Illinois Prisoner Review Board EN BANC MINUTE SHEET MEETING OF May 29, 2014

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison,, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

WAYNE MIKEL
MELVIN THEGPEN
PATRICIA COLUMBO
LARRY FULTON
FRANK DELUCA
JOSEPH SMITH
ROBERT JONES

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

X

12 Present

The Recording Secretary presented the following minutes for approval: Open Session Minutes from May 1, 2014. (ADM – WN) Leave

Meeting was adjourned (ADM – CF). Leave. Submitted by: Kelly R. Knappmeyer / Kim Morrison, Recording Secretary

Inmate Name: Frank DeLuca IDOC Number & Institution: C73216

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, W. Simmons and G. Tyler.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

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

Frank Deluca was interviewed for parole consideration on March 4, 2014 at Illinois River Correctional Center. He is currently 75 years old and was 37 at the time of the instant offense. He is serving 300 years for the murders of Frank, Mary and Michael Columbo.

Facts of the case indicate Frank DeLuca met Patricia "Patty" Columbo when she was 16 and he was 34. They began a sexual relation. He was married and a father of five children. Patty's parents were against this relationship and patty moved out at age 18 to live with him. He left his wife and five children and shared an apartment with Patty. The relationship with Patty's parents was hostile. Several months before the murders Patty met with individuals she wished to hire to hill her family. She would pay them with promised money from her parent's estate and sex. When it became clear those individuals would not hill her family, she and Frank DeLuca decided they would have to do it themselves. On May 4, 1976, they entered the Columbo home and Frank DeLuca shot Frank Columbo in the head and bludgeoned him. They shot Mary Columbo between her eyes, slot her throat and bludgeoned her. They pulled 13 year old Michael Columbo out of his bed and shot him in the head. Patty they stabbed him 93 times on both sides of his body. They then ransacked the home and took Mr. and Mrs. Columbo's vehicles and left them in high crime areas of the city to create the idea that they had been victims of a home invasion by gang members. The bodies of the Columbo family were found on May 7th. Patty had been the planner of the murders and alibis. They were both arrested and stood a jury trial and convicted. At the time of the instant offense, Patty was 19 and Frank was 37.

Prior to the instant offense, Frank DeLuca worked as a Pharmacist at Walgreens. He had a family. He is now 75 years old. He has had no tickets since 1986. His health is not great. He walks with a cane and has hip and prostate problems.

If paroled, Mr. DeLuca would like to live with his son or brother in Florida. However, he indicated he has no expectation of being paroled. He stated what he and Patty did was horrendous and they should never leave prison.

Motion to enter Executive Session. (JP-GT) Leave.

Motion to return to Open Session. (ADM-EG). Leave.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney : Clarifications. When Patty moved out of her parents' home she was living with Frank and his wife and children for quite some time before they got the apartment. When Patty. When she was trying to hire Lani and Ron to murder her family, she provided them with a map of the Columbo home and photos of them. Also, it should be noted that DeLuca conspired with his wife to have two main witnesses murdered. They gave another inmate \$6,000 to kill them. They are asking for a three year set.

ABD: Cannot support due to the heinous nature of the crime. Parole would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny. (ADB – JP). Leave.

Motion for a three year set. (ABD – TJ). Motion carries 11-3. Members Crigler, Diaz and Tyler dissented.

Inmate Name: Patricia Columbo IDOC Number & Institution: C77200

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, W. Simmons and G. 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.

Presented by: Jennifer Parrack Date of Presentation: May 29, 2014 Inmate: Patricia Columbo Inmate Number: C-77200 IDOC Facility: Logan Correctional Center Interview Date: April 29, 2014 (declined interview) Persons Present: Jennifer Parrack and Patricia Columbo Conviction and Sentence: Murder (3cts) – Sentenced to 200 to 300 years for each count Solicitation to Commit Murder – 20 to 50 years (concurrent) Length of Incarceration: 38 years (Arrested on May 15, 1976) Maximum Release Date: 03/20/2126

Current Status:

Ms. Patricia Columbo is a 57 year old female, born on June 21, 1956. She has never been married and has no children. Her parents and brother are deceased and were the victims of the crime she is currently incarcerated for. Ms. Columbo appears to be in good health and according to the file does not appear to suffer from acute mental illness.

Statement of Facts:

On May 7, 1976, the bodies of Frank Columbo (age 52), his wife, Mary Columbo (age 50), and Michael Columbo (age 13) were discovered in their home at 55 Brantwood, in Elk Grove Village. At the time the bodies were discovered, they had been dead for several days and had been brutally stabbed and beaten. Frank Columbo was stabbed, shot numerous times, and beaten with a heavy crystal lamp. Mary Columbo was shot between the eyes and had her throat slashed. Michael Columbo was shot through the head at close range, beaten with a heavy trophy, and stabbed with a pair of scissors over 90 times. On May 15, 1976, Patricia Columbo, age 19, was arrested and charged with conspiracy, solicitation, and murder of her father, mother, and younger brother. On the date of her arrest, she gave an oral and written statement to the police admitting her guilt to soliciting two men to murder her family, but claiming she knew

nothing about the actual murders. On July 17, 1976, Frank DeLuca, Patricia Columbo's boyfriend, who was 37 years old was arrested and charged. Frank DeLuca made statements admitting their involvement in the conspiracy, solicitation, and murders.

History prior to the murders: When Patricia was 16 years old she met and began a relationship with Frank DeLuca. DeLuca was 34 years old man, married with five children. He was the manager at Walgreens where Patricia was working. In 1974, Patricia moved out of her family's home and moved into the home of Frank DeLuca with his wife and children. In August 1975, there was a confrontation between Frank Columbo and Frank DeLuca about Patricia and Frank's relationship. Frank Columbo hit DeLuca in the mouth with the butt of a rifle knocking out some of his teeth. In October 1975, Patricia met with two men Roman Sobczynski, (age 34) and Lanny Mitchell (age 25). Patricia told these two men that she wanted her parents kill and they told her they would kill her family in exchange for sex. Over the next few months these two men stung Patricia along as they received sexual favors from her. During this time, Patricia would provide them with floor plans of the home, photos of her family and would leave the back door unlocked.

In April 1976, Patricia Columbo and Frank Columbo realized that the two men were not going to kill the Columbo family, so Frank DeLuca enlisted the help of Burt Green. Burt Green dropped Patricia off at her family's home multiple times. He knew they wanted to kill her family. On May 4, 1976, 19 year old Patricia Columbo and 37 year old Frank DeLuca entered the Columbo household armed with a gun. It is believed that Frank DeLuca shot Frank, Mary and Michael and Patricia stabbed the family members. They then messed up the house to make it look like a home invasion and each one of them drove away in a family car. One of the vehicles was dumped on the Westside of Chicago and the other in the Wooddale area. They burned their bloody clothes and disposed of the gun. On May 7th, the vehicle in Chicago was found and when they couldn't reach Frank Columbo, the police responded to the home and found the family murdered as described above.

Inmate's Version:

Ms. Columbo declined to be interviewed on April 29, 2014. Ms. Columbo and her previous attorney, Ms. Mogul requested a one year continuance on March 13, 2014, and this request was denied on March 19, 2014. Her attorney then requested a one month continuance which was granted. On April 2, 2014, her attorney Ms. Mogul sent a letter stating that Ms. Columbo would be waiving her parole hearing scheduled on April 29, 2014, and this was notice that she was withdrawing as her counsel.

On April 29, 2014, Ms. Columbo came to the interview and stated that she meant no disrespect towards the parole board, but the facts of her case have not changed and she is sorry. She stated she had requested a one year continuance due to the fact she has had a very difficult adjustment moving from Dwight Correctional Center to Logan Correctional Center. Ms. Columbo was very polite and stated that she would like to be heard next year and feels she will be ready to participate in the parole hearing.

Case Procedural History:

On May 15, 1976, Patricia Columbo was arrested for the murder of her father, mother, and younger brother. The court ordered a psychiatric evaluation; however, her attorney William Swano declined to have her evaluated. She was later evaluated regarding fitness and was found mentally fit to stand trial. Ms. Columbo and DeLuca both chose to have a jury trial and were convicted. The honorable Judge Eugene Pincham sentenced both Columbo and DeLuca

to 200 to 300 years on each of the three murders counts. Ms. Columbo's conviction and sentence were affirmed on direct appeal. Criminal History:

July 24, 1974: Convicted of Deceptive Practices and sentenced to two years' probation. She had stolen a credit card and wallet of two employees she worked with at Walgreens. She was on this probation at the time of the murders.

Institutional Adjustment

Ms. Columbo is currently A grade, minimum security and a low escape risk and is housed at Logan Correctional Center. She has spent her entire incarceration housed at Dwight Correctional Center until it recently closed and she was transferred to Logan Correctional Center.

Educational Achievements

Bachelor's Degree from Illinois State University – 1991 Associates Degree in Arts from Joliet Junior College – 1981 Applied Science Degree in Computer Programming from Joliet Junior College – 1981 Secretarial Science Degree from Joliet Junior College – 1981

14 Additional certificates for additional training and programs for Literacy and HIV/AIDS peer education. She has volunteered as a reading and math tutor for the Literacy Volunteers of America from 1990 to 2006, and a trainer for new tutors from 1995 to 2006. Her most recent employment has been as a special needs worker on the mental health unit. In my opinion her volunteer and work history are positive. Other jobs she has held are clerk and programmer for Leisure Time Services and also for Family Services Program. She has worked as a secretary in the placement office and developed and worked in the media center.

Regarding her disciplinary history, I would estimate roughly 20 some tickets (difficult to read the handwritten tickets) with no tickets of violence. Her last two tickets were in 2006, for unauthorized movement (verbal reprimand) and 2004, for contraband/unauthorized property (14 day room restrictions). What is not in the file, but I think needs to be at least mentioned is in 1979, it was alleged that Ms. Columbo was part of a scandal in which she helped organize improper contact between female inmates and correctional officers.

Parole Plans:

According to the parole packet submitted in support of Ms. Columbo for her parole hearing in 2011, she was accepted at Leslie's Place. There is not an updated acceptance letter in the file for this year. In the file, she has had job offers in the past, but again nothing is updated to state if these offers still stand.

Aviva Futorian: The reason Patty asked for a continuance was due to the difficult transition from Dixon and Lincoln. She didn't want to leave the special needs inmates she works with if she were to be paroled because they need her assistance at this time.

Closing Thoughts:

In my opinion, I feel to grant parole to Ms Columbo would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law. My motion is to deny parole for Ms. Columbo, C-77200.

Motion carries 12-2. Members Crigler and Tyler dissented.

Motion for a three year set. (ABD - TJ). Motion carries 9-5. Members Crigler, Harris, Parrack, Shelton and Tyler dissented.

Inmate Name: Wayne Mikel IDOC Number & Institution: C82429

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, W. Simmons and G. 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.

Wayne Mikel was interviewed for parole consideration at Centralia Correctional Center. Factors considered by the Board included, but were not limited to, the inmate's testimony, the nature of criminal cases, the institutional discipline and accomplishments, and the parole plan.

Mr. Mikel and a co-defendant were convicted of two separate aggravated assaults, for which sentences have been served, and a murder – these three events occurring within a short distance of each other and within a brief span of time on the same evening in Danville. In each of these events Mr. Mikel fired a .22 caliber rifle, owned by his co-defendant, in the direction of the victims, from within a motor vehicle being driven by the co-defendant.

The first of these shootings occurred after a verbal conflict between Mr. Mikel (a passenger in his co-defendant's vehicle) and a group of pedestrians. No one was struck by this gunfire, although a particular male pedestrian was identified as the victim.

The victim of the second shooting, which occurred within blocks of the first shooting, was also a pedestrian, however, this victim had no prior interaction with Mr. Mikel or the co-defendant prior to the shooting. Witnesses to this shooting reported 2 to 3 shots, the last of which struck the victim in the head from a distance of five (5) to seven (7) feet and resulted in his death.

The third victim was driving his car when he came to be harassed by Mr. Mikel and the codefendant (co-defendant still driving) prior to Mr. Mikel again firing the .22 rifle in the direction of this victim. When the victim contacted police in the morning a bullet hole was discovered in the driver side rear door, and a spent round was recovered from between the rear door and the rear seat.

The police investigation yielded statements from both defendants acknowledging that Mr. Mikel fired the rifle more than once from inside the truck being driven by the co-defendant. The co-defendant, in his statement to police, said that after he and Mr. Mikel left The Klondike Tavern in Danville, and prior to the shootings, Mr. Mikel made the statement, "Let's go get us a nigger, " or

something to that effect, upon which the co-defendant said "(he had) the rifle." The co-defendant later recanted this aspect of his statement. Each of the victims was African American. Mr. Mikel does not deny the first two shootings, although he claimed to have no knowledge of the third shooting (at the car), for which he was also convicted.

Mr. Mikel admitted this year that he was an angry young man at the time of these shootings. He denies that the shootings were racially motivated. There was testimony from a family member regarding the ongoing abuse of an alcoholic father and the oppressive poverty in the family, resulting in having to live with a grandmother in a home without power or internal plumbing. Previous presentations of this case before the Board have found the actions of the defendants in this case to be racially motivated and that continues to be the belief and the concern of this Board.

The Board recognizes Mr. Mikel's good institutional adjustment, having only sixty (60) institutional discipline reports in 36 years of incarceration; with only three (3) in the last ten years. He has twice been awarded Meritorious Good Time credit.

The Board also notes and lauds Mr. Mikel's academic achievements between 1979 and 1994. Mr. Mikel does have an acceptable parole plan, hosted by his sister and his brother-in-law in Vermillion County.

Motion to enter Executive Session. (DS – ABD). Leave.

Motion to return to Open Session. (DS - ABD). Leave.

After a complete review and discussion of the facts giving rise to Mr. Mikel's convictions and of his period of incarceration the Board continues to disturbed the nature of and the motivation for these crimes. We believe that to parole Mr. Mikel at this time, given the overwhelming opposition, would deprecate the seriousness of these crimes and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny. (DS – JP). Motion carries 14 - 0.

Motion for a two year set. (DS - JP). Motion carries 14 - 0.

Inmate Name: Melvin Thegpen IDOC Number & Institution: C63418

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, W. Simmons and G. Tyler.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

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

Board member Johnson attempted to interview inmate Thegpen for parole consideration. Mr. Thigpen refused to be interviewed, as he has done in previous years. He is serving 50-100 years for aggravated kidnapping, and 50-100 years for rape and attempted murder. He has served 38 years and is now 62 years old. He now resides at the Dixon Psychiatric Unit. He has no recent disciplinary tickets, but received quite a lot in his early incarceration. He has not received any previous parole votes and is coming off a three year set. He is quiet and keeps to himself.

Facts of the crime indicate that he was 23 years old at the time and he accosted a 17 years old girl. He placed a gun at her temple and forced her to a rural area, where he raped her. He was then apologetic to her, but took her to a rural area where he shot her four times. She survived and walked to a house.

There are a number of protest letters in the file. There was concern that he has gone through periods where he was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia, but nothing current. He has refused his parole interviews for a number of years. It was felt that a full psychiatric evaluation be requested by next year, he is thought to be dangerous and unstable.

Parole would deprecate the seriousness of the crime and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole TJ - CF

Motion approved 14-0

Inmate Name: Joseph Smith IDOC Number & Institution: C01692

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, W. Simmons and G. Tyler.

Other(s) present: K. Knappmeyer, Recording Secretary

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

Member Simmons interviewed Mr. Smith for parole consideration. Mr. Smith is now 64 years old and serving 30-50 years and 60-120 years for murder. He has obtained his GED and taken classes. He is currently unassigned. He received a disciplinary ticket in 2014 for contraband. Facts of the crime indicate that in October 1971, he and a codefendant attacked the victim. Mr. Smith pulled a knife and stabbed the victim. The victim was stabbed fourteen times and died while in the hospital. There were two witnesses.

In December 1971, he and codefendant Isaac Smith and a companion were at a lounge. They met up with the victim and the victim agreed to fix a shoe. After payment, he could not make change and he was brutally beaten to death with a TV set, photo enlarger, and chair. T Prior clemency petition were noted, they were denied. Mr. Smith has a long criminal history and was on probation at the time of these offenses.

Mr. Smith stated that he has completed his sentence regarding the second conviction and that he was not involved with the first case. He stated that he was not there.

He has served 42 years. Protest from the State's Attorney was noted and reviewed. They noted that there is no rehabilitation and non-education. Prior protests were also noted. His parole plans were weak and include St. Leonard's or with his sister.

Parole would deprecate the seriousness of the crime and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole WS Shelton approved 14-0

Motion for three year set. Simmons – Shelton Approved 13-1 (Crigler voting against)

Inmate Name: Robert Jones IDOC Number & Institution: C70938

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, W. Simmons and G. 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.

Mr. Jones was interviewed by member Parrack for parole consideration. He has served 35 years for a 100-300 year sentence for murder. He is now 73 years old, divorced, two children, and in good health.

Facts of the crime were reviewed. They indicate that Mr. Jones agreed to sell the two victims a car. He met up them and pulled a gun and shot them both in the head. He stated it was retaliation for them jumping his brother. The judge's remarks were read. They indicate that the judge would have sentenced him to Natural Life if he could. Mr. Jones's long criminal history was reviewed. He is currently in A grade and unassigned, but has had a variety of assignments in the past. He received a disciplinary ticket in January of this year. He has a history of some 90 tickets. He has obtained his GED and associates of arts degree. His parole plans are to live in Peoria and has a job lined up in construction.

He stated that he would like an opportunity to show that he has changed and be a productive member of society.

Motion for EX Session Parrack-Tyler

Return open session - It was noted Mr. Jones was 35 at the time of crime and had a led a life of crime.

Parole would deprecate the seriousness of the crime and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny Parrack – Tyler approved 14-0

Motion for two year set – Parrack – Bowers Motion approved 14-0

Inmate Name: Larry Fulton IDOC Number & Institution: C63410

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on May 29, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

Members present were: Chairman A. Monreal, A. Blackman-Donovan, E. Bowers, E. Crigler, S. Diaz, E. Gregg, C. Findley, V. Harris, T. Johnson, W. Norton, J. Parrack, D. Shelton, W. Simmons and G. 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.

Mr. Fulton was interviewed for parole consideration by member Tyler. His sister was present at the hearing to offer her support. Mr. Fulton is now 62 years old. He is serving 100-300 years for murder, 10-40 for armed robbery, and 25-100 for aggravated battery. He is currently in B grade.

Facts of the crime indicate the victim had a routine of cashing checks for fellow employees. Mr. Fulton knew that routing and as the victim was returning and got of the elevator, Mr. Fulton grabbed the envelope containing \$5500 cash. He shot the victim and then the other victim came in to the hallway and was shot five times, causing his death.

His criminal history was reviewed, it is long and includes arrests and convictions. He is currently unassigned and has his GED. His institutional adjustment has been marginal and he is coming off a three year set. However, he only received one ticket in recent years and this is an improvement.

Motion Ex session Tyler – Parrack

Open session – he has no prior parole votes. His parole plans are to live with his mother and work in landscaping for the Safer Foundation, this could not be confirmed. There are letters of support. Also there are letters of protest. There was some discussion regarding Mr. Fulton stating that he not the shooter, however there were witnesses.

Parole would deprecate the seriousness of the crime and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny Tyler – Findley

Parole denied 14-0