



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
 JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR  
**PRISONER REVIEW BOARD**  
 Craig Findley, Chairman

**EN BANC MINUTE SHEET**  
**OPEN SESSION—October 28, 2021**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on October 28, 2021, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following individuals in custody:

<b>C80186</b>	<b>Ronnie Carrasquillo</b>
<b>B07074</b>	<b>Paula Sims</b>
<b>N40871</b>	<b>David Denson</b>
<b>C71557</b>	<b>John Ross</b>
<b>C66348</b>	<b>Roy King</b>

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Findley.

Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Andrea Hegland.

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Jared Bohland	X	
Mr. Max Cerda	X	
Ms. Edith Crigler	X	
Ms. Lisa Daniels	X	
Mr. Oreal James	X	
Ms. Virginia Martinez	X	
Mr. Jeff Mears	X	
Ms. LeAnn Miller	X	
Mrs. Aurthur Mae Perkins	X	
Mr. Joseph Ruggiero	X	
Mr. Donald Shelton	X	
Mr. Ken Tupy	X	
Ms. Eleanor Kaye Wilson		X
Chairman Craig Findley	X	

13 Members Present, 1 Member Absent

The Board heard and voted upon the cases of Ronnie Carrasquillo, Paula Sims, David Denson, John Ross, and Roy King as detailed in the individual case minutes.

Meeting was adjourned (CF—MC). Leave.



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***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**  
**OPEN SESSION—October 28, 2021**

Name: **RONNIE CARRASQUILLO\***

IDOC Number: **C80186**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on October 28, 2021, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Ronnie Carrasquillo C80186.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

Recording Secretary: Andrea Hegland.

Mr. Cerda discussed before the presentation about knowing Mr. Carrasquillo and wanting to be completely transparent. Mr. Cerda stated that he knew Mr. Carrasquillo while at Stateville Correctional Center. Mr. Cerda discussed that he worked with Mr. Carrasquillo on creating workshops which later became a not-for-profit. Mr. Cerda stated that he can vote fairly and without prejudice.

**PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE**

Mr. Ronnie Carrasquillo was interviewed at Dixon Correctional Center by board member, Lisa D. Daniels on September 16, 2021, and October 13, 2021. Other than Ms. Daniels and Mr. Carrasquillo, present for this interview were Jennifer Soble, Attorney/Illinois prison Project; and many of Mr. Carrasquillo's family members.

Mr. Carrasquillo's projected release date is September 7, 2266 and his maximum release date is September 7, 2269.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

On October 10, 1976, at 1:45 a.m., 36-year old Chicago Police Officer Terrence Loftus ended his shift in the 14<sup>th</sup> District. As Officer Loftus was driving away from the 14<sup>th</sup> district station, he noticed a group of men chasing a man near the intersection of Fullerton and Central Park Ave. Officer Loftus stopped his car and got out in order to help the man who was being chased.



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This man, Edward Roman, was a member of a street gang called the Imperial Spanish Gangsters. That night the Imperial Gangsters were having a party in an apartment at 3561 W. Fullerton, near the intersection of Fullerton and Central Park. There were approximately 40 to 50 at the party, including Mr. Ronnie Carrasquillo who was 18 years-old at the time.

Shortly before 2:00 a.m., Edward Roman left the party and went to a bar at Fullerton and Lawndale, just west of Central Park. There was another gang in that area-the Alley Gaylords. In fact, the intersection of Fullerton and Central Park was the border between the "turf" of the Gaylords and Imperial Gangsters. Edward Roman, an Imperial Gangster, was in Gaylord territory. As Mr. Roman left the bar, a group of Gaylords began to chase him.

He ran east toward Fullerton and Central Park. Officer Loftus was driving an unmarked car and was in plain clothes when he saw Mr. Roman being chased. Officer Loftus, who was driving westbound, made a U-turn and drove eastbound on Fullerton. He stopped his vehicle in the westbound left-hand turning lane. Officer Loftus got out of his vehicle and identified himself as a police officer. Officer Loftus patted down Mr. Roman and not finding a weapon stayed by Mr. Roman holding him by his wrist.

While this was happening on the street, someone at the party is alleged to have yelled that the Gaylords and the Imperial Gangsters were fighting in the street. The party was taking place in a second-floor apartment on the south side of Fullerton just a few storefronts down from where Officer Loftus was talking to Roman and the members of the Gaylords. At this point, Party attendees began to run outside into the street. Mr. Carrasquillo, along with Mr. David Gonzalez, who was also attending the party began to head outside. Mr. Carrasquillo asked Mr. Gonzalez to give him a gun.

By the time Mr. Carrasquillo got outside, there was a police squadron on the scene. Officer Louis Bergmann was one of the officers in the squadron. Officer Bergmann saw a gang fight going on east of Central Park Fullerton. His partner, Officer Richard Kilroy, drove to the rear of Officer Loftus' car while Officer Bergmann jumped out and radioed for assistance, indicating there was a gang fight. As Officer Bergmann approached the larger group of people gathering near Officer Loftus' car, he heard four or five gunshots in rapid succession.

Mr. Carrasquillo approached a parked vehicle near 3563 W. Fullerton, leaned over the car's windshield and held the .32 caliber pistol with both hands. He fired the gun four or five times in rapid succession. One of the shots hit Officer Loftus in the head. The bullet entered the left side of his face and exited at the right side back of his head.

Officer Loftus was taken to St. Elizabeth Hospital and was placed in the intensive care unit. The bullet lacerated his spinal cord. On October 12, 1976, Officer Loftus died from his injuries.



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### **MR. CARRASQUILLO'S STATEMENTS AS TO THE OFFENSES**

Mr. Carrasquillo attended a party at 3561 W. Fullerton on Saturday, October 9, 1976. Mr. Carrasquillo and his friends, who were inside of the apartment building even as the party had spilled into the street, became increasingly drunk that night. At some point of the night, a fight broke out in the street between Imperial gangsters and the Alley Gaylords, a rival gang.

Mr. Carrasquillo was inside the party when the fight broke out. As the fight became louder, Mr. Carrasquillo asked his friend David Gonzalez what was happening. David was holding a gun that he thought was jammed. Mr. Carrasquillo told David to give him the gun, and the two left the building to join the crowd gathering at the intersection of Fullerton and Central Park Ave, the "boundary" between Imperial Gangster and Alley Gaylords' respective territories. Ronnie leaned against a car and fired several shots.

Shortly after the shooting, when he had returned to the apartment building, Ronnie was told that he had hit a police officer. Mr. Carrasquillo stowed the guns in his possession at the nearby home of Francisco Gonzalez. After his arrest later that morning, he led police to Gonzalez's home to collect the guns.

### **CRIMINAL HISTORY**

Mr. Carrasquillo's was arrested in July 1976 on the charge of battery and theft which was later stricken off with leave to reinstate.

### **INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT**

Mr. Carrasquillo's commitment to rehabilitation through his religious, educational, and mentoring initiatives is bolstered by his remarkable disciplinary record. In the more than 45 years since his incarceration, Ronnie has only received 9 tickets, only one ticket since 1999.

### **PAROLE PLANS**

Ronnie has tremendous community support, and if released, would live with family out of state. This placement has already been approved through inter-state compact. Ronnie's family is committed to helping Ronnie successfully transition to his new life by providing not only housing but also employment opportunities. They are active with their community church, which Ronnie looks forward to joining upon his release.



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**OPPOSITION TO PAROLE RELEASE**

Representatives from both the Fraternal Order of Police and the Chicago Police Department were present in opposition of parole for Mr. Carrasquillo.

**DISCUSSION**

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Mr. Shelton stated that he had given Ms. Daniels his last report on Mr. Carrasquillo and that she did not state any of the facts that were in it.

Ms. Daniels stated that the report that Mr. Shelton gave was not relevant. She stated that there was not any consistency to denying the truth. Ms. Daniels discussed the court transcripts and Mr. Carrasquillo firing the shots. She also discussed that throughout the years, information gets misconstrued.

Mr. Shelton discussed Mr. Carrasquillo's petition. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo has not always taken responsibility for his actions. Mr. Shelton stated quotes from the police report. He also stated that in 1986 Mr. Carrasquillo stated that he did not hit the officer. Mr. Shelton stated that in 1996 Mr. Carrasquillo said that he shot an officer. Mr. Shelton discussed that Mr. Carrasquillo has given several different statements to board members throughout the years.

Ms. Crigler stated that she had interviewed Mr. Carrasquillo in the past and that he had never denied pulling the trigger. She stated that things change over the years and that people have different perspectives. Ms. Crigler stated that people hear different things, they hear what they want.

Mr. Tupy questioned the consistency of Mr. Carrasquillo's story.

Ms. Daniels stated that Mr. Carrasquillo's story has always been the same, according to court documents, he leaned over the hood of the car and fired the shots that killed Officer Loftus. She stated that, that was the same version that Mr. Carrasquillo gave in the interview with her.

There is a discussion about how the shots went off and the trajectory of those shots.

Chairman Findley questions when the squad cars arrived. He questions if it was before Mr. Carrasquillo fired the shots or after.

Ms. Daniels stated that the squad cars arrived before Mr. Carrasquillo fired.

Chairman Findley discussed Mr. Carrasquillo's intent in firing the gun. He stated that it is subject to interpretation.



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Ms. Crigler stated that she is not an expert in weapons but, she went to the scene of where the incident happened and that, in her opinion, Mr. Carrasquillo would have had to have been an awful good shot. She stated that unfortunately an Officer Loftus was struck. Ms. Crigler stated that she does not think that Mr. Carrasquillo was that good of a shot at 18 years of age.

Ms. Daniels discussed that Mr. Carrasquillo had been drinking for 8 hours prior to the shooting and that he was not a marksman. She stated that he was impaired at the time of the shooting.

Mr. Bohland questioned if Mr. Carrasquillo bragged about killing a "pig" as stated in the Statement of Facts. He also questioned if Mr. Carrasquillo gained a higher rank within the gang for shooting Officer Loftus.

Ms. Daniels deferred to counsel. She also discussed Mr. Carrasquillo's intent in firing the gun.

Chairman Findley stated that they cannot determine the intent of Mr. Carrasquillo that day.

Ms. Jennifer Soble was present to represent Mr. Carrasquillo. She stated that she was struck by this case and how this case divided many people. She stated that Mr. Carrasquillo has spent 45 years trying to erase that division.

Chairman Findley stated that Ms. Soble was incorrect in stating that Mr. Carrasquillo has been trying for 45 years. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo used to walk around the prison with his own guards from the gang.

Ms. Soble stated that Mr. Carrasquillo has held many different official positions in prison to promote peace. He is seen as a support person. She stated that Mr. Carrasquillo left the gang in the early 90's. Ms. Soble stated that she does not disagree that Officer Loftus's death was terrible. She stated that Mr. Carrasquillo was a man of God and religion. She discussed that there is a lot of disagreement about the shots that were fired and if he aimed or not. She stated that information gets changed throughout the years, she used old cases as examples. Ms. Soble stated that Mr. Carrasquillo takes full responsibility in what he did that day. She stated that there is no evidence of Mr. Carrasquillo being a gang leader. She stated that Cook County State's Attorney does not oppose his release. She discussed that placement in IDOC is pertinent. Mr. Carrasquillo has been moved to several different prisons and his escape risk is 0. Ms. Soble stated that Mr. Carrasquillo is not a gang leader and that the Department of Corrections knows him best and does not believe that he is a gang leader or a risk. She stated that he was drunk and still a child at the age of 18 years of age. She discussed that it is not an excuse, but his brain was not fully developed at the age of 18 years old. Mr. Carrasquillo is now 63 years old and a leader. Ms. Soble stated that Mr. Carrasquillo means a lot to all the people in the room. She stated to let Mr. Carrasquillo go home and do God's work.



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Chairman Findley stated that the Cook County State's Attorney does not take a stance on anyone's parole release anymore. He stated that Ms. Soble needs to be careful in speaking. Chairman Findley discussed that IDOC did not state that, nor did the Cook County State's Attorney. He stated that, in fact, IDOC does have information that Mr. Carrasquillo was a gang leader.

A former DOC inmate was present on behalf of Mr. Carrasquillo. He stated that he had spent 37 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections and has been out for a year. He stated that he was honored and frightened to be there to speak on behalf of Mr. Carrasquillo. He discussed the divide that this case has caused and that it is a false division that needs to be bridged. He discussed his past and that he was responsible for another person's death. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo is responsible for Officer Loftus's death. He discussed conversations with Mr. Carrasquillo about accountability and responsibility. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo is a better man and an example of a second chance. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo has been incarcerated for 45 years and that is a half of a century. He stated that the board needs to recognize people can change and to have the courage to make a difference. He pleaded for the board to vote to release Mr. Carrasquillo. He stated that he walked the yard with Mr. Carrasquillo and that he believes that Mr. Carrasquillo is ready to be released.

Deputy Chief Daniel O'Shea of the Chicago Police Department was present in opposition to Mr. Carrasquillo's release. Deputy Chief O'Shea strongly objected to the release of Mr. Carrasquillo on behalf of the 12,000 members of the Chicago Police Department. He stated that there is no advocacy for the victims. He stated that criminals being released back into society is traumatizing to the victims and their families. Deputy Chief O'Shea stated that Officer Loftus did not get a second chance. He pleaded for the board to deny parole.

John Catanzara, the president of The Fraternal Order of Police was present in opposition to Mr. Carrasquillo's release. Mr. Catanzara discussed firing a gun from the perspective of someone that had shot a weapon. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo left the safety of a building to go outside and shoot. Mr. Catanzara discussed the size of the "paddy wagon" and that it was a giant police vehicle with flashing lights. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo knew that there were police there. Mr. Catanzara stated that Mr. Carrasquillo intended to fire bullets into a crowd of people the night of the incident. He stated that he is glad that Mr. Carrasquillo had found the right path but that he didn't have a choice being in prison. Mr. Catanzara discussed Officer Ella French and her death. He stated that the brazenness of criminals has never been higher. He discussed that Mr. Carrasquillo was never supposed to get parole. Mr. Catanzara stated that the Chicago Police Department are under attack and that no one cares when an officer dies. He pleads to not parole Mr. Carrasquillo. Mr. Catanzara stated that Mr. Carrasquillo is not a tragedy, that he is cold-blooded killer. He stated that a tragedy is when an 8-year old dies of cancer or people die in a car accident.



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Motion to enter Closed Session to discuss confidential and privileged victim statements and to deliberate regarding the case. (MC—DS). Leave.

Motion to return to Open Session. (JM—LD). Leave.

Ms. Daniels discussed the humanity of Officer Loftus. She stated that Mr. Carrasquillo has served 45 years and has not gotten away with anything. She stated that Mr. Carrasquillo has been productive and has had years of transformation. Ms. Daniels stated that she implores the board to consider his rehabilitation. She stated that Mr. Carrasquillo's release does not negate Officer Loftus's life.

Mr. James stated that the case tears him apart. He questions the impact that it will have and the accountability and change. Mr. James stated that he was torn on which way to vote. He stated that Mr. Carrasquillo did a lot of incredible things in prison. Mr. James questions if Mr. Carrasquillo has paid for or not what he had done.

Mr. Ruggiero stated that the case has not caused a division. He stated that the members are not divided and that the board members vote together with their conscience. Mr. Ruggiero stated that people who wear those badges are there to protect us. He stated that Officer Loftus was not the only officer there that night, that there were other officers there to assist. Mr. Ruggiero stated that there were blue and red lights flashing at 1:30am when Mr. Carrasquillo braced himself on the hood of a car and started to shoot. He also stated that the judge set the minimum at 200 years and it is not even close to that.

Chairman Findley discussed visiting the scene of the incident. He stated that there is a Pink Panther painted on the wall and that, that signifies the gangsters. Mr. Findley discussed never agreeing on the intent of Mr. Carrasquillo. He stated that the bullet came from a gun pointed at his head. Chairman Findley stated that it is an unsettling time in Chicago and that parole would deprecate the serious nature of the offense.

Ms. Soble stated that the people doing the most work in Chicago against violence are the people who have lived through it.

Mr. Catanzara stated that there had been 700 murders and 4,000 people shot in Chicago.





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**DECISION AND RATIONALE**

Motion to grant parole (LD—EC). Motion fails by a vote of 6–7. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, and Mrs. Perkins. Mr. Bohland, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley dissented.

After thorough consideration of Mr. Carrasquillo’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. Carrasquillo 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.”*



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***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**  
**OPEN SESSION—October 28, 2021**

Name: **PAULA SIMS**      IDOC Number: **B07074**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on October 28, 2021, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Paula Sims B07074.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

Recording Secretary: Andrea Hegland.

**PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE**

Paula Sims, age 62, was referred to the Board following a March 5, 2021 Commutation by the Honorable Governor J.B. Pritzker of a Life sentence for the crime of murder/Madison County to a parole-eligible sentence (clemency docket# 35363).

Ms. Sims, incarcerated at Logan Correctional Center, was heard for parole consideration on September 16, 2021 by a member of the Prisoner Review Board via videoconference, with the participation of her counsel and three (3) witnesses testifying on her behalf. Subsequent Board discussion has included a review of the criminal case, of Ms. Sims' institutional adjustment, of opposition to parole from the Madison County State's Attorney in the form of a letter, and of the proposed parole plan.

The Board discussed information presented during the parole eligibility hearing in the form of expert witness testimony of two psychologists about post-partum psychosis. This was the primary argument – but not the only argument - being made in support of parole. The testimony included a brief history of their clinical practices and subsequent specializations in the field of postpartum mood disorders and mental illness – practices that were later verified by inquiry into their professional licenses by the interviewing member.

Additional information on the topic of postpartum psychosis, gleaned from additional research, was shared by the reviewing member. For the purpose of establishing context and relevance, several other similar homicides attributed to instances of postpartum psychosis were briefly described by the reviewing member.

The bio-chemical basis of postpartum mood disorders, related to the physiology of pregnancy and the timing of hormonal changes occurring with the mother's return to a pre-pregnant state, was explained and discussed. The difference between mere postpartum depression and full-blown postpartum psychosis was discussed.



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### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

In 1990 inmate Paula Simms was convicted after a jury trial of one count of First-Degree Murder of her six-week-old daughter, Heather Sims, in 1989. At trial, evidence was introduced showing that Simms was also responsible for the murder of her twelve-day old daughter Lorelei Sims in 1986.

### **CRIMINAL HISTORY**

None

### **INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT**

- Two (2) non-violent Institutional Discipline Reports in 30+ years of incarceration (years 2002 and 2004)
- Worked directly with another inmate in developing new legislation addressing post-partum depression and post-partum psychosis that was ultimately signed into law by Governor Bruce Rauner in January 2018
- Numerous certificates of curriculum completions and presidential "scholarship" (college); participation in various courses of counseling
- Numerous letters from inmates and non-inmates attesting to the counseling and support she has offered to others – some confirmed by phone contact by the reviewing member

### **PAROLE PLANS**

Inmate Sims was found to have an in-state residential plan deemed acceptable pending review by parole authorities if parole was to be granted. An additional out-of-state option was referenced and would also be available for review of parole authorities.

### **RELEVANT ILLINOIS LEGISLATION**

**Also cited for the benefit of the members was HB 1764, signed into law in January of 2018 by the Honorable Governor Bruce Rauner, now known as PA 100-0574. This was the first legislation in the nation defining Postpartum Depression and Postpartum Psychosis and recognizing postpartum mental illnesses as mitigating factors in sentencing for crimes committed when women are suffering from postpartum depression and postpartum psychosis.**

### **OPPOSITION TO PAROLE RELEASE**

In advance of en banc the Board received a letter of strong objection to the parole of Paula Sims from the office of Madison County State's Attorney Thomas A. Haine, taking issue with:



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- the murder of infants, generally, and with the specific manner of their deaths, which finds no disagreement among the members of the Board;
- the fictional accounts given by Sims *"to police, to doctors, to family members, to friends and even under oath to jurors..."*;
- the substantial steps taken by Sims to conceal her culpability
- the issue of postpartum depression having already been litigated

The objection letter explains Ms. Sims' failure to prevail in a prior post-conviction petition that she based on her claim of inadequate representation by trial counsel due to his failure to mount a postpartum depression insanity defense.

### DISCUSSION

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Mr. Jeb Stone, Ms. Sims' attorney, stated that it was a great pleasure in representing her and that she has led an exemplary life. Ms. Sims has always reached out to help others. Ms. Sims and another inmate helped to get a bill passed dealing with post-partum depression. Mr. Stone stated that Ms. Sims has saved lives by talking openly about post-partum depression and post-partum psychosis. She has served 32 years in prison and has only had 2 tickets that were non-violent. Mr. Stone also stated that Ms. Sims has a parole plan that includes housing in Decatur Illinois and employment at a publishing company as well. Mr. Stone continued by discussing post-partum depression and post-partum psychosis and how there is so much more known now, then there was when Ms. Sims was on trial.

Mr. Shelton stated that there was opposition for Ms. Sims' parole that was heard during clemency. Mr. Shelton also stated that the only other opposition was the State's Attorney of Madison County.

Mr. Ruggiero discusses post-partum depression and if the belief is that Ms. Sims was psychotic when she committed these crimes.

Mr. Shelton stated that Ms. Sims' sentence would have been less if the trial was done today. He discusses that the laws have now changed, part by the help of Ms. Sims. Mr. Shelton discussed the trial and the testimony that was heard at the trial. He also stated that a lot of people have written about this case.

Mr. Ruggiero questions if there was a psychosis for the insanity defense and if there were ever any witnesses to the psychosis or psychotic behavior.



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Mr. Shelton stated that there is nothing in the file that stated anyone saw the psychotic behavior. He also stated that, people then, did not express these thoughts for fear of retribution.

Mr. Ruggiero also questions if Ms. Sims would have committed these crimes if the police were there. He stated that Ms. Sims appreciated the criminality of her actions and questions the diagnosis of the psychosis.

Mr. Shelton discussed the biochemical change in the brain during pregnancy. He stated that in order to understand post-partum, you must understand biochemistry. He stated that Ms. Sims was pregnant three times and could have been predisposed to post-partum depression or post-partum psychosis.

Mr. Ruggiero discussed the legal definition of sanity.

Mr. Shelton stated that there is a distinction between post-partum depression and post-partum psychosis. He stated that Ms. Sims has been diagnosed by many psychologists.

Mr. Tupy and Mr. Stone then discussed the Post-Conviction Petition.

Dr. Feingold, whom was there on behalf of Ms. Sims, stated that for a person with a rational mind it is hard to make sense of a woman with an irrational mind. She stated the difference in Ms. Sims' pregnancies was the support that was received. Dr. Feingold discussed the lack of support for Ms. Sims when she had the female children.

Chairman Findley questions the basis of the Post-Conviction Petition.

Mr. Stone explained the basis of the petition being that the law changed in 2018 concerning post-partum psychosis. Mr. Stone also discussed the lack of support that Ms. Sims had when she had her female children. Mr. Stone stated that according to the doctors, this is consistent with post-partum psychosis.

Mr. Bohland and Mr. Stone discuss Ms. Sims parole plan.

Mr. Bohland questions why there not any witnesses to Ms. Sims psychosis or psychotic behavior in 3 years.

Mr. Stone stated that a detective wrote in a police report that Ms. Sims was not in her right mind.

Mr. Bohland again questions the psychosis happening 3 years later. He stated that Ms. Sims put a child's body in the freezer and questions how someone could go through that and no one noticed.



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Dr. Sanford, who was also present on behalf of Ms. Sims, explained that it is very difficult to understand these cases. She stated that Ms. Sims was isolated from friends and family and that people did not know what she was going through. Dr. Sanford also stated that Ms. Sims had told her husband that she needed to see a doctor and Mr. Sims told her that was not what people do. Ms. Sims had then canceled her doctor appointment. Dr. Sanford went on to discuss that families do not understand when post-partum happens. She stated that unless a person is evaluated by a trained professional, they will not understand what is happening and will not get help.

Mr. Bohland questioned Ms. Sims' story of the intruder kidnapping her children and changing her mind on a dime before sentencing.

Dr. Feingold stated that many women have experienced amnesia, and they do not remember what they did. Dr. Feingold discussed an old case that a very educated young mother also believed her delusions. She stated that some women need to be hospitalized and that these delusions are like recurring nightmares.

Mr. Bohland again questioned if the psychosis was real and why Ms. Sims story changed after her conviction.

Mr. Shelton stated that Ms. Sims took advice from her attorney on changing her story before sentencing.

Mr. Stone stated that there are people that are truly evil. He stated Ms. Sims is not evil. He stated that there is not anything in her file that says she is evil.

Mr. Cerda questions if being around children will trigger Ms. Sims.

Dr. Feingold stated that Ms. Sims is well over the age of having children and the psychosis is associated with childbirth.

Mr. James discussed the idea that Ms. Sims killed her first and third daughters and not her son because of support. He then questioned if Ms. Sims would be susceptible to manipulation and pleasing.

Dr. Sandford replied that Ms. Sims was preparing to harm her son but was interrupted. She then discussed the difference in the support that Ms. Sims received from her husband with each of the children. Dr. Sandford stated that one of the top 3 risk factors is support of a marital partner. She stated that post-partum psychosis is a temporary illness brought on by child-bearing hormones.

Mr. Shelton stated that there are thousands of people walking around with this illness raising children because the biochemical in the brain has fixed itself. He stated that it is not going to make sense because it is a psychosis.



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Chairman Findley stated that he met Ms. Sims after her clemency petition. He went to Logan Correctional Center and met her. He stated that he is convinced that Ms. Sims is not a danger to anyone.

**DECISION AND RATIONALE**

Motion to grant parole (DS—EM). Motion prevails by a vote of 12–1. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy and Chairman Findley. Mr. Bohland dissented.

After a complete review of Ms. Sims’s case, and after giving thoughtful discussion and consideration to all factors, the Board decided and voted to grant parole to Ms. Sims, subject to conditions of parole release as set by the Board and by law. The Board hereby finds that Ms. Sims 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.”*



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***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**  
**OPEN SESSION—October 28, 2021**

Name: **DAVID DENSON**

IDOC Number: **N40871**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on October 28, 2021, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for David Denson N40871.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

Recording Secretary: Andrea Hegland

**PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE**

Mr. David Denson was interviewed by Board Member Mrs. Perkins on September 16th, 2021 at 9:00 am via Zoom from Stateville C.C. Present at the interview: Mr. Denson, family members and clergy. Mr. Denson is 57 years old and has served 38 years of his natural life sentence. He was sentenced to natural life for two counts of murder. On November 1, 1983 Mr. Denson shot and killed Mr. George Coleman, 17 and Ms. Angela Hardner, 17. Mr. Denson was 19 years old at the time of these murders.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

On November 1, 1983 Mr. Denson was walking with two friends when he was approached by Ms. Hardner, Mr. Coleman and unnamed others. After hearing that the gang that Ms. Hardner allegedly belonged to, was out to do him harm, he armed himself for protection. When he was approached by this group of individuals, before he could ask what was going on, he was struck in the face with a large rock. Mr. Denson had the gun in his hand. He shot Ms. Hardner then Mr. Coleman, at that point, all others ran away.

After the shooting of these two individuals, he threw the gun in a vacant field. Mr. Denson went to his girlfriend's house and told her what happened. Then, he left and went to his grandmother's house. He informed her of what had happened. Mr. Denson's grandmother convinced him to turn himself in to the police.





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**MR DENSON'S STATEMENTS AS TO THE OFFENSES**

Mr. Denson stated at the interview the same information found in the statement of facts. Mr. Denson takes full responsibility for his actions and says he is sorry for the pain he caused all parties involved.

**CRIMINAL HISTORY**

Mr. Denson has no juvenile or adult criminal convictions. The only thing in his background are 8 traffic tickets.

**INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT**

Denson is currently assigned to the general population at Stateville Correctional Center. Mr. Denson has been incarcerated at several different institutions including: Statesville, Menard, Pontiac, and Joliet since 1983. He has worked in the Tailor Shop, Knit Shop, Guard Hall, Tunnel Crew, Maintenance Department, and a Data Entry Position. Mr. Denson is currently working in the inmate kitchen. Mr. Denson states he has held leadership roles with most of his jobs and enjoys teaching/training other inmates for various positions. Mr. Denson has participated and received certificates in the following programs: Creative Writing, Inside Out Dads, Life Skills, Anger Management and various Religious Programs.

According to security staff, Mr. Denson is a model inmate. He always maintains a positive attitude and provides spiritual guidance to others. Mr. Denson hasn't received any discipline tickets since April of 2017. Mr. Denson is currently an "A" grade. No escape risk. Mr. Denson is currently pursuing a Masters-degree in theology at North Park Theological Seminary School of Restoration Arts.

**PAROLE PLANS**

Mr. Denson plans to parole to a family member's home. This family member can help him find job opportunities in his field of study. Mr. Denson has strong family ties. Multiple family members have offered their homes to him.

**OPPOSITION TO PAROLE RELEASE**

There was no opposition in the file to parole release.



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**EN BANC HISTORY**

This is Mr. Denson's first appearance before the En Banc Board.

**DISCUSSION**

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Mr. Denson's family was present on his behalf. Stating they have dreamed about his release for 38 years. Stating that at the time of the crime Mr. Denson felt that his life was in danger.

Mr. Bohland states that the State's Attorney's version of events greatly differs.

Mr. Ruggiero stated that Mr. Denson was the one who called police and then showed them where the gun was.

**DECISION AND RATIONALE**

Motion to grant parole (AP—LD). Motion prevails by a vote of 12–1. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, and Chairman Findley. Mr. Tupy dissented.

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



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***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**  
**OPEN SESSION—October 28, 2021**

Name: **JOHN ROSS\*** IDOC Number: **C71557**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on October 28, 2021, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for John Ross C71557.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

Recording Secretary: Andrea Hegland.

**PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE**

Mr. John Ross was interviewed via WebEx by Board Member, Ms. Martinez, on September 14, 2021, starting at 9:00 am. No one else was present. Mr. Ross was born April 5, 1953 and is currently 68 years of age. He is serving a sentence of 75-225 years for Rape and was admitted to the Illinois Department of Corrections on May 13, 1977. His MSR date is March 17, 2079 with a Projected discharge date of March 17, 2082.

He said he did not remember being interviewed by a psychiatrist. He says he doesn't need mental health counseling or sex offender counseling because he has appeals pending and it would be an admission of guilt. And he says the judge didn't mandate sex offender counseling. Mr. Ross was asked if he was on medications or receiving mental health services and he stated no.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

On May 20, 1976, Mr. Ross, then 23 years of age, attacked and raped an 8-year-old girl near her home in Markham, Illinois. The girl was walking back to school after lunch when Mr. Ross approached her. He held a knife to her and told her, "if you don't go with me, I'll stick you in the neck." She complied and was taken through an alley to a grassy area. Mr. Ross took her clothes off and raped her while telling her he did not mean to hurt her. After Mr. Ross was through, he told the victim to walk away and not look back. The victim went back to school and told her teacher she did not feel well. Her mother was called and when the mother came to pick her up, the victim told her mother she had been raped. Her mother took her to an emergency room where a doctor discovered that the victim was bleeding due to a large vaginal laceration. The victim was admitted to the hospital and her sexual organs were reconstructed. Both the victim and an independent witness identified Mr. Ross in a photographic lineup and at trial.



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There was evidence that Mr. Ross was preying on young girls. The Markham Police Department received a report from a 12-year-old girl on the same day. Mr. Ross proceeded to a jury trial and was found guilty. Judge Dwight McKay sentenced Mr. Ross to 75 to 225 years in the penitentiary. The conviction for rape was affirmed on appeal.

### **MR. ROSS'S STATEMENTS AS TO THE OFFENSES**

Mr. Ross stated that he just remembers being arrested. They just charged him he said. He doesn't know who did it. Mr. Ross stated that they have the wrong person. He stated that he won reversal in 1978. There was no arrest warrant, no line up and it was a weak case. He later stated that a Petition for Rehearing was requested because they didn't consider certain individuals. After discussing other topics, he said the case was remanded on appeal, but he was not resentenced. He said the judge disappeared when they took him there and again stated there was no warrant. He said he never took the little girl or raped her.

### **CRIMINAL HISTORY**

In 1971, Mr. Ross was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter and sentenced to 5-years of probation. In that case, Mr. Ross, a member of the Satan Lovers street gang, was armed with a revolver that belonged to his father. He, along with other members of the Satan Lovers, got into a fight with a rival gang member. The rival gang member got into a car and began to leave. Mr. Ross fired twice at a boy he thought was a rival gang member. Victim John Stewart, who originally was part of the Satan Lovers, was standing on the street and was shot and killed. The bullet recovered from the victim's body matched the gun recovered from Mr. Ross' home. Mr. Ross had just completed that probation when he raped the 8-year-old girl in the present case. Also, the state's attorney indicated that Mr. Ross had been arrested two other times on sexual assault of minors, but the cases were not prosecuted due to parents' wishes and ages of the victims.

### **INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT**

Mr. Ross has not received an IDR since 2012. His last IDR was a minor infraction for Unauthorized Movement and his last major IDR was in 2011 for Theft & Contraband. Since 1998, Mr. Ross has only had 2 major tickets.

According to the Offender Overview, Mr. Ross has held various Dietary assignments since 2018 and alternated between HCU Attendant and Dietary assignments from July 26, 2012 and May 1, 2018 with minimal unassigned periods during that time. Mr. Ross requested to be transferred to Big Muddy in order to participate in programming, however, since his arrival he has not participated in any programming. He was placed on the waitlist for Drug Awareness on



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February of 2020. Mr. Ross has received no visits while at Big Muddy since 2011 and has had no contact with his family in recent years. He has had no sex offender counseling.

### **PAROLE PLAN**

If he is released, Mr. Ross wants to go to a half-way house. He said he knows that IDOC has been releasing sex offenders to halfway houses. He also says he had two homes but doesn't know if the family has paid taxes or what happened to the property.

Mr. Ross stated that he played for the National Football League and put his first check in the bank so he should have \$700,000 to \$800,000 with interest. He said he hasn't heard from the bank but doesn't think it was embezzled. He also said he won the Super Bowl with the Redskins and has a ring. Mr. Ross stated that he wants to find out what happened to the one billion dollars that Michael Jackson owed him for video work that he did. He said he knows Michael Jackson is dead, but his sister Janet is still alive. He said Michael threw him to the wolves. That was why he was arrested. He said he has about \$60 and waiting for his stimulus check of \$3,200. He also stated that he lived with Madonna for a short time.

### **OPPOSITION TO PAROLE RELEASE**

The State's Attorney has opposed release in the past, citing the brutal facts of the case.

The victim of this crime has sent letters in opposition in the past. The last letter added to the file is undated.

### **EN BANC HISTORY**

Mr. Ross has never received a vote. He received a number of 3-year sets and is coming off of a 5-year set. Mr. Ross petitioned for rehearing of his 2016 denial of parole. In his petition, Mr. Ross states that Judge McKay is in the next cell and his laundry partner is the arresting officer Shultz. He stated that the witnesses lied.



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**DISCUSSION**

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

There is no discussion on Mr. Ross's case.

**DECISION AND RATIONALE**

Motion to deny parole (EM—JR). Motion prevails by unanimous vote.

Motion for a 5-year set (JR—MC). Motion prevails by a vote of 11-2. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Findley, Mr. James, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy. Ms. Crigler and Ms. Martinez dissented.

After thorough consideration of Mr. Ross'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. Ross 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."*



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***EN BANC* MINUTE SHEET**  
**OPEN SESSION—October 28, 2021**

Name: **ROY KING**                      IDOC Number: **C66348**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 3000 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois, on October 28, 2021, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Roy King C66348.

Members present were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

Recording Secretary: Andrea Hegland.

**PRESENTATION OF INTERVIEW AND FILE**

On September 22nd, 2021 at the CMS building in Marion, Il. Mr. Roy King was interviewed via WebEx video. Also, on the call that day were Mr. King's family members. Mr. King was in the video visit room at Hill Correctional Center accompanied by the appropriate staff. Mr. King was polite, attentive, and appeared to be in good health. Mr. King was born March 29, 1951 and is currently 70 years of age. On this day, Mr. King was well prepared to talk and answer any questions that may be asked of him. Mr. King started off talking about his crime in 1976 of murder when he was 27 years old. He was asked to summarize that night and his version of what had happened, he was able to do so in good detail. Mr. King then moved on to the talk about the charge of sexual abuse he received in 2001. Again, Mr. King was able to share details and answer all questions. At the conclusion of this interview Mr. King's family gave statements on his behalf. On July 26, 1976 Mr. King was sentenced to 50 to 150 years for the murder of Joyce Taro in Macoupin County on February 15th, 1976. He was sentenced to terms of 25 to 75 years for armed robbery, 6 years 8 months to 20 years for robbery, 6 years 8 months to 20 years for burglary and 3 years 4 months to 10 years for theft.

Mr. King was granted parole after serving 17 years of his sentence on August 17, 1993. On July 31, 2001 Mr. King received a seven-year sentence for the aggravated criminal sexual abuse of a female victim 12-16 years old.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

On February 15, 1976 Mr. King along with his co-defendants planned to rob a local business owner by the name of Joyce Terro by forcibly breaking into her residence and robbing



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the victim at gunpoint if necessary. Subsequently, Joyce Terrell was shot and killed during the armed robbery by Mr. King.

Approximately 7 years later Mr. King was charged with aggravated criminal sexual abuse of a female victim that began to work alongside him in a lawn mowing business and lived in his household at the age of 12.

Mr. and Mrs. King at the time took guardianship of the 12-year-old girl and she was brought into the house to live and help take care of the twin girls. Mr. King began having an inappropriate relationship with the young girl and soon turned into sexual intercourse a few times a week. Eventually the victim became pregnant with Mr. King's child and gave birth to a son on May 18, 1997. (the victim was only 14 years old). After the truth came out, Mr. King was arrested and received 7 years in IDOC.

### **MR. KING'S STATEMENTS AS TO THE OFFENSE**

Mr. King's version of the 1976 armed robbery/murder was short and to the point, an individual who he knew and was stealing motorcycles with was getting ready to go to Daytona for bike week and his friend who didn't have a bike wanted to do an armed robbery to get money to get a bike and go with them. A female friend knew of and suggested a place they could rob and didn't plan on hurting anybody. They took along with them duct tape to tie any individual up that may be inside, but during the robbery the victim, Joyce Terro came into the room shooting and when she turned toward Mr. King with the gun, he shot her. Mr. King takes full responsibility for his actions and for the murder that happened on that day.

Mr. King's version of the 2001 aggravated criminal sexual abuse conviction, he claimed to know the victim through meeting her and her family at church and soon after began working with Mr. King doing lawn service and other odd jobs. The 12-year-old victim then moved into the house with Mr. King, his wife and two small twins to be a caretaker for the young girls. It was at that time Mr. King claims that they fell in love and began having consensual sex and "he never knew how old she was." He adamantly denies that she was 12 years old. The sex would take place in the home when Mrs. King would leave for work late in the evening and "the sex was always consensual and that is according to the victim, police report, states attorney and the judge". Mr. King claims he "regrets having sex with an underage female but does not wish it away for anything because God blessed them with a son." The victim was 14 when she gave birth and Mr. King was in his 40's. Mr. King was asked if he would try to contact the victim if he had the opportunity and he stated he would let her know through his sister and it would be up to her if she wanted to communicate or not.





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### **INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT**

Mr. King has been incarcerated at Henry Hill Correctional Center a little over 11 years and during this time he has not been issued a job assignment because he is only interested in working in the industries department but “C” numbers are not allowed to work in industries at that facility. As far as discipline, Mr. King is not an inmate that receives tickets on a regular basis, he has only been written up 2 times while at Hill CC for minor offenses. Also, while at Hill CC Mr. King has received visits from family. A previously disputed claim that the victim and her son visited him, at Centralia CC in 2001, according to the visitation logs the victim visited on November 13, 2001, but in the records, it makes no mention of a child visiting on that day. Also, she was listed as Mr. Kings’ daughter. The record reflects that the victim also visited 4 times at Menard CC, February 13, 21, 27 and March 7, 2000 also registered as his daughter on all those occasions. Mr. King has received 24 hours of credit through Kaskaskia college for classes in vocational training certificate from the international College of Bible theology for a total of 77 credits, a certificate for associate of biblical studies from the international College of Bible theology in Sikeston MO, and 207 accredited points from Southwestern Illinois College in addition to undergraduate classes mainly focusing on vocational skills and training from Southwestern college. Mr. Kings institutional assessment states aggression is an area of concern in the past but is not considered to be an issue as of August 2021, it states that Mr. King reports being saved in the county jail in 1976 and that is when he began practicing his Christian faith on a regular basis. He admits to the past violence but said he does not want to hurt others and is able to avoid conflict whenever he can by successfully using his faith as a coping skill.

### **PAROLE PLANS**

The current plan for parole is to be released to a friend’s house, but it has not been approved yet. Mr. King’s family would also be supportive of him if released. Mr. King would like to help people and spread the word of God to those in need. He would like to help construct places to live and remodel dilapidated houses for low income individuals. He just wants to be a positive member of society and hopefully be a light in someone’s life. He would like for people to see him as a good human being and not just a prisoner that has been a failure his whole life. He also said that he has the skills and work ethic to make a living and that the Lord will provide for him if he is given the opportunity. “He would never be locked up again unless they began locking up Christians and if that happens, he hopes there is more than enough evidence to find him guilty.”

### **OPPOSITION TO PAROLE RELEASE**

There are past letters of support and opposition in the file of Mr. King.



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### **EN BANC HISTORY**

The file indicates Mr. King has been considered for parole in the years of 1986-1993 when he was granted. After his return to custody, he received multiple two and three year sets by the Board and no votes in favor of his re-release but has had votes against sets during this time.

### **DISCUSSION**

Summary of discussion for parole consideration:

Discussion of Mr. King's MSR date being 2041.

Mr. Shelton stated that he spoke with the victim in 2015. He stated that she could not get Mr. King to stop sending her letters.

Mr. Mears stated that in 2004 Mr. King sent a very nasty letter to the victim.

Mr. Shelton stated that he wanted the other board members to know that as of 2015 Mr. King was still trying to contact the victim.

### **DECISION AND RATIONALE**

Motion to deny parole (AP—CF). Motion prevails by unanimous vote.

Motion for a 5-year set (JB—AP). Motion fails by a vote of 6-7. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, and Mrs. Perkins. Ms. Crigler, Mr. Findley, Mr. James, Ms. Martinez, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy dissented.

Motion for a 3-year set (KT—JM). Motion prevails by a vote of 8-5. Members voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Bohland, Mr. Cerda, Mr. Mears, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Perkins, Mr. Ruggiero, Mr. Shelton, and Mr. Tupy. Ms. Crigler, Ms. Daniels, Mr. Findley, Mr. James, and Ms. Martinez dissented.



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After thorough consideration of Mr. King'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. King 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."*