are robbery, theft and burglaries.

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

Mr. Martin has had 76 IDR's. Most of his disciplinary tickets were from 1977-2016. He has had 1 disciplinary ticket since 2016 and it was November 8, 2021, for Unauthorized property. He is currently A grade.

Mr. Martin has earned his Associates in Applied Science and has several certificates in electronics from Joliet Jr. College.

Mr. Martin stated, "I have to be honest about what I say. I have 70% of the staff that would talk on my behalf if they could." He stated that you must follow the rules and you must learn this over time. He also said that as you get older, you must evaluate situations and you always want to be on the good side. He stated that each day, he must tell himself what to do. When asked about parole, Mr. Martin stated that he could be successful at parole.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

OPPOSITION

State's Attorney, Kim Foxx opposed the release of Mr. Martin on a letter dated March 20, 2019. There are several opposition letters that have been received on Mr. Martin's parole from the family of the victims.

EN BANC HISTORY

This is Mr. Martin's 30th time to appear before En-Banc. His last En Banc was on March 28, 2019, where he was unanimously denied. He was given a 3- year set.

PAROLE PLANS

Mr. Martin's parole plans are to live in a transition center. He stated that he has been locked up almost 46 years and he will need help re-entering society.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Member Miller read presentation of the Statement of Facts and stated that what Mr. Martin once stated to the Board was that he, "didn't care what the Board thought about him." She further stated that there were several oppositions to his parole. He was on parole twice. He violated both times after short periods of times.

The members had no questions regarding the presentation and no further discussion.

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to deny parole (LM—DS). Motion prevails by unanimous vote. Leave.

Motion for a 3-year set (LM—JB). Motion prevails by a vote of 6-2. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy. Madam Chair Crigler and Ms. Daniels dissented.

After thorough consideration of Mr. Martin's case, the Board voted to deny parole. The Board feels that parole release at this time would not be in the interest of public safety, as there is a substantial risk that Mr. Martin would not conform to reasonable conditions of parole release,



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

and that parole release at this time would deprecate the serious nature of the offenses and promote a lack of respect for the law.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022**

Inmate Name: **RICARDO NORALS** IDOC Number: **C61253**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Ricardo Norals C61253.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

Mr. Norals was interviewed by Board Member Lisa Daniels March 21, 2022, via WebEx.

Mr. Norals is currently serving a sentence of 100-200 years for Murder, 100-200 years for Rape and 100-200 years for Attempted Murder. Mr. Norals presents today coming off a 5-year set, last being before the board March 2017 where he received 0 votes. Mr. Norals has been housed at Shawnee Correctional facility since October 2003. According to the most recent overview dated November 2021, Mr. Norals is currently A Grade, Medium Security and his Escape Risk designation is Low. Incarcerated for 47 years.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On or about November 25, 1974, when Mr. Norals was eighteen (18) years of age, he, Co-Defendant James Brimmer, and a third unknown assailant who has never been identified or charged, gained access to the apartment of thirty-five-year-old victim (J.B.) located on West Crystal Street in Chicago, Illinois. The sixteen-year-old daughter (P.B.) of J.B., was also present at the apartment. Mr. Norals was known to victim P.B. and she was able to later identify him to police authorities. During the Attempted Robbery, both victims were beaten and raped. Sixteen-year-old P.B. was raped by Mr. Norals, Co-Defendant Brimmer, and the third unknown assailant. At the conclusion of the sexual attacks, the mother was shot five times: once above her left eye, once in the right chest, and three times in the right abdomen. She died as a result of the multiple gunshot wounds. In an attempt to silence the sole remaining witness, the sixteen-year-old victim was also shot five times, where she sustained wounds to her neck and legs. The sixteen-year-old victim survived this attack by pretending to be dead.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

Following a bench trial, Mr. Norals was found guilty of Murder, Attempt Murder, and Rape. On or about April 8, 1976, Mr. Norals was sentenced to 100-200 years for Murder, 100-200 years for Attempt Murder, and 100-200 years for Rape, with all the above sentences to run concurrent (Cook Co. 75-731).

MR. NORALS' STATEMENT AS TO THE OFFENSE

During my interview Mr. Norals failed to acknowledge his role in the rape and murder JB and the rape and attempted murder of PB. He only acknowledged knowing them "from the neighborhood".

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

According to the IDOC Offender Overview dated November 22, 2021, Mr. Norals has been diagnosed with high blood pressure for which he is on medication. Since his last time before this board, Mr. Norals has received 1 disciplinary ticket.

PAROLE PLANS

Mr. Norals doesn't appear to have a solid release plan. However, during our interview he expressed he would live with his sister for a while, and she would help him secure employment at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Member Daniels stated that Mr. Norals was not represented by counsel and doesn't seem to have a solid parole plan. Mr. Norals says he would live with his sister. Due to his consistent unwillingness to accept responsibility; she does not see him as a viable candidate for parole.

The members had no questions regarding the presentation and no further discussion.

Member Shelton motioned for a three-year set.

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to deny parole (LD—KT). Motion prevails by unanimous vote. Leave.

Motion for a 3-year set (DS—LM). Motion prevails by a vote of 8-0. Leave.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

After thorough consideration of Mr. Norals' case, the Board voted to deny parole. The Board feels that parole release at this time would not be in the interest of public safety, as there is a substantial risk that Mr. Norals would not conform to reasonable conditions of parole release, and that parole release at this time would deprecate the serious nature of the offenses and promote a lack of respect for the law.

"The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged."



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**

OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022

Inmate Name: **EDDIE PITTS** IDOC Number: **L01404**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Eddie Pitts L01404.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley.

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

Eddie Pitts, age 69, was heard for parole consideration on April 22nd by a member of the Prisoner Review Board via videoconference, with the participation of his counsel. This was the first time Mr. Pitts was represented by counsel. Subsequent Board discussion included a review of the criminal case, a review psychological assessment, Mr. Pitts' institutional adjustment and health status, family support and parole plans. Also considered was historical and current opposition to parole release.

During the eligibility hearing of April 22, 2022, Mr. Pitts was well prepared to speak at length about his upbringing on a farm in Arkansas, about moving to Florida and then Chicago, and about how he earned a living after leaving the farm. His information was greatly supplemented by the testimony of a sister, who was very articulate and informative, as well as from notations of therapists in the institutions – information held confidential.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Mr. Pitts has been in continuous custody since November 30, 1976 - 45 years ago. On that day, at age 24, he stabbed to death one of the two service men from People's Gas Company who had responded to 6620 South Harvard Avenue in Chicago on a complaint of residential gas leak.

There were four (4) men present: the servicemen, Jerry Keane and Winston McCain; Edward Stewart, who answered the door when the service men arrived; and Eddie Pitts.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

While the two servicemen were briefly separated, and for no reason apparent at the time, Mr. Pitts attacked Mr. Keane from behind, stabbing Mr. Keane repeatedly in his back, neck, arm, chest, abdomen, and thigh – later determined to have resulted in twenty-three (23) wounds. Mr. Keane died at the scene.

Mr. Pitts was located and arrested the next day. He was initially found unfit to stand trial. *In 1977, he was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia* and transferred to the Dept. of Mental Health for treatment to restore fitness. After treatment involving transfers to various psychiatric centers, he was declared fit to stand trial on November 6, 1978, two (2) years after the crime.

At his request he was again evaluated, resulting in a diagnosis not inconsistent with previous diagnoses - schizophrenia, *paranoid type in partial remission with medication* but deemed fit to stand trial.

He pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity but was convicted by a jury and admitted to the Department of corrections in 1980. As is common, he was the subject of many non-punitive institutional transfers over the years, arriving finally to Dixon on August 3, 2011.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

Mr. Pitts is known to have had prior criminal issues – a 1976 UYW conviction and an ASSAULT charge occurring while he was on probation for the UYW conviction.

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

A color-coded printout of all institutional discipline referrals was provided to each of the members from which the members could reach their own conclusions. The fact that some of the more recent referrals might be evidence of dementia was mentioned by the presenter.

Lengthy closed-session Board discussion focused on Mr. Pitts' psychological assessments and diagnoses continuing into open session. Unanswered questions were posed about documented references to "schizophrenia... in remission," and the relevance to public safety. Additionally, Mr. Pitts is now reported to be experiencing dementia. The unknown impact of that condition upon a mental health status of questionable stability raised concerns that were discussed.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

PAROLE PLAN

Mr. Pitts' counsel has been unable to secure a host site able to meet his needs as a dementia patient, and as one who needs re-assessment of prior diagnoses. His counsel believes that his current cognitive status places him at risk of victimization. Previously mentioned concerns of the Board, as they relate to any requirements for a parole plan, were discussed at length.

OPPOSITION

Opposition to the release of Mr. Pitts has been strong over the years and continues to be so, in the form of letters of objection. Over the years, letters and petitions have been received from officials of the victim's local union, the victim's employer and the employer's staff, as well as members of the victim's family. No additional communication from the Cook County State's Attorney's Office has been received since 2021.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Member Shelton provided a list of disciplinary reports and transfers for the Board to review. He stated that he was told Mr. Pitts was experiencing dementia. He tried the best he could to answer questions but wished he had been aware of the questions prior to the hearing. Mr. Shelton also stated that the types of disciplinary reports showed some belief of someone with dementia. He had difficulty explaining himself.

Member Shelton further stated his sister participated in the interview and stated that many family members across the nation wanted to help him. He also recalled that Mr. Pitts' sister also spoke of Mr. Pitts' upbringing. She spoke of their parent's low education and she spoke of how the siblings didn't get education until they left home. She also expressed hope that he could have a host site in the St. Louis area.

Attorney Miriam Zierg stated that this is Mr. Pitts' 44th year of incarceration. She stated that he has not attacked anyone and has not been on medication for several years. She stated that he has issues with remembering with his condition and he does note that. She further stated that even though he has had psychiatric evaluation she can't find that he has been evaluated for this.

Attorney Carolyn Klarquist stated Mr. Pitts had a review last year they had a review of his psychiatric health review and the doctor has said that he has not had proper treatment from the while in the Illinois Department of Corrections. She also stated that schizophrenia tempers with age. Mr. Pitts stated that he has done remarkably well and has not been into any fights or



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

altercations. They are looking for a place for him and he has a lot of family support. She said that placement is critical for him.

Member Shelton stated that given the amount of time he has been in prison and that he doesn't have the psychosis anymore, many of the tickets look like evidence of psychosis.

Attorney Klarquist stated that Mr. Pitts needs an evaluation and that she would like for a psychiatrist to actually meet and engage with him. His cognitive thinking is an issue.

Member Heaton stated that it is clear from the discussion that everyone believes that we don't have the information yet to know how he would respond.

Madam Chair Crigler stated that she voted for him last time. She stated that she is concerned about his well being and St. Leonard's House would not accept him.

Member Daniels stated that this was the same issue last year. She stated that she would like to support him but there is no solid parole plan to assist with his medical condition. There is also an issue of a lack of support he needs.

Member Shelton discussed the possibility of making a motion to grant parole pending approval when parole plans are approved. The Board further discussed what conditions would be acceptable.

Attorney Carolyn Klarquist wanted to clarify what his release would mean.

Madam Chair clarified the motion to be paroled when plans are approved with Outpatient and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and an evaluation or diagnosis.

Chief Legal Kahalah Clay clarified that Mr. Pitts would have to come back before the Board in 90 days if he was not released.

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to grant parole (DS—LD). Motion fails by a vote of 3–5. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Shelton, Madam Chair Crigler, and Ms. Daniels. Mr. Bohland, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Ms. Shoffner and Mr. Tupy dissented.

After thorough consideration of Mr. Pitts' case, the Board voted to deny parole. The Board feels that Mr. Pitts would not be able to conform to the conditions of parole.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022**

Inmate Name: **PATRICK INOCENCIO**

IDOC Number: **R00176**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on July 27, 2021, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Patrick Inocencio R00176.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley.

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

Patrick Inocencio R00176, age 37, was interviewed for parole consideration on April 27, 2022, via videoconference, with the participation of his counsel, Jorge Montes and several witnesses.

On or about October 13, 2000, Mr. Inocencio, was convicted of First-Degree Murder, for which he received a 20-year term at 100%; he was further convicted of three counts of Aggravated Battery with a Firearm, for which he received 6-year terms each at 85%, pursuant to a negotiated plea. Two of the 6-year terms were to be served consecutively to the 20-year term and consecutive to each other. The third Aggravated Battery term was to be served concurrently with all other terms, for a total sentence of 32 years. He was to be on mandatory supervised release for 3 years. His projected Mandatory Supervised Release date at the time of this review was April 30, 2029.

On October 5, 2020, the Governor JB Pritzker granted a Commutation of Sentence, allowing for Mr. Inocencio to be considered for discretionary parole by the Board. Mr. Inocencio is supported in his request for parole by family members, and his mother, his sister, and a nephew (Mr. Inocencio's proposed parole host) were heard via videoconference on the day of the parole consideration interview.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The crime occurred on February 13, 1999, thirteen days prior to Mr. Inocencio's 17th birthday, at a Howard Johnson hotel in Aurora, where the six victims—Eric Johnson, Michael Johnson, Rebecca Wilkinson, Maria Rodriguez, Natalia Rodriguez, and Michelle Walker—were occupying a room.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

At approximately 9:55 a.m., Mr. Inocencio entered that room; he was followed later by co-defendants Jesse Martinez and Melissa Sandoval. Mr. Inocencio and Mr. Martinez, who were armed with firearms, opened fired on the victims, killing Eric Johnson and severely injuring Michael Johnson, Ms. Wilkinson, and Natalia Rodriguez.

Each of the surviving victims had lengthy hospitalizations, with two of them suffering gunshot wounds to the head, and one of them suffering a gunshot to the stomach. Michael Johnson, who was the cousin of Eric, the victim who died, was shot in the leg and the face. Natalia Rodriguez suffered a shattered pelvis, collapsed lung, and broken collar bone.

The shooting was gang-related, with Mr. Inocencio holding a position known as a “hood enforcer” for the Latin Kings of Aurora; victim Eric Johnson was a rival member of the Ambrose Street Gang of Aurora.

Mr. Martinez was convicted in December 2000 of Murder, Attempt Murder, Home Invasion, and other felonies. He was sentenced to a total of 76 years.

Ms. Sandoval, age 19, was found not guilty in a bench trial, with the judge citing a previous Illinois Supreme Court ruling that prevented him from finding her guilty.

MR. INOCENCIO’S STATEMENTS AS TO THE OFFENSE

Mr. Inocencio’s counsel has pointed out to the Board that Mr. Inocencio took responsibility for his crime by pleading guilty, and that he risked his life to aid the prosecution in that case (as evidenced by his testifying against Mr. Martinez during his trial).

The Board is also aware, however, that Mr. Inocencio testified in 2011 at Mr. Martinez’s post-conviction petition hearing, at which time he contradicted his previous testimony. In fact, at that time, Mr. Inocencio substituted an individual with the last name Delgado for Mr. Martinez, purporting that Delgado was the actual enforcer for the Latin Kings whom Mr. Inocencio was with at the time of the crime, saying that he (Mr. Inocencio) previously gave investigators erroneous information. The trial court found Mr. Inocencio’s revised testimony to be “incredible, untrustworthy, and unbelievable.” Notably, Mr. Inocencio received special permission from the Department of Corrections on May 19, 2011, to correspond with co-offender Mr. Martinez. Mr. Inocencio’s Attorney Jorge Montes explained that Mr. Inocencio was receiving threats from the Latin Kings against both himself and his family. That if he hadn’t recanted his earlier identification of Mr. Martinez, he would have been killed by the Latin Kings.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

Mr. Inocencio's incarceration started out at Joliet, with transfers to Stateville, Menard, Tamms, Pontiac, and Lawrence Correctional Centers over the years. Currently, he is housed at Pinckneyville Correctional Center. This last transfer was ordered after it was discovered that he was communicating with a female staffer at Lawrence by telephone; this information was volunteered to the Board by the Mr. Inocencio's counsel during the parole consideration interview; nefarious activity is not presumed, however, with regards to the telephone calls.

Mr. Inocencio has earned numerous certificates indicating modules of religious study, primarily correspondence courses, from Good News Prison Ministries (2018) and Set Free Prison Ministries (2018). One particular document is labelled "Credentials of Ministry – Ordained October 14, 2009" from the Universal Life Church, Modesto, California. Mr. Inocencio has received 10 tickets while incarcerated. His last ticket was March 4, 2021, for contraband. He also raised funds for St. Jude while incarcerated.

Mr. Inocencio has made the Board aware of some of the difficulties in his life, including the divorce of his parents early in his life, exposure to and use of marijuana starting at the age of 7, membership in the Latin Kings by age 12, witnessing multiple killings, and the climax of his career in the gang being when he fired into the "Ambrose room." He asserts that he intends to have his gang tattoos removed, that he is a practicing Christian, and that he has planned a non-profit organization for the purpose of outreach to kids.

PAROLE PLANS

Mr. Inocencio has submitted a parole plan that he describes as excellent, beginning with an offer of housing from his nephew in Henry County, and including the prospect of employment in the construction business with that nephew. However, the currently proposed host was found to have a troublesome history of arrests—with each resulting in conviction—in Henry and Stark Counties, including nine misdemeanor traffic offenses, with the most recent traffic offense occurring in November of 2020, as well as five misdemeanor criminal offense, with the most recent criminal offense occurring in August of 2017.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Attorney Jorge Montes addressed the Board and stated Mr. Inocencio was disappointed that he was not released in 2021. Mr. Montes stated that he thought inmate would be angry and instead Mr. Inocencio asked to address the things Mr. Shelton suggested. He addressed



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

placement issues with site and preferred another placement. His sister and cousin are willing to take him into their home. A cousin has job and housing opportunities. His family has kept up

with him throughout his incarceration. He has several opportunities to live and have assistance from his whole family. He wanted to start a non-profit through his sister. He connected with Carmen Terrones who has taken a personal interest in him. She is very accomplished. He is also connected with Challenge to Change who has made a personal commitment to assist him.

Attorney Montes further stated that the Board wanted Mr. Inocencio to address the Martinez situation. He cooperated with the State. Martinez stated that he better testify in his favor through the gangs because they threatened his family. The gang was the Latin Kings. His last ticket was him tattooing his moms name on himself in 2021. He went way beyond the call of duty and is very remorseful and can show it with is life. He hasn't had major tickets. There was a protest last year but no protest this year should speak for something.

Evira stated that she is sister she has seen the changes and knows he is very remorseful and knows all of the pain this has caused their family. Their mother is getting older, and they are willing to support him and are there for him. His children know who he is, and he wants to be able to come home in time to know them better. Both parents are in their late 70s and a brother passed away and he was not able to be there. She would love for him to be able to spend this time with him and hope that he will be able to come home.

Madam Chair Crigler asked for more information on the parole plan and inquired to the status of an interstate compact for Arizona.

Elvira stated that her and her family discussed that possibility. She stated other family members that would be willing to allow him to parole to their home.

Member Miller stated that Mr. Inocencio had several tickets for gang activity. She inquired as to his gang member status and specifically his renouncing of his membership.

Attorney Jorge Montes stated that the tickets were early during his incarceration. He stated that he was not sure he has renounced but he wants to get his tattoos removed. He believes he may not have formally renounced with Illinois Department of Corrections due to the danger of doing so.

Member Heaton mentioned that there are tickets for gang activity back to 2015.

Member Shelton stated that the tickets and investigation would need to be read for the best understanding of his tickets.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

Member Bohland stated that Mr. Inocencio took a plea deal. He received a very good deal based on the number of victims that were involved. He mentioned that he noticed that the tickets had notes that he conspired staff assaults.

Member Tupy clarified that Mr. Inocencio was originally sentenced to 20 years at 100 percent. He received a commutation from the Governor that makes him eligible for review for parole.

Madam Chair Crigler informed the Board that he was sixteen years of age at the time and involved in a gang and the Latin Kings.

Board discussed his release date for clarification.

Member Tupy stated that Member Shelton checked the master file and could not find any information for official renouncement of the gang because it could put a target on him.

Member Tupy stated that Mr. Inocencio agreed to these sentences and three people were severely hurt. He would be to grant his request on one charge and deny on the other sentences, however, the Board discussed that this was not a possibility.

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to deny parole (KT—JB). Motion fails by a vote of 3–5. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Tupy, Mr. Bohland and Ms. Miller. Ms. Daniels, Madam Chair Crigler, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Shoffner, and Mr. Shelton dissented.

After a complete review of Mr. Inocencio’s case, and after giving thoughtful discussion and consideration to all factors, the Board decided and voted to grant parole to Mr. Inocencio, subject to conditions of parole release as set by the Board and by law. The Board hereby finds that Mr. Inocencio is an appropriate candidate for parole release at this time.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD
Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**

OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022

Inmate Name: **FRANKLIN JOHNSON**

IDOC Number: **C92772**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Franklin Johnson C92772.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley.

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

Franklin Johnson, age 79, was heard for parole consideration on April 25, 2022, by a member of the Prisoner Review Board via videoconference, with the participation of his counsel. Subsequent Board discussion included a review of the criminal case, his criminal history, his institutional adjustment, health status, family support and parole plan. Also considered was support and opposition to parole release.

Mr. Johnson is serving his current sentences for separately raping two women in Evanston, eight (8) days apart, in July 1977, at age 34. He is currently serving 100-200 years for Rape and 50-100 years for Deviate Sexual Assault for crimes committed on July 6, 1977; as well as concurrent sentences of 50-100 years for Rape, Deviate Sexual Assault, Robbery and Burglary for crimes committed on July 14, 1977.

The Appellate Court affirmed these convictions but overruled the circuit court's original order that sentences be served consecutively, ordering instead that the sentences being served concurrently.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On July 6, 1977, at about 1:30pm the 15yr old victim, Genny Costello, and a 3yr old who the victim was babysitting were returning to the apartment building after enjoying some time in a wading pool outside. They nearly bumped into Mr. Johnson as they made their way back to the 3rd floor apartment by way of exposed stairs at the back of the building.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

Having returned to the apartment and put the toddler in her bedroom, the victim turned around only to find Mr. Johnson standing in the doorway with a towel in his hand. He ignored her pleas to leave and ordered her into a nearby bedroom and gave her the towel to put over her face. Johnson asked about – and then went to look for – the little girl, whereupon the victim screamed. Johnson jumped onto her, began choking her, and ordered her to “shut up.” He told her he could break her neck. The victim stopped screaming and began to whimper, whereupon Johnson put the towel around her face and asked when her husband would be home. The victim told Johnson that she was only 15 and was not married. Johnson then asked when her parents would be arriving. She answered 15 or 20 minutes.

The victim complied when Johnson ordered her to remove her pants. He then forced her to submit to oral sex before raping her vaginally. Thereafter, he tied her feet up with a scarf. He rummaged around for a while in the kitchen before leaving through the back door. The victim freed herself, locked the back door, called her mother, then called police.

Johnson was seen leaving the building by a witness who observed him to be wearing painter’s overalls; observed him to be putting a pair of overalls on the ground near a dumpster, observed him to get into a red Volkswagen; and observed him to drive down the alley at a high rate of speed. These observations were shared with police.

Eight days later on July 14, 1977, the next victim, Noreen Berland, returned to her apartment building from a drugstore on her bicycle at approximately 9:30 am. She entered the outer door of her apartment building and was unlocking the security door when she saw Johnson, who she thought she recognized and to whom she said, “hello,” and held the door. As she ascended the stairs she glanced back twice and saw that Johnson was following her. As she entered her apartment Johnson forced his way in and grabbed her. He covered her mouth and said, “Just shut up and I won’t hurt you.” He asked if anyone else was in the apartment, to which she falsely answered that her son was there.

The victim was able to free herself briefly and attempted to escape through the back door, however, Johnson caught her and wrapped a kitchen towel around her head. Despite his warnings, she repeatedly tried to push the towel up so she could see him. The victim was able to push the towel up and to see Johnson’s face. When she screamed Johnson told her he would not hurt her, but he was going to rape her. The victim continued to push the towel up and to view Johnson’s face.

Johnson forced the victim into her son’s bedroom where he forced her to undress. He forced her to submit to oral sex for ten to fifteen minutes, during which time she continued view him. He then forced her to submit to sexual intercourse. Johnson left the apartment but not before binding the victim’s hands with rope, tying her ankles with her blouse and taking \$10 from her purse.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

After leaving this second crime scene Johnson was stopped in his car, a red Volkswagen, by an officer responding to the reported assault who recalled the suspect's vehicle and personal descriptions from the rape eight days prior. Johnson was ultimately identified by the victims, the first of whom identified him immediately after his initial detention on the traffic stop. Johnson was taken into custody.

MR. JOHNSON'S VERSION AS TO THE OFFENSE

During his April 25th hearing Mr. Johnson said he was very sorry for his actions and had empathy for people whose lives he had affected. He said he was a devoted Christian, and he asks for their forgiveness for his "sinful" nature.

Mr. Johnson filed in 2015 an unopposed motion for post-conviction DNA testing, as well as his prior filing for a writ of habeas corpus in 1999 for the purpose of DNA testing. Most recently he had stated he wanted to determine if he committed the crimes and wanted to know for sure. According to the Board's 2016 rationale, *Mr. Johnson "did not want to discuss the crimes in detail (during his hearing that year) other than to say they were not what they appear to be."* It was the impression of Board member Madison in 2013, according to his typed summary, that Mr. Johnson was focused on his belief that he was not "*proven*" guilty, rather than to state that he did or did not commit the crimes. These facts raised questions about the credibility of Mr. Johnson's assertions of responsibility and remorse – questions for which there could be no consensus.

The material tested in 2015, reportedly, was a match to Mr. Johnson.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

At the time of his 1977 arrest Mr. Johnson was on parole, having paroled on March 5, 1974, at the age of 30 for a string of armed robberies with one allegation of rape. One of those cases was from 1960 (age 18) and four of them occurred in 1963 (age 21).

He married Gloria Jahrmann six months after being released to parole; and moved with her to Winnetka, where they resided at the time of his arrest. 2½ months after the marriage Mr. Johnson is alleged to have committed the first of four rapes – all in violation of parole – on the following dates:

- April 13, 1977 – a case which appears not to have gone to prosecution
- June 25, 1977 – a case which appears not to have gone to prosecution
- July 6, 1977 – one of the cases that resulted in his current sentence
- July 14, 1977 – one of the cases that resulted in his current sentence



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

Four days after Mr. Johnson's arrest for the "current" cases an additional warrant was issued for unrelated charges of Burglary and Indecent Liberties with a Child, but the warrant was withdrawn at the time of Mr. Johnson's sentencing on the "current" offenses.

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

With the primary exception of a frivolous lawsuit (resolved in circuit court in 2007) institutional documents indicate only nine (9) discipline referrals, all non-violent, between 2005 and 2022 – an excellent record. Previous referrals occurred prior to his current incarceration.

He spoke about his accomplishments:

- Having taught art classes at Graham for 16 years and mentored other inmates
- The fact that he taught art is verified by other institution documents
- The fact that he was given \$5,000.00 from Warden Camp to set up an art program there
- The fact that he has steered other inmates away from gangs
- The fact that he had an Associate's degree in art, with almost 3yrs of college
- The fact that he had sold numerous portraits, landscapes & seascapes – all kinds of works - to art dealers and others
- The fact that he had been given outside clearance while at Stateville to set up art events there
- The fact that he had received numerous awards from the Art Institute
- The fact that he was hoping to complete a Bachelor's degree at N.I.U./DeKalb
- Having viewed some of inmate Johnson's artwork, the presenter found these assertions quite believable.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Member Shelton presented the review of the case and file information.

The Board discussed a 2020 assessment by Dr. Neli Cohen, completed at the request of Mr. Johnson's counsel, that concluded Mr. Johnson's category of rapist is a low risk to re-offend. Additional assertions of the 2020 petitions were that Mr. Johnson would have access to a sex therapist in Minnesota, apparently part of his parole plan.

Member Shelton stated that Mr. Johnson stated he was a devoted Christian and attends religious services. now and he spoke about teaching art classes for the last 16 years. He also



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

stated that he sold paintings. He appears to have a real talent. Mr. Johnson was given outside clearance at Stateville for art fair. He has serious health issues.

Member Shelton further stated that Mr. Johnson filed to have a DNA test and posed the question as to whether there would have been an assertion of innocence before the judge would sign an order like that. A response was not clearly indicated.

Madam Chair Crigler referenced the category of rapist that he was and stated that he is a power assurance rapist and not a sadistic rapist.

Member Shelton stated that Mr. Johnson didn't want to discuss the crimes in 2016 except to say it is not what it appears to be. He further discussed that the art may not be enough mitigating evidence that would constitute a granting of parole. His disciplinary reports are low as well. However, this is not a reason not to grant parole.

Member Miller made an inquiry as to Mr. Johnson's status upon arrest. She stated he was on probation and probation was revoked. He then went on parole and was on parole at the time of the current sentences.

Member Heaton stated that he doesn't take the natural talent as a relevant fact. He made statements regarding Mr. Johnson's history of behavior combined with the audacity to get a DNA to see if he committed these offenses. He was 34 or 35 and sought DNA 6 years later. Member Heaton states that he is completely offended that someone would go through that process.

Member Bohland stated that last year there was a discussion that Mr. Johnson was a non-violent one more about power and not violence as a definition for the types of rapes he committed. It was an issue for Member Bohland because of the physically violent behavior in the rapes. He found it offensive that Mr. Johnson would file for a DNA test as well.

Member Shelton stated he was curious as to whether a judge would sign an order for DNA when there is not claim of innocence. Member Shelton finds this to be very bold behavior to attack someone at the door.

Attorney Michael Seng is attending on behalf of Mr. Johnson. He is a teacher at the USC Law school. He states that the facts have not changed over the last four years. However, there have been developments that the Board should be aware of. He stated that the crime facts cannot be changed however, it did occur over 40 years ago. May have had pressure from family for him to acknowledge these acts but in recent years he has taken full responsibly and shown remorse. He states that Mr. Johnson can't change the facts or his initial reaction afterward.

Attorney Seng further stated that he was going to have doctor come but they were not able to do so. He stated Mr. Johnson has changed and is more willing to talk about his childhood



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

and there is no question that the survivors of his crime have not favored his release. He stated that Mr. Johnson has been a model prisoner.

He has changed over the last 40 years after incarceration. He has received almost no tickets and has been a model prisoner. He stated that Mr. Johnson saved the Assistant Warden from a rape, and we sent to Graham and started the art program there. Mr. Johnson helps other inmates through the program and has become very religious. Mr. Johnson has a very low risk of recidivism.

Attorney Seng continued to state that the expert doctor would speak to the type of rapist he was, and that Mr. Johnson aim was not to humiliate the victims.

Member Shelton mentioned options for Mr. Johnson to petition for parole under the Joe Coleman Act due to his medical conditions.

Member Heaton inquired as to why Mr. Johnson sought a DNA test.

Attorney Seng stated that Mr. Johnson's wife was strongly pressing him to do so.

Madam Chair Crigler stated that she voted for him last year but after speaking with the victims, does not believe she can vote for him.

The Board further discussed the Joe Coleman Act. The Attorney stated they have not yet applied.

Member Bohland motions for a 3-year set on behalf of the victims.

Madam Chair Crigler states that the victim is empowered by giving her testimony.

Member Shoffner stated her vote is because of the victim's expression of the pain and agony she experiences having to protest every year.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to deny parole (DS—JB). Motion prevails by unanimous vote. Leave.

Motion for a 3-year set (JB—LM). Motion prevails by a vote of 6-2. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy. Madam Chair Crigler and Ms. Daniels dissented.

After thorough consideration of Mr. Johnson’s case, the Board voted to deny parole. The Board feels that parole release at this time would not be in the interest of public safety, as parole release at this time would deprecate the serious nature of the offenses and promote a lack of respect for the law.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged.”



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION—May 26, 2022**

Inmate Name: **JAMES BAKER**

IDOC Number: **C57883**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on May 26, 2022, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for James Baker C57883.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Mr. Shelton, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Tupy, and Madam Chair Crigler.

Recording Secretary: Tracy Buckley.

PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE

James Edward Baker C57883, was interviewed at Lawrence Correctional Center on February 15, 2022. Mr. Baker was born on February 12, 1951, and he is currently 71 years old. He is currently serving a sentence of 30 years to Life for Murder. Mr. Baker has served approximately 47 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections, having entered IDOC custody on October 22, 1975.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

On September 27, 1975, Mr. Baker and his brother-in-law, Mr. Hammel were visiting Mr. Hammel's father-in-law on his farm near Marshall, Illinois, in Clark County. At that time, both Mr. Baker and Mr. Hammel were residents of Terra Haute, Indiana. Mr. Baker and Mr. Hammel armed themselves with a .22 rifle and a shotgun and proceeded to an adjoining farm, where Mr. Hammel shot a 600-pound calf, which they proceeded to butcher. While they were going back to the farmhouse of the father-in-law of Mr. Hammel, they were met by the owner of the calf, Mr. Everett Livvix, who was a senior citizen. Mr. Hammel ran to the nearby woods and hid. Mr. Baker shot the 70-year-old man in the side, then reloaded and shot him again, in the head, with the twelve-gauge shotgun. Mr. Baker then reportedly dragged the body to the nearby woods and robbed the body of \$101. The shotgun was later recovered from the Wabash River, where Mr. Baker said he had disposed of it. Mr. Baker, when apprehended and arrested, pled guilty to the offense of the Murder of Mr. Livvix.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

MR. BAKER'S VERSION AS TO THE OFFENSE

Mr. Baker was very cooperative and forthcoming. When I asked about past interviews Mr. Baker stated he now felt it was time because if he gets older, he won't be able to operate in the outside world and he now has served enough time.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

The prior criminal history of Mr. Baker would indicate when he was 15 years of age, he was sentenced to the Indiana State Reformatory for a period of 1-10 years for a charge of Entering to Commit a Felony in the State of Indiana. This happened in 1967, and he served 3 years of this sentence prior to being released. Mr. Baker later had another arrest in 1971. In the interview, Mr. Baker indicated that he had been in juvenile facilities several times, and that he ran away from home when he was an adolescent.

INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT

The offender overview presented by IDOC staff of Mr. Baker indicates he has had a reasonably good adjustment, even though he does not have a work assignment. Mr. Baker appeared to be in relatively good health.

Mr. Baker has obtained his GED since coming into IDOC.

Mr. Baker indicated that he has five brothers, and six sisters. He advised that they all live near Terra Haute, Indiana. Mr. Baker also verbalized that some of his family came to see him every month and they send him money "all the time". However, IDOC records indicate that Mr. Baker has not had a visitor since 2005.

OPPOSITION

A victim related to Mr. Livvix also sends a protest letter nearly every time Mr. Baker is presented for consideration. Finally, there have also been many strong letters of protest from former State Senator William Peterson from 1991 through 2009.

PAROLE PLANS

Mr. Baker stated he could go to a half-way house or go live with his brother. I asked him to have the brother contact me so that I could confirm he could go to his brother's home. To date, I have not received any letter from the brother. I asked Mr. Baker if he had been in contact with any of the halfway shelter, he told me he hadn't contacted them. I told him it would be very



STATE OF ILLINOIS
JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Edith Crigler, Chair

helpful if one of them would accept him before the Board would release him. Mr. Baker has no viable parole plans at this time.

DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Member Tupy stated that Mr. Baker has been uncooperative in many past interviews, but he was very cooperative during this hearing. He feels he has served enough time and if he spends too much more time in prison, he will not be able to function in the outside world. Unfortunately, he has no viable parole plans. His brother did not contact me on whether he would allow Mr. Baker to stay with him. He has not contacted any halfway houses so there is absolutely no parole plan for Mr. Baker.

DECISION AND RATIONALE

Motion to deny parole (KT— LM). Motion prevails by a vote of 7–1. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Madam Chair Crigler, Mr. Heaton, Ms. Miller, Ms. Shoffner, Mr. Shelton and Mr. Tupy. Ms. Daniels dissented.

After thorough consideration of Mr. Baker’s case, the Board voted to deny parole. The Board feels that parole release at this time would not be in the interest of public safety, as there is a substantial risk that Mr. Baker would not conform to reasonable conditions of parole release, and that parole release at this time would deprecate the serious nature of the offenses and promote a lack of respect for the law.

“The Board makes a specific finding that the release of victim protest letters could subject a person to actual risk of physical harm. The Board further notes that, pursuant to Illinois law, victim statements are confidential and privileged.”