



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Public Safety



PAROLE BOARD

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Josh Wall  
Chairman

**DECISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

**SOUVAHEUANG PHACHANSIRI**

**W50489**

**TYPE OF HEARING:** Review Hearing

**DATE OF HEARING:** May 17, 2011

**DATE OF DECISION:** July 31, 2012

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

**DECISION OF THE BOARD:** After careful consideration of all relevant facts, including the nature of the underlying offense, institutional record, the views of the public as expressed at the hearing or in written submissions to the Board, we conclude by a unanimous vote that the inmate is not a suitable candidate for parole at this time. Parole is denied with a review in five years.

**I. PRIOR PAROLE HISTORY**

Mr. Phachansiri was previously before the Board on March 14, 2006. The Board denied Mr. Phachansiri's parole with a review in five years. The Board stated in the decision that "Mr. Phachansiri and his co-defendant, brother Souvanna, are in complete denial regarding the circumstances of the murder of Daravanh Phachansiri. The Parole Board believes that before rehabilitation can take place, subject must come to terms with the fact that he was involved in a murder."

**II. STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

On May 6, 1991, Souvaheuang Phachansiri was found guilty of murder in the second degree of Ms. Daravanh Phachansiri, age 26, and was sentenced to life in prison. Mr. Phachansiri has an ICE (Immigration Customs Enforcement) warrant lodged for deportation to his native country of Cambodia. Cambodia, however, does not typically accept deportations.

On February 10, 1990, the victim, Daravanh Phachansiri, (formerly married to Souvaheuang Phachansiri), their two children, and Daravanh's husband, Suki, were on their way from Plymouth to Salem, Massachusetts following a party. Mr. Phachansiri, his co-defendants Souvanna Phachansiri (brother), and Khambor Phouthongseng (cousin), as well as other family members were all present at the party.

During the party the Phachansiri brothers argued with Daravanh and her husband Suki. During the argument, Mr. Phachansiri punched Daravanh in the face and his brother, Souvanna, threatened Suki with a gun. As a result of this altercation, Suki ran to a nearby gas station and called the police. The attendees of the party dispersed, leaving in two separate vehicles.

During Daravanh Phachansiri, Suki and the children's commute to home, they stopped for gas in Revere. They were traveling in one car while the Phachansiri brothers and other family members, including their mother and Khambor Phouthongseng were traveling in a van. They (Souvaheuang Phachansiri and family) followed the victim's car to the gas station. When they arrived, Mr. Phachansiri punched Suki in the face and they began to fight. Mr. Phachansiri's brother joined the fight, again threatened to shoot Suki and stabbed him in the hand with a broken beer bottle. Ms. Phachansiri exited her car apparently to assist her husband. Eye witnesses then observed her being dragged into the van by Mr. Phachansiri, his brother and Mr. Phouthongseng. A short time later a witness driving behind the van stated Ms. Phachansiri was thrown out the sliding door of the moving van onto the street. The occupants of the van fled and were found in Lowell where Mr. Phachansiri and his co-defendants were apprehended.

Ms. Phachansiri's body was described as having blood on her nose and chest. Her clothes were in shambles and her brassiere had been cut off. In addition her pants had been pulled down and there were stab wounds and numerous injuries on her body. The Medical Examiner opined that the cause of death was manual strangulation and blunt force trauma. The autopsy report documents bleeding with a fractured bone in the neck, multiple fractured ribs, internal injuries, and multiple lacerations, abrasions, and stab wounds.

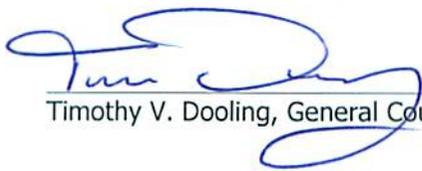
### **III. INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT**

Mr. Phachansiri has only received one disciplinary report during his incarceration. He has participated in the literacy program (ESL), GED, several rehabilitation programs and numerous job skills training programs. He has also received positive work evaluations.

### **IV. DECISION**

Mr. Phachansiri has maintained a version of the murder that is inconsistent with the evidence and with the jury's verdict. Among his many implausible statements, Mr. Phachansiri claims that the murder of Daravanh Phachansiri was due to her jumping out of the van voluntarily. He has maintained that Ms. Phachansiri committed suicide and also denies inflicting or witnessing any physical assaults on Ms. Phachansiri. Given Mr. Phachansiri's continued distorted portrayal of the facts related to this case, he does not appear to have benefited from the rehabilitative programming provided. It is the unanimous decision of the Board that Souvaheuang Phachansiri would be likely to re-offend if released and release is not compatible with the welfare of society. The review will be in five years.

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

  
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Timothy V. Dooling, General Counsel

7/31/12  
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Date