



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety



PAROLE BOARD

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RECORD OF DECISION

IN THE MATTER OF

RABORN ALLAH

W58709

TYPE OF HEARING: Review Hearing

DATE OF HEARING: December 6, 2011

DATE OF DECISION: March 26, 2012

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS: Cesar Archilla, Dr. Charlene Bonner, Sheila Dupre, Ina Howard-Hogan, Roger Michel, Lucy Soto-Abbe, Josh Wall

DECISION OF THE BOARD: Release to Home Plan which meets Parole Board specifications on or after April 9, 2012. The decision is unanimous.

I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Raborn Allah was released on parole, on a life sentence, in August 2009. In violation of an important condition of his parole, he associated with his co-defendant on January 27, 2011 and parole was revoked by the board on April 13, 2011, at the completion of the revocation process. Allah complicated his situation during the revocation process by making some false and misleading statements to Parole staff and Board members.

Allah participated in the murder of George Greer in Springfield on March 5, 1974. Allah pleaded guilty to second-degree murder as a joint venturer. He was armed with a gun at the scene, but did not interact with the victim, pursue the victim, or fire his weapon. Allah's co-defendant pursued Mr. Greer and shot him multiple times.

II. FACTORS RELEVANT TO RE-PAROLE DECISION

The Parole Board considered and gave weight to the following factors in assessing Allah's suitability for re-parole.

1. His associations with the co-defendant were not for a nefarious purpose.
2. He did make a self-report of one association, which brought the issue to the attention of parole staff.
3. At his hearing, Allah admitted to previous false statements made in the revocation process, showed understanding of the importance of honesty in parole supervision, and stated his renewed commitment to full candor with the Parole Board.
4. Upon his return to custody, Allah resumed meaningful program participation and good institutional conduct.
5. Allah was a successful parolee for the approximate 15 months before his violation: he completed a long-term residential program; obtained employment and worked hard; relied on his support network to help him solve re-integration issues such as housing; and devoted considerable time and effort to involvement with his religious community.
6. He has solid community support in Boston; this is particularly impressive because he is from Springfield.
7. Allah's religious practices have connected him with a well-established spiritual community that is experienced with and committed to assisting ex-offenders with rehabilitation and re-integration to the community.

III. DECISION

The Parole Board concluded that Raborn Allah was living a peaceable and productive life as a parolee before his violation. There is no indication of substance abuse violations, mental health concerns, or anger issues. By all our measures he shows solid and meaningful rehabilitation, especially in reducing criminal thinking and behavior. His many supporters in the community would welcome his re-entry and continue to provide him with assistance. This period of re-incarceration is sufficient to address and correct the parole violation and the related false statements. If released, it is reasonably probable that he will not re-offend. His release is compatible with the welfare of society. Moreover, the Parole Board concluded that this release is very likely to be a significant benefit to his community due to his peaceable conduct, respectful behavior, and religious involvement. We encourage Mr. Allah to return to the community with continued positive behavior and to restore a candid and productive relationship with his parole officer.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS: No drug or alcohol use; AA or NA at least 3 times per week with a sponsor.

I certify that this is the decision and reasons of the Massachusetts Parole Board regarding the above referenced hearing.

Josh Wall

Josh Wall, Chairman

March 26, 2012

Date