

**Illinois Prisoner Review Board  
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET  
MEETING OF December 18, 2014**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison,, Springfield, IL, on December 18, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

L13943 DWAYNE ROBY
C02117 OSCAR CURTIS
L10298 DWIGHT JOHNSON
C86186 WILLIAM HOWELL
C01657 HENRY DEE
C63379 EDDIE DRIVER
C63921 MICHAEL BAPTIST

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Monreal  
Roll call was taken by the Recording Secretary: Kelly Knappmeyer

MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Angela Blackman-Donovan	X	
Ed Bowers	X	
Edith Crigler	X	
Salvador Diaz	X	
Craig Findley	X	
Eric Gregg	X	
Vonetta Harris	X	
Tom Johnson	X	
William Norton	X	
Jennifer Parrack	X	
Donald Shelton	X	
William Simmons		X
Geraldine Tyler	X	
Adam Monreal		X

**12 Present**

The Recording Secretary presented the following minutes for approval:  
Open Session Minutes from October 2014. (SD - ABD) Leave

Motion to continue William Howell to January 2015 En Banc session. VH - SD. Leave.  
Motion to continue Dwayne Roby to January 2015 En Banc session. VH – SD. Leave

Meeting was adjourned (SD - CF). Leave.  
Submitted by: Kelly R. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

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Inmate Name: Willie Lewis      IDOC Number & Institution: C71971

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on December 18, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton and Geraldine Tyler  
Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Tyler presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

On October 14, 2014 Inmate Willie Lewis was interviewed for parole consideration at the Dixon Correctional Center by Board Member Tyler.

He received a 500 – 1000 year sentence for Murder, 50 – 100 years for Attempted Murder.

On September 13, 1976 a unit of the Chicago Police Department, while conducting surveillance, attempted to gain entry to a drug house at 6243 South Aberdeen. During this attempt, Willie Lewis shot Officer Patrick Crowley in the head, killing him.

Inmate Lewis was arrested and convicted. He entered IDOC on June 17, 1977.

Inmate Lewis has held multiple positions in the IDOC, currently assigned as a dietary specialist. If paroled he would like to live with his daughter in Wisconsin babysit his grandchildren. He has never received a vote for parole.

Member Diaz stated he took protest for this case. The protest was very strong and the State's Attorney requests a five year set.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Dan Groth stated they are strongly opposed to parole for Inmate Lewis. Chicago Police Department and Fraternal Order of Police are also opposed. There are several officers here in protest of parole for the murderer of Officer Crowley.

Member Tyler stated that to parole Inmate Lewis at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny. (GT – CF). Motion carries 12-0.

Member Tyler stated she will not make a second motion. Member Johnson stated he felt a three year set would be appropriate in this case.

Motion for a three year set. (TJ – ABD). Motion carries 10-2. Members Crigler and Tyler dissented.

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

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Inmate Name: Johnny Veal      IDOC Number & Institution: C01600

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on December 18, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton and Geraldine Tyler  
Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Shelton presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Member Shelton noted this is a rehearing from the June En Banc. Inmate Veal requested the rehearing. He did not feel his accomplishments were relayed enough in last session.

Statement of Facts was reviewed. Inmate Veal shot and killed two Police Officers. He denied involvement in the crime. He has many support letters on file. He also has many certificates.

Institutional adjustment was reviewed. Inmate Veal has had more than 360 disciplinary reports in his 43 years incarcerated. He is currently 62 years old and has Hepatitis.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Groth reviewed Inmate Veal's complete criminal history.

Member Shelton stated he sees no reason to change the vote in this case. There is no new information and Inmate Veal still denied involvement in the crime. To release Inmate Veal at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny. DS – CF. Motion carries 12-0.

Motion for a three year set. DS – TJ. Motion carries 11-1. Member Crigler dissented.

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Illinois Prisoner Review Board  
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Inmate Name: Chester Weger    IDOC Number & Institution: C01114

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on December 18, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton and Geraldine Tyler  
Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Gregg presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Chester Weger was interviewed at the Pinckneyville Correctional Center on October 29, 2014. Factors considered by the board included, but were not limited to, testimony of the inmate, a review of the file, parole plans, institutional adjustment and the nature and sentence for the offense.

Offense facts revealed that on Monday, March 14, 1960, Lillian Oetting, Mildred Lindquist and Frances Murphy were beaten to death while visiting the Starved Rock State Park in LaSalle County, Illinois. Their bodies were discovered on Wednesday, March 16, 1960, two days after the murders. Inmate Chester Weger was indicted for the murder of Mrs. Lillian Oetting and found guilty on April 4, 1961. He also confessed to the murders of Mrs. Mildred Lindquist and Frances Murphy. Inmate Weger was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Lillian Oetting. Inmate Weger denied involvement in these crimes.

Inmate Chester Weger is 74 years old and has served 54 years of his life sentence and is currently incarcerated at the Pinckneyville Correctional Center. His institutional adjustment has been appropriate considering the amount of time he has served. His health appears to be good at this time. He maintains family and friend contact through visits, phone calls and letters. He is currently unassigned at Pinckneyville. His last ticket was in September 2014 for Insolence. He got a month in segregation and was reduced to C grade. He disobeyed a direct order. Past votes were reviewed. All appeals exhausted and upheld.

Motion to enter Executive Session. (EG – JP). Leave.

Motion to return to Open Session. (SD – JP). Leave.

Member Gregg reviewed Inmate Weger's complete criminal history, including a 1959 rape in which the 17 year old victim identified him. The three victims in the instant offense were beaten with a large branch that was found near their bodies. Inmate Weger worked at the lodge in the park as a dishwasher.

Inmate Weger was polygraphed twice as part of the investigation. The results in both indicated he had been untruthful. His jacket was sent to the FBI for testing and they found human blood splattered on it. Inmate Weger gave a confession to the police. He even went back to the

scene and showed the police. He made a statement about an airplane flying above and that was corroborated.

A jury found Inmate Weger guilty of murdering one of the victims. The case has gone all the way up to the Supreme Court and all appeals have been upheld. Inmate Weger denied involvement in the murders.

Member Shelton noted this case was handled / investigated very poorly. However, the Deputy he claims beat him until he confessed is the same Deputy he wrote to asking for support. It doesn't add up.

Brian Towne, LaSalle County State's Attorney, stated the jury got it right in this case. The judge's sentence intended Inmate Weger to spend the rest of his life in prison. They ask that parole be denied.

Carrie Clancy, niece of Inmate Weger, stated he has a lot of family support in Kansas City. He has four sisters still living.

Amanda Altman, also in support of Inmate Weger being paroled, stated they have located a 18-24 month program in KC that would help with reentry. His family is very eager to have him home.

Member Findley stated he has supported Chester Weger for a number of years. He believes his is guilty, however, he has spent more than 50 years in prison and he is elderly. If he is ever released, he should receive sex offender counseling.

Member Crigler noted the inconsistencies in prosecution. Inmate Weger is old and frail and has spent more than 50 years in prison.

Member Tyler stated law enforcement can make mistakes.

Member Norton asked about health. Member Gregg stated Inmate Weger seemed to in good health at the time of the interview. He said he works out daily.

Member Blackman-Donovan stated Inmate Weger targeted women and children. He is still in good enough physical health to inflict harm.

Member Gregg stated he thinks Inmate Weger is not truthful. Everything is always something/someone else's fault.

Member Diaz stated he was initially going to support parole, but there has been new light shed on an old issue and that is a setback.

After a complete consideration of the relevant factors involved with the brutal murders of the three women, along with other issues surrounding Inmate Chester Weger, to parole at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law. Inmate Weger could still be a risk to public safety.

Motion to deny. (EG – EB). Motion carries 9-3. Members Crigler, Findley and Tyler dissented.

Motion for a three year set. (EG – CF). Motion does NOT carry 3-9. Voting in favor of the motion were Members Blackman-Donovan, Gregg and Norton. Members Bowers, Crigler, Diaz, Findley, Harris, Johnson, Parrack, Shelton and Tyler dissented.

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Inmate Name: Larry Hoover      IDOC Number & Institution: C01829

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on December 18, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton and Geraldine Tyler  
Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Findley presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Larry Hoover may be the most interesting inmate alive today. He is revered and respected by some, despised and feared by many.

Now 60 years old, as a teenager Mr. Hoover formed a small group of young men into a street gang to engage in criminal activity. As the gang's membership grew so did his influence. Other criminal organizations were merged, territories were expanded, competition eliminated. And Mr. Hoover, soon to become known as King Hoover, form an alliance of rival gangs into an organization known as the Folk Nation, with Hoover's Gangster Disciples the strongest of all. He became the unquestioned leader of an estimated 35,000 gang members, operating his criminal enterprise from the Vienna Correctional Center where he was serving a 1973 sentence of 150-200 years for the murder of 25-year-old William Young. Mr. Young made the fatal mistake of robbing one of Hoover's drug houses.

A lengthy profile in the Chicago Reader and other stories about Hoover available on the internet speak of his efforts to describe the Gangster Disciples as evolving into an organization called Growth and Development. The GD's worked to develop political influence ostensibly for the benefit of the African American community, all while engaged in leading a narcotics conspiracy with more than 6,000 co-conspirators. Public officials rallied to his support. One of them, my GA colleague Larry Bullock, later went to federal prison for his ties to the GDs.

It all came to an end at Vienna. While Hoover knew that prison telephone calls could be recorded, he gave orders to subordinates during frequent private visitations. What he did not know was that Federal investigators altered visitor badges and were able to eavesdrop on conversations. This recorded evidence was so overwhelming that upon appeal the 7th circuit wrote' tapes of intercepted conversations, evidence so crushing that the rest of the prosecutor's case scarcely mattered."

He was convicted of narcotics conspiracy, engaging in a continuing criminal enterprise and other offenses. The sentence was life imprisonment and he was remanded to the Federal Correctional Center at Florence CO, the most secure BOP institution.



Mr. Hoover had not received an in-person PRB interview for 14 years, although he was interviewed by telephone in 2003, 2005 and 2012- twice declining phone interviews in 1999 and 2008.

Chairman Monreal determined that Mr. Hoover should have the opportunity for a face-to-face interview. Ms. Buckley made necessary arrangements with BOP and an interview was scheduled in November. Without explanation or any parole submission on his part, Mr. Hoover wrote that he did not want an interview.

With the exception of a 1999 charge of assault with serious injury, punished with loss of commissary for 120 days and segregation for 60 days, Mr. Hoover has not been disruptive. He is unemployed but demonstrates intellectual curiosity through dozens of educational courses ranging from a history of impressionism, to birth of the Modern mind and two classes on the Peloponnesian War.

His federal conviction was affirmed on appeal. He will never be discharged from federal custody and his discharge from Illinois custody will occur in 2064.

Parole discharge for the Illinois offense, even though he would remain in federal custody, cannot be permitted. I can think of no other individual whose parole would do more to deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Groth stated they are opposed to parole.

Motion to deny parole. CF – EB. Motion carries 11-1. Member Tyler dissented.

Motion for a three year set. CF – GT. Motion carries 12-0.

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Inmate Name: Frank Morgan      IDOC Number & Institution: C15189

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on December 18, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton and Geraldine Tyler  
Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Parrack presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

In October, 2014, at Stateville Correctional Center, Frank Morgan appeared before a member of the Prisoner Review Board for parole consideration. Factors considered include, but are not limited to, a review of the file, facts of the case, parole plans, and institutional adjustments. Mr. Frank Morgan is currently 62 years old, and is serving a sentence of 100 to 199 years for murder, 10 to 30 years for two armed robberies, 20 to 60 years for four armed robberies, and 5 to 15 years for burglary. He was also convicted in 1983, for aggravated battery of a correctional officer and received a sentence of three years to run consecutive.

The facts of the crimes are as follows: On April 11, 1970, Mr. Frank Morgan and his co-defendant Walter McCalvin broke into Mr. Kroll's apartment. Once Mr. Kroll returned home they robbed him and cut his throat, and then put him in the bathtub. Once they left the apartment, they proceeded to the Country Club hotel. Once inside they broke into multiple apartments and then finally came upon the manager's apartment. Once inside the apartment they ransacked it and each forced the victim, Mrs. Hamilton to have sex with them. Once the manager, Mr. Hamilton returned home they robbed him and then forced him down to lobby of the hotel. In the lobby, Mr. Morgan and Mr. McCalvin robbed multiple patrons and then entered the Bamboo Lounge attached to the hotel. Once in the lounge they robbed the patrons and Mr. Morgan shot and killed one of the patrons, Hobert Scott. While he was incarcerated at Pontiac Correctional Center, Mr. Morgan was charged and convicted of aggravated battery on a correctional officer.

Mr. Morgan is currently classified as maximum security and a moderate escape risk. He is currently an unassigned utility worker and has been housed in protective custody status at the time of the interview. Mr. Morgan's last two tickets were for insolence and abuse of privileges on 10/3/2013, and on 11/2/13, for sexual misconduct, intimidation or threats, insolence, and abuse of privileges. Mr. Morgan reported he is currently involved in a civil lawsuit with Department of Corrections regarding the sexual misconduct ticket. Mr. Morgan's employment within the institution has been sporadic due to spending a lot of time in and out of protective custody or in disciplinary segregation. He also reported he received a certificate in bible study in 2008.

If granted parole, Mr. Morgan would like to reside in a halfway house. Once out in the community he would like to open up his own graphic design business selling stationary and greeting cards. He also stated he would like to sell his artwork to help support himself.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney Groth spoke about Inmate Morgan's behavior at trial. He threw objects in the court room. Member Blackman-Donovan noted Inmate Morgan was the shooter.

Member Diaz noted he took the protest for this case. There are many letters of protest on file. Cook County gave a strong protest and they are requesting a five-year set.

Member Parrack concluded that to grant parole at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law. It was also noted that the Board does not believe Inmate Morgan would be able to conform to the reasonable conditions of parole.

Motion to deny parole. (JP – ABD). Motion carries 12-0.

Motion for a two year set. (SD – CF). Motion does NOT carry 4-8. Voting in favor of the motion were Members Diaz, Gregg, Johnson and Norton. Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Crigler, Findley, Harris, Parrack, Shelton and Tyler dissented.

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Illinois Prisoner Review Board  
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Inmate Name: Jacob Bramlett    IDOC Number & Institution: L36032

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on December 18, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton and Geraldine Tyler  
Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

Summary of discussion for parole consideration: Member Gregg presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Inmate Jacob Bramlett was interviewed at the Lawrence Correctional Center on September 9, 2014 for parole consideration. Factors considered by the board included, but were not limited to, testimony of the inmate, a review of the file, parole plans, institutional adjustment and the nature of the offense.

Offense facts revealed that Inmate Bramlett committed the murders of David Skurat and Michael Throop. The murders occurred on July 4, 1977 and on July 7, 1981. Inmate Bramlett was found guilty of both murders. He was sentenced to Murder/ Intent to Kill/ Injure X 2 and is serving 50-100 years on the 1977 murder and 25 years on the 1980 murder consecutively.

He has served 31 years in the Department of Corrections. He has maintained an excellent record in the Department for the past several years. He is currently serving as the segregation unit specialist. He is in excellent health and plans to reside with family members when paroled. He maintains contact through phone calls and letters with his family.

Inmate Bramlett has never received any favorable votes for parole and is coming off of a three year set. Randolph County is strongly opposed to parole. Criminal history was reviewed.

Member Gregg indicated to grant parole to Inmate Bramlett at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole. (EG – DS). Motion carries 12-0.

Motion for a three-year set. (EG – TJ). Motion carries 12 – 0.

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