

**Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
MEETING OF August 28, 2014**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison,, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 2014, at the 8:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

C10666 MICHAEL CLARK
L03937 JOHN GOODWIN
C71910 BENNIE JONES
C82127 SIMON NELSON
C10244 THOMAS FULLER
C01581 EUGENE HORTON
C81085 CASPER ROSARIO
C10587 MARK SMITH
C72940 DONALD WOODRUFF
C01871 LEON BOLTON

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

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

14 Present

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

Motion to continue Dewayne Roby to September 2014 En Banc Session. (ADM - CF). Leave.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Simon Nelson IDOC Number & Institution: C82127

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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 Gregg presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Simon Peter Nelson was interviewed on June 3, 2014, for parole consideration. Factors considered by the Board include, but are not limited to, testimony of the inmate, a review of the file, parole plans, institutional adjustment and the nature and sentence for the offense. Inmate Nelson is currently 83 years old and has spent 36 years incarcerated. He is coming off a three year set and has never received any votes for parole. His current MSR date is in 2076. Inmate Nelson was alert and polite at the interview.

Offense facts revealed that in the early morning hours of January 7, 1978, Inmate Simon Peter Nelson systematically murdered his six children by beating them with a mallet and stabbing them to death. The children ranged in age from 4-12 years old. The children's names were: Jennifer Nelson, Simon Nelson Jr., Andrew Nelson, Matthew Nelson, Rose Ann Nelson and David Nelson. After killing his children, Inmate Nelson drove to Milwaukee, Wisconsin and attacked his wife after telling her that he had killed their children.

Inmate Nelson was found guilty of six counts of murder and received a sentence of 100-200 years on each count in Winnebago County. He has served 36 years of his sentence and is currently 83 years old. He is currently housed at the Graham Correctional Center and is unassigned. Inmate Nelson has held many jobs in the IDOC including law clerk, where he helped discourage frivolous lawsuits saving the state several thousands of dollars. He has received only two minor tickets during his incarceration. Inmate Nelson is very active as the chaplain for the veterans group at Graham Correctional Center. He also holds a Master's Degree and two Bachelor's Degrees. His health is declining.

Inmate Nelson would like to reside at St. Leonard's House in Chicago when he is paroled.

Inmate Nelson stated he doesn't remember much about the offense. He also stated he is a sincere Christian. He was pleasant and cooperative at the interview.

Member Parrack took the protest for this case. She noted it was lengthy. Winnebago County State's Attorney Joseph Bruscato is asking for a five-year set.

Joseph Bruscato, Winnebago County State's Attorney, stated the community is still well aware of this crime. They are asking that parole be denied for a five year set.

Alan Mills, attorney for the petitioner, stated they have submitted letters of support for Mr. Nelson. Retired DOC employees wrote letters of support. He has had multiple psychological evaluations and each one stated he is fit. Mr. Nelson is no longer a threat to the community. He has done what he can do redeem himself. If they Board denies the petition, please do not give him a five year set. There are no cases of sexual nature. He is considered a sex offender because he murdered children.

Member Crigler noted that Inmate Nelson has done well since he has been incarcerated and has an excellent institutional record. For that reason she will not support an extended set.

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

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

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Bennie Jones IDOC Number & Institution: C71910

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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.

IDOC Facility: Dixon Correctional Center

Interview Date: 4/15/2014

Persons Present: Jennifer Parrack and Bennie Jones

Conviction and Sentence: Attempted Murder (50-100 years), Rape (50-100 years)

Length of Incarceration: 37 years, admitted to IDOC on 6/10/1977

Maximum Release Date: 1/22/2019 (IDOC Website) 1/30/2019 (per counsel)

1. Current Status:

Mr. Bennie Jones is a 59 year old male, born on March 18, 1955. Prior to his incarceration, Mr. Jones graduated from Thornton Township High School in Harvey, Illinois. After high school he was working on and off as a machinist at a Steel Mill. At the time of his arrest, he was laid off from the steel mill and was working as a gas station attendant and as a security guard for Atlas Security.

Mr. Jones reports one health complaint with his left leg, which has poor blood circulation and arthritis. He was hit by a car at the age of 10 and his leg was crushed, which resulted in multiple surgeries and skin grafts. He does not report a history of mental health issues and appeared to be in good health at the time of our interview.

Mr. Jones was raised by his grandparents from 3 months of age, until the age of 9. At age nine he went to live with his mother and siblings. After he turned 18, he moved back in with his grandmother, until his arrest. While out on bond for 11 months on this case, he married his girlfriend, Valerie on 10/20/1976. They divorced three years later due to his incarceration. He has no children. He maintains contact with his mother, brother and sister. According to the most recent counselor's report his family has visited him 268 times.

2. Statement of Facts:

On February 29, 1976, a Sunday afternoon, Florence Whitten, age 13 was going to the store for her mother. As she passed the Essex Wire Company, a warehouse at 4545 W. Armitage,

she heard someone say come here. This person was identified as 20 year old, Bennie Jones, the security guard who was assigned to work at the Essex Wire Company warehouse. She was grabbed by the arm and around the neck and pulled into the building as she screamed. Once inside, Mr. Jones locked the door and dragged her screaming up a flight of stairs by her hair and into an office. In the office Mr. Jones raped her, then dragged her by her hair through the warehouse into a locker room. A scotchguard fabric protector from an aerosol can was sprayed into her face and she was stuffed into a locker, where he continued to spray the contents of the can into the locker. Mr. Jones left the locker room and a short time later returned with a steel pole in his hand. From the locker room he dragged her to the boiler room where he struck her with the metal pole. He then produced a knife and ordered Florence Whitten to slash her own wrist. When she refused he slashed her left wrist with the knife and left her in the boiler room with the door locked. He returned later and slashed her throat twice with the knife and as she cried and screamed he stabbed her several times in the chest, neck, and back and also kicked her. He also attempted to tie her hands together with some dirty rags. Miss Whitten testified at trial at that time she “slumped over and fell asleep”.

Later as Miss Whitten lay bleeding the defendant returned to see if she had in fact died by shining a flashlight in her eyes. She testified that, “I tried to pretend as if I was dead.” He kicked her and pushed her and then left the boiler room. She testified to several periods of unconsciousness interrupted by her attempts to leave the boiler room. She was found the next morning by some men who had entered the building to move some machinery. They called police. Miss Whitten was hospitalized for around two months and received multiple operations for her injuries. Medical testimony showed that when the complaint was admitted to the hospital she had, “big lacerations” in the front of her neck. There were also cuts on her windpipe, trachea, chest and back and on her left wrist. Her vagina had bruises and a marked swelling.

Inmate's Version:

Inmate stated that the day began with both his grandmother and him being cursed out, bullied, and called racially derogatory names by his white supervisor. His supervisor called multiple times telling him that he needed to work for the second day in a row, which was supposed to be his day off. He stated his supervisor threatened he would be fired, if he did not come into work. He agreed to go into work and relieved a female security guard. They talked for about an hour, and then her ride picked her up. He states that he was fuming about how the day had begun, and that he just wanted to hurt someone. He states that he stood at the front door and saw a white homosexual standing outside waiting for the bus. His plan was to hurt him, so he went and got a pipe and came back and watched him until he got on the bus. Shortly afterwards, Miss Whitten walked by and he yelled at her to see if she would go to the store for him. She said okay and he asked her to come inside. When she did, he locked the door behind her. He stated he first took her into the office and told her to take her clothes off and looked at her. He stated he thought of his grandmother and then told her to put her clothes back on. After she put her clothes on he hit her in the back of her head with the pipe and she stumbled, but did not lose consciousness. He told me if she would have been knocked out, he thinks he would have left. At this point, he states that he panicked, so he took her to the locker room and shoved her into the locker. He states that after putting her

in the locker, he called his supervisor and told him he needed to get someone out there so he could leave. He then began to walk around the warehouse and saw a knife. He went back to the locker room and sprayed scotch guard into the locker. Then got her out of the locker and walked around with her and finally they ended up in the boiler room. He pulled the knife out and stabbed her and left her there. Went back to the office and then went back to the boiler room and stabbed her some more. I asked him what was his intent when he went back the second time and he stated, "too be truthful, to kill her". After the second time, he went back to the office and called his supervisor again and telling him he was leaving. He states he went home and changed clothes. He was then arrested by the police the next day. Mr. Jones read a letter to me that he originally wrote on June 25, 2013, addressed to Mr. Diaz. There was also a copy of the letter in the file. When reading the letter he stated that he was sorry for the attempted murder of Florence Whitten, and he cannot apologize enough, but he cannot admit to raping her, because he did not commit this crime.

3. Case Procedural History:

Mr. Jones was arrested on March 1, 1976, after the police spoke with the victim. He was released after questioning, and then arrested again the next day. He was out on bond for 11 months, prior to the beginning of his trial. He was convicted by a jury of attempted murder, rape, and indecent liberties with a child. He was sentenced by Judge Robert Collins on June 1, 1977, to 50 to 100 years on each conviction. The indecent liberties with a child conviction was reversed on direct appeal on March 26, 1979, and just the attempted murder and rape convictions remained.

4. Criminal History:

No juvenile history.

Unlawful Use of a Weapon: Arrested roughly three weeks before this case, facts are he fired a gun at the legal guardian of his girlfriend or fired it into the air (conflicting accounts). He was sentenced on March 2, 1976, in Harvey, Illinois after he was arrested. This was a misdemeanor and he was fined \$100. (transcripts from the sentencing phase).

5. Institutional Adjustment

Mr. Jones is currently A grade, low escape risk. He has been housed at Dixon Correctional Center since 1/30/2002. He currently resides in Housing unit 112. This housing unit assignment requires excellent institutional adjustment. He has lived on that unit since 4/14/2003. Mr. Jones is currently unassigned, but is an inmate speaker for the Trac program. He speaks to new arrivals every Monday morning on the topic of problem identification and encourages them to identify their needs and then participate in programming. Mr. Jones is also a member of the violence prevention committee and presents a workshop every month with 4 other inmates. They pick a topic, prepare the

outline and present the material to roughly 100 other inmates. He is also an active participant in the "Hot Topics" group every month.

Mr. Jones has had roughly 50 disciplinary tickets since his admission to IDOC on 06/10/1977. His last three disciplinary tickets were all majors and were on 6/18/2001, for Intimidation or threats, 9/5/2002, for violation of the rules and 3/30/2013, for insolence. He has worked a variety of jobs in the institution such as in the hospital, dietary, visiting room, and education room at Danville, janitor, inmate barber, paint crew leader, Capitan's office specialist and Capitan's office book keeper.

Mr. Jones was previously affiliated with the gangster disciples and received multiple gang related tickets throughout the 80s and 90s. He states that in 1997, he cut ties with the gangster disciples (last gang related ticket was in 1994).

Accomplishments

Mr. Jones has earned an Associates of Arts degree from MacMurray College in communication and, he is 15 credits short of a bachelor's degree from Roosevelt. He states if paroled he plans to continue with his education and receive his bachelor's degree in sociology and psychology.

2014-Food Sanitation License

2013- First Aid and CPR certified.

September 15, 2008 to December 4, 2008, completed Lifestyle Re-direction Program, 96 hour program.

January 2009 to September 2009 - Trac 1 Speaker certificate of participation

October 2009 - Re-Entry Summit Participant

December 14, 2009 - Job Preparedness Program at Dixon Correctional Center

October 2009 to September 2011 - Participated as a Violence Prevention Peer Facilitator at Dixon Correctional Center

Cosmetology Certificate and Data Processing Certificate – did not have certificates (in parole packet).

Mr. Jones has never completed sex offender treatment.

6. Parole Plans:

Mr. Jones previous parole plans were to live with his mother. However, this year this is not an option. His mother, family members and family friends will still support him and financially assist him if needed. If released on parole his attorney has stated in the parole packet they submitted on his behalf, he can live with a family friend. Mr. Jessie Pinkston has a two bedroom apartment in Kankakee, Illinois. This residence has not been approved by IDOC, however per his counsel it should meet all of the requirements for sex offender placement.

Regarding employment, Mr. Jones has a job offer with W.R.E Consultants (Exhibit A) working as a full time laborer. He will be performing lead base paint removal. He will be given training for the position and an opportunity to obtain his license. Mr. Jones has also been accepted by the Kankakee County Branch of the NAACP Smart and Safe Program. He will be volunteering with the organization. He also has the opportunity to work and volunteer with Minister Mark Jones of Lost Souls Our Mission Ministries.

They operate Victory House which provides an 18 month treatment program from drugs and alcohol addiction. Mr. Jones also has letters of support to assist with his re-entry from the Michael Barlow Center through St. Leonard's Ministries, Lawrence Suffredin and the Safer Foundation. Winston and Strawn who represents Mr. Jones also has committed to assisting him if he is granted parole today.

There is recent protest from Cook County.

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

Motion to return to Open Session. (ADM – GT). Leave.

Member Harris stated a medical professional examined the victim and stated she was raped. The victim also testified that she was raped. He goes back and forth with his story.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney: There is no evidence on file as to if the victim was clothed when she was found.

Member Tyler stated this was an egregious offense. She has supported parole for Mr. Jones for many years because it seems he has been rehabilitated. She will continue to support him.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney: He has never admitted to the rape and has never received sex offender counseling. Also, the individuals he plans to parole to are ex-offenders.

Attorney General's Office: If released they would evaluate him for Sexually Violent Person status.

Ken Berry: In the victim's testimony she indicated Mr. Jones told her to put her clothes back on. They presume she was found clothed. The individuals willing to help him are now law abiding citizens. They feel as though the State's Attorney's office was brown beating. Mr. Jones is currently 59 years old and has an out date in 2019.

Member Crigler stated Inmate Jones has done well and she will continue to support him.

Member Findley stated he sees no value in other four or five years of incarceration for this petitioner.

Past votes were reviewed. It was noted Inmate Jones received one ticket last year for insolence.

Member Norton noted that he appreciates Inmate Jones' efforts to become rehabilitated; however, it is by the grace of God that this is an Attempt Murder case and not a Murder. His intent was to kill her.

7. Closing Thoughts:

JP: I have thought about this case a lot. The crime Mr. Jones committed was in my opinion a heinous brutal crime on a child, a 13 year old girl that was walking to the store for her mother. What she endured that day was horrible and the physical and emotional scars will always remain with her. On the other hand, Mr. Jones has worked hard while incarcerated obtaining his education, certificates and lives on the honor dorm. His attorney has done a good job securing him housing and wrap around services. However, it is my opinion to release Mr. Bennie Jones at this time would deprecate the seriousness of his offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny. (JP – DS). Motion carries 9 – 5. Voting in favor of the motion were Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Gregg, Johnson, Norton, Parrack, Shelton, Simmons and Chairman Monreal. Members Crigler, Diaz, Findley, Harris and Tyler dissented.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Michael Clark IDOC Number & Institution: C10666

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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.

Michael Clark was interviewed for parole on May 13, 2014 at Dixon Correctional Center. Other than Mr. Clark and Member Tyler, no one was present in support or protest of the parole petition.

The facts of the case are that Mr. Clark was convicted of one offense involving four murders in Cook County, Illinois, and one offense involving a murder and an attempt murder in Lake County, Illinois. He was also implicated in offenses in two other counties. Facts of the case were discussed.

At the time of the interview, Michael Clark was A Grade, low escape risk and minimum security.

Subsequent to the interview Mr. Clark received a disciplinary report that necessitated his being transferred to Lawrence Correctional Center. Mr. Clark was unassigned at the time of the interview, but has held many assignments during his transition through IDOC.

Parole plans were discussed.

Due to Mr. Clark's negative transfer, to recommend him for parole at this time would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole. (GT – EG). Leave.

Motion for a five year set. (EB – CF). Motion carried 11 – 3. Members Crigler, Findley and Tyler dissented.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Casper Rosario IDOC Number & Institution: C81085

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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.

Casper Rosario was interviewed for parole consideration on July 1, 2014 in Virginia. Factors considered by the Board included testimony of the inmate; a review of the inmate's record of arrests and convictions; and a review of his parole plan. Inmate Rosario was represented by counsel.

Inmate Rosario is currently serving consecutive 20 – 50 year sentences for two (2) murder convictions. Both Murders took place in Chicago and the incidents are, admittedly, gang-related. He was a known Latin King in the streets and while incarcerated.

On December 22, 1975, 18 year-old Benjamin Llamas was with a group of associates who were on the opposite side of the street from inmate Rosario. After shouting, "King Love," Rosario fired multiple gunshots at the victim or his group, striking the victim in the back. The victim died several days later but not before identifying inmate Rosario by name on two separate occasions. Witnesses also identified Rosario as the shooter. Inmate Rosario denies being present at the time of the shooting in his petition for parole, but during the interview stated he was the shooter. There have been several conflicting stories.

On February 19, 1976, Donald Lee Walls was a patron inside the Trackside Lounge located at 1758 North Washtenaw, a tavern where inmate Rosario and three other offenders, each of them masked, attempted a robbery. The offenders backed out of the tavern after Mr. Walls approached them holding a pool cue. Mr. Walls slammed the door shut. According to the official statement of facts, inmate Rosario ordered one of the other offenders, who complied, to fire his weapon (a .30 caliber rifle) into the door. The shot killed Mr. Walls. Each of the offenders was convicted on various charges. Although inmate Rosario denies having given the order to shoot, he otherwise admits his participation in the robbery attempt.

Inmate Rosario's institutional adjustment has been poor, with the exception of the last 2½ years. He has been the subject of transfers between twenty-four (24) state and federal institutions in four (4) states, including Illinois.

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

Motion to return to open session. (DS – ADM). Leave.

DS: During the interview in Virginia, Inmate Rosario was attentive. He stated he was a Latin King while at Stateville and Pontiac. He stated he has been out of the gang life since 1995. He had a terrible start to life in the institution and committed major offenses. He has been all over the state and the country in and out of multiple institutions. He has a history of violent behavior.

Discussion: Up until the mid-nineties, DOC didn't know what to do with the gang bangers. Then the hammer came down and the gang bangers were forced to go underground. A lot of them said they renounced but just to DOC. Previous votes were discussed.

Jean Snyder, attorney for the petitioner, stated that while at Red Onion and Keen Mountain he has been able to be out of his cell most of the day. The staff members speak respectfully of him. Also, Casper said he did not shoot Benji. He entered prison at age 18 and he was a gang member. Prison was wild and loose in those days. He had to be a Latin King to survive. The prisons were controlled by the gangs. That is why he got a lot of tickets. He was on the DOC circuit rider program for years. The prison should make all records available to her.

Member Shelton wrote down word for word what is in his file.

Member Findley told Ms. Snyder she knows everything about his file that the PRB knows.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney McCarthy stated Inmate Rosario is still denying responsibility. He is not rehabilitated. He was convicted of being the shooter. The victim identified him before he died. He has killed three people. Two himself and a third he orchestrated and ordered. They are strenuously opposed to parole and to do so would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

DS: Given the nature of the crimes and record of institutional infractions, Mr. Shelton indicated he could not support parole at this time and to do so he believes would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole. (DS – CF). Motion carries 9-5. Voting in favor of the motion were Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Gregg, Johnson, Norton, Parrack, Shelton, Simmons and Chairman Monreal. Members Crigler, Diaz, Findley, Harris and Tyler dissented.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Donald Woodruff

IDOC Number & Institution: C72940

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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 Crigler presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Member Edith L. Crigler at Dixon Correctional Center interviewed inmate Donald Woodruff at Stateville Correction Center. Present were the following:

Ronald woodruff (Brother)
Frederick Koger (Friend)
Kelley Tibble (Attorney)
Mark Hersh (Attorney)

Inmate Donald Woodruff is serving 75-100 years for one murder, 60-100 years for a second murder, 15-30 years for armed robbery, 15-30 years for aggravated kidnapping, 3-10 years for theft, 1-3 for unlawful use of weapon and 10 years for aggravated battery. All sentences to run concurrently for the crimes committed in 1975. The 1979 10 years for aggravated battery of a correctional officer is a consecutive sentence.

On February 11, 1977, at approximately 1:00am, in the area of 79th and Morgan Street in Chicago, codefendant Jones, armed with a sawed off shotgun approached Derek Smith with the intention of stealing Smith's 1973 Buick. Inmate Woodruff acted as a lookout. Jones ordered Smith into the vehicle at gunpoint and told to drive. During the course of this action, Smith grabbed the barrel of the shotgun and it discharged. Smith suffered a gunshot wound to the leg, but was able to flee from the vehicle. Woodruff and inmate Jones then fled in Smith's vehicle and drove to Champaign, Illinois.

On February 14, 1977, the inmate and co-offender Jones drove Smith's car to Clinton, IL, with the plan to steal another vehicle. While in Clinton, they spotted a white Pontiac Firebird belonging to Tony Fairchild. As Fairchild approached his vehicle, both offenders approached him with Jones brandishing his shotgun. After being told that they wanted his car, Fairchild quickly put the keys in the vehicle and locked the doors. Both offenders became angry, ordered Fairchild into the Buick and drove away. They then drove approximately ten miles outside of Clinton to a deserted country road where they forced Fairchild out of the vehicle and told him to

lie face down on the ground. He was then shot in the back of the head, and the blast nearly decapitated him. After killing Fairchild, money and personal property was removed from his body. Then both offenders drove away in the Buick and returned to Champaign County.

On February 15, 1977, inmate Woodruff and co-offender Jones were still in Champaign when they entered the University Avenue Auto Sales and encountered Richard Ogden, who was assistant sales manager. Once inside, they ordered Ogden at gunpoint to provide the keys and title to an Oldsmobile on the sales lot. Ogden complied and was taken to a storage room in the back of the facility, and shot in the back of the head with the shotgun. After murdering Ogden, The inmate and his co-offender took an Oldsmobile from and lot and \$800.00 from the register. The Oldsmobile broke down approximately one block from the sales lot, so they went to a local hotel in the area. While requesting the company of two females from outside the area, police investigators intervened and both offenders were arrested and subsequently charged. On August 26, 1977, inmate Woodruff was sentenced in Champaign County for murder as previously stated. Six days later, he was sentenced in DeWitt County.

Inmate Woodruff's version of the offenses was discussed and it was noted his appeals have been affirmed. His prior criminal history was reviewed. He is currently unassigned and said he is a victim of the correctional officers and officials preventing him from writing his book.

Inmate Woodruff's attorney stated his codefendant Percy Lee Jones was the shooter in both murders.

Motion to enter executive session. (ADM – JP). Leave.

Motion to return to open session. (DS – ADM). Leave.

Inmate Woodruff's attorney offered clarifications and corrections. Percy Lee Jones was paroled two years ago. Inmate Woodruff was 19 years old at the time of the offense. Jones was the shooter.

EC: Institutional adjustment has been OK. He had one ticket in 2013 for extortion, bribery and intimidation. Inmate Woodruff claims it was a conspiracy against him. His attorney claims he is a paralegal and got on the wrong side with the staff in the library and they set him up. Inmate Woodruff claims he was with Jones and they were drinking and smoking. He claims Percy was the shooter. He claims he was in the car for the first murder and was across the street for the second. He says he was afraid of Percy. She believes he has been rehabilitated. Member Findley noted the heartfelt letters on file from other inmates. He has helped a lot of people. His MSR date is in 2123.

Motion to grant parole. (EC – GT). Motion does not carry. Voting in favor of the motion were Members Crigler, Findley and Tyler. Members Blackman-Donovan, Bowers, Diaz, Gregg, Harris, Johnson, Norton, Parrack, Shelton, Simmons and Chairman Monreal dissented.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: John Goodwin

IDOC Number & Institution: L03937

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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 Diaz presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Interview: 15 July 2014, 0925 hours, Dixon CC, present were Mr.

Goodwin and the reporting PRB member.

Sentence: Murder (50-100 yrs), Armed Robbery (25-50 yrs), Concurrently.

Projected Max. Discharge: 12 July 2017; PRB Hearings: 29th time before the PRB

The Event: On 15 March 1975, 19 year old John Goodwin was driven by friends to the apt. of acquaintance John Murphy in an effort to purchase marijuana so as to continue a party he had been having with his friends. Mr. Murphy was not home, his wife had met Goodwin at an earlier date, and allowed him into the apt. Once inside, he ordered Mrs. Murphy to disrobe, tied her to a bedpost with an extension cord. He apparently searched for marijuana, found \$16.00 dollars, and then proceeded to stab Mrs. Murphy several times. The number of stab wounds has differed and ranged from 25 to 52. Goodwin himself has stated that he doesn't recall the number of times he stabbed Mrs. Murphy. Once finished, he wiped the knife clean threw it into a closet and exited the apartment.

A short time later, he realized he had left his wallet at the Murphy apartment, returned, had to break the glass of the back door in order to get in. He found his wallet and again exited the apartment and was observed leaving the apartment by building resident Earnest Wagner who had responded to the sound of breaking glass.

Goodwin was arrested two days later; eventually was found mentally unfit to stand trial and was sent Manteno State Hospital. He returned to his old neighborhood, was arrested two days later and returned to Manteno. He escaped a second time so as to attend his mother's funeral and was gone for sixteen months. Arrested in Schaumburg for traffic violations and returned to Manteno. Four days later he once again left Manteno and travelled to Haytie Mississippi where his aunt turned him in. Shortly thereafter he was found good to stand trial and in 1980 was sent to the IDOC with the present Murder and Armed Robbery sentence.

Institutional Adjustment

- Now in his 34th year of incarceration
- At Dixon since March 2008 (6 years)
- Resides in the Honor Unit, "A" classification, low escape risk.
- Presently is a Floor Crew Specialist, staff describes him as a reliable and good worker.
- Earned his GED in 1985, is one class short of an ALS degree (Adult Literary Studies).
- Certificates in: Construction, Safety Sanitation, Custodial Management, Welding, Culinary Arts, Auto/Diesel Mechanics.

The Event: relates that he was under the influence of “Window Pane” (LSD), clearly not in his right frame of mind when he committed the crime. “Didn’t know he had stabbed the victim as he had”.

Remorse: “every day he regrets what he did, he feels shamed, thinks about it constantly, carries it every day”. “Can’t take it back, but has attempted to make a better person of himself”.

Parole Plan: to his sister’s home in Cicero, Illinois, has job available with his nephew (Michael Younger).

Member Blackman-Donovan noted that the crime is horrific, but listening to Member Diaz’s presentation, it is clear there was a mental health issue. He was 19 years old and on drugs. He was found unfit to stand trial.

Cook County Assistant State’s Attorney McCarthy stated the victim’s mother is now deceased, but when she was living she was always vehemently opposed to parole. The victim was 19 years old and was four months pregnant.

Decision: There is no doubt that Mr. Goodwin has comported himself well within the institution. Taking advantage of educational offerings and compiling several certifications which will help him upon his return to the community. Staff speaks well of him; he expounds appropriate remorse for the life he took and presented as a well-spoken, clear of thought, insightful individual. Were it not for the heinous nature of the identified event which brought him to the institution, it would be easy to recommend him for parole. However, in this member’s assessment, at this time, to recommend parole would deprecate the damage inflicted upon the victim.

Motion to deny parole. (SD – EB). Motion carries 13 – 1. Member Blackman-Donovan dissented.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Eugene Horton

IDOC Number & Institution: C01581

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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 Harris presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Inmate Eugene Horton C-Case 01581, age 63 born on June 13, 1950 to James (91) and Ruth June Horton (deceased in 1974). He has 3 brothers; (1) deceased and 2 sisters; (1) deceased. Inmate Horton is currently housed at Menard Correctional Facility. Inmate Eugene Horton was convicted for the crimes of Murder in 1971 (100-150 years) and Armed Robbery in 1983 (60 years). He was paroled in 1982 during the time of the latest offense. He has currently been incarcerated for 31 years for the latest offense of Armed Robbery. His last board hearing was in 1984. Inmate Horton has been incarcerated for a total of 42 years.

Eugene Horton was convicted of murdering Terry Tomalak in 1971. He was paroled on that murder sentence on January 25, 1983 after serving 12 years in prison. Within 6 months of his parole, he committed an armed robbery and was returned to prison for a 60-year determinative sentence. This is the first time he has again been eligible for parole relating to his 1971 murder sentence.

On July 30, 1983, inmate Eugene Horton stopped Eustace Roland, the victim claiming he needed help getting his car started. Mr. Roland pulled over and the Inmate Horton pulled out a gun and got into the victim's car. Mr. Roland was able to flee and notify the police. The inmate was arrested twenty minutes later inside of the victim's car and still in possession of his loaded gun. The inmate confessed to the police and an assistant state's attorney. He was charged with armed robbery. Inmate Horton was convicted after a jury trial and received 60 years extended term sentence based on his previous murder conviction.

According the latest report from clinical services, Inmate Horton has had numerous transfers during his incarceration including placement in Tamms CC from 3/98-3/05 and from 12/07-6/11 at which he was moved to Pontiac CC then to Menard to Lawrence and back to Menard on 8/8/12. Inmate Horton has had poor disciplinary history throughout his incarceration with over 9 pages of IDR's. His major infractions include staff assaults,

dangerous disturbances, gang activity, and drug paraphernalia of which he received 6 months in segregation. He is currently in segregation and during the time of the interview. His most recent ticket was April 14, 2014 for gang and unauthorized organization activity. He received 180 days at C grade level.

Inmate Horton states that he requested to be in segregation for safety reasons. He states the leader of the gang threatened to kill him. Inmate Horton was involved in a gang from 1971 to 1986.

His last visit was May 22, 2014 by both of his brothers on his behalf: oldest brother James Horton, 68 and middle brother George Horton, 66 who was also convicted of the murder of Terry Tomalak. He served 34 years for the crime. If paroled, Eugene Horton can reside with his oldest brother James Horton in Dolton, IL. Inmate Horton states that he suffers from post-traumatic stress. He is not receiving treatment while in the facility. Amended: Inmate Horton states that he has been diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder in June 9, 2014.

Cook County Assistant State's Attorney McCarthy stated the murder victim was a social worker for Public Aid who went to the location to speak to a client. Inmate Horton and his codefendant beat the victim and stabbed him as he begged for his life. They stole \$15.00, a tape recorder and a camera.

Inmate Horton has not displayed the behavior of a man deserving parole. He continues to obtain tickets for gang activity and disobeying direct orders. In the interview, he was forthright about the Armed Robbery or his involvement with the murder of Terry Tomalak. Therefore, it is my opinion to parole Inmate Eugene Horton would deprecate the seriousness of the crime committed while released on parole 12 days prior, and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole. (VH – GT). Motion carries 14 – 0.

Board Members also noted they did not believe they would vote for parole for the next three years.

Motion for a three-year set. (WN – GT). Motion carries 14-0.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Leon Bolton

IDOC Number & Institution: C01871

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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 Findley presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Interviewed 7/6/25/14 at WIL, petitioner is convicted of the rape and murder of a Kankakee Co woman, suspected of the robbery and shooting of a bread truck driver-- all at the age of 18 years. His sentence in 1990 for a term of 90-150 years was initially reversed, remanded and later reinstated upon retrial. Three codefendants who received lesser sentences have been paroled and a third suspect, a juvenile was not tried.

His early prison life was marked by many disciplinary reports that included more than 1380 GCC revocations and more than 300 restorations. He received a two year consecutive sentence in 1996 for possession of cannabis, and was placed in segregation for 30 days after fighting with a cellmate last year.

He was a long-time member and high ranking member of the Gangster Disciples but says he has for years attempted to renounce his STG membership. He has a history of juvenile aggression but no convictions prior to the instant offense of murder and rape.

This was his 30th parole hearing and his 43rd year of incarceration. His projected discharge year is 2041. He has never received a vote. Mr. Bolton will be 62 years old in October and is treated for hypertension and diabetes.

Petitioner, three other adults and a juvenile on the evening of Dec 15, 1970 went to rural Pembroke residence of Mrs. Bernice Vanzant and her young children. The victim was raped, then bound, gagged and taken to a wooded area near her home where she was shot and killed. It is unclear who fired the fatal shots from a rifle and handgun, but Bolton says his guilty and that he participated in the sexual assault. "All of us went to the woods, we were all drinking."

"I knew her husband. It was just something that happened," he explains.

Petitioner has taken excellent advantage of educational opportunities while incarcerated, earning a GED, an AAS in construction technology and other certificates. Mr. Bolton has worked regularly until transfer to WIL 7 years ago and says he has been unable to win any requested job assignments.

He likes to play chess and spend time in the yard.

He expresses apparently sincere remorse for this crime and demonstrates a calm demeanor, acceptance of responsibility and makes no excuses for his actions. "I always ask the Lord for forgiveness"

Petitioner says, "I feel that I have done enough time, that I am not really the person I was when that happened and I have no desire to commit crimes."

DOC records indicate he is approved for parole to the Kankakee residence of his sister, Priscilla Bolton.

Motion to deny parole in that to grant would deprecate the seriousness of the offense and promote disrespect for the law. (CF – EB).

Motion carries 14 – 0.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Mark Smith

IDOC Number & Institution: C10587

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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: Chairman Monreal presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

IDOC Facility: Pontiac Correctional Facility

Interview Date: July 22, 2014

Persons Present for Interview: APM & Inmate Smith.

Projected Release Date: 7/13/2220.

Maximum Release Date: 10/13/2221(Illinois).

State of Arkansas: Life Sentence.

1. CURRENT STATUS:

Inmate Mark Allen Smith is a male Caucasian with a date of birth of June 27, 1949. He is 65 years of age and has been incarcerated for the past 44 years. The date of incarceration was December 9, 1970. Inmate Smith was born in Illinois. He is the son of Mr. Charles Gilbert Smith and Mrs. Delores Rechlin. Inmate Smith has 4 siblings: Steve, Margaret, Patty and Susan. Inmate Smith has a military background with the United States Army. Inmate Smith's Father was a United States Marine. The parents separated between the ages of 2-3 whereby his mother became his primary caregiver. Inmate Smith grew up in McHenry County, Illinois and attended high school through his sophomore year. Inmate Smith became eligible for parole consideration in 1983. Inmate Smith has refused the parole interview process for the past 9 years. Inmate Smith has never received a favorable vote and has received consistent 3 year sets since becoming eligible for parole.

2. STATEMENT OF FACTS/CASE:

Inmate Smith is currently serving an aggregate sentence of 448 to 500 years of imprisonment in the State of Illinois. The Illinois State convictions were as follows:

- Murder 50 to 100 years, Cook County.
 - Murder 199 to 200 years, McHenry County. Consecutive.
 - Murder 199 to 200 years, McHenry County. Consecutive.
 - Attempted Escape (1977) 6 to 18 years Randolph County. (Pontiac Correctional Facility). Consecutive.
-
- State of Arkansas (Murder) inmate Smith faces a life sentence. If he were to be paroled by the State of Illinois he would be transferred to the State of Arkansas to complete his life sentence.

Inmate Smith was convicted in the State of Illinois, in the Counties of Cook and McHenry for the following murders;

A. Janice Louise Bolyard, (22yoa) (Cook County):

On 2-27-70 the victim and inmate Smith were both employees at Resin Research Laboratory at the Desoto Chemical Company in Mt. Prospect, Illinois. Both were working in the late evening hours whereby inmate Smith followed the victim into the basement area of the laboratory. Inmate Smith confronted the victim with sexual advances and she resisted. Inmate Smith began to beat the victim. Inmate Smith proceeded to place a stronghold on the victim whereby she lapsed into unconsciousness. He then dragged the victim into a different room in the basement whereby he removed her undergarments. After removing her tampon, he preceded rape the victim. After the rape, inmate Smith took the panty hose he had removed from the victim and tied them around her neck and strangled the victim to death. The victim was discovered on 2-28-70 after she had been reported missing by her fiancé. The autopsy of the victim revealed evidence vaginal and rectal trauma. Inmate Smith was sentenced to 50 to 100 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for this offense.

B. On May 28, 1970 inmate Smith was arrested for two murders in McHenry County, Illinois. During the course of the investigation inmate Smith confessed to the aforementioned murder of Ms. Bolyard. Regarding the McHenry murders the following evidence was discovered:

- Jean Irene Bianchi (27 yoa) (McHenry County):

On the date of 1-27-1970, the victim was a wife and a mother of a 22 month daughter and a five year son. On that fatal evening she went to as local laundry mat to wash the family's clothes. In evening hours she called her husband and informed him that she

would be home shortly. She never arrived. Three days later her beaten and battered body was found under a bridge in a local stream. During the course of the investigation evidence revealed that inmate Smith stabbed the victim approximately seven-teen times in the areas of her head, neck, and chest cavity and back. The evidence revealed evidence of vaginal trauma. During the course of the investigation, inmate Smith admitted to the murder and rape. Furthermore, inmate Smith informed the investigators that after rapping the victim he dumped her body in a local stream and noticed she was still alive. He stated that he returned to where he had dumped the body a forced his fist up her vagina. Thereafter, he pulled her shirt over her head and continued to stab the victim puncturing her lungs. He stated that he actually heard them collapse. Inmate Smith eventually dumped the body back into the stream so she would drown. Inmate Smith was sentenced to 199-200 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The sentence was ordered consecutive to the aforementioned sentence.

- Jean Ann Lingenfelter (17 yoa),

On 5-27-1970, at approximately 6 pm the victim left her home to study with a friend in the neighborhood. She left the friend's home at approximately at 8pm thereafter to meet inmate Smith. She was last seen entering inmate Smith's vehicle. The victim was reported missing and her body was discovered days later. The autopsy revealed that the victim was strangled to death and her body had been severely beaten. There was evidence of a sexual assault to the vagina and to the rectum. During the course of the investigation, inmate Smith admitted that after he strangled, murdered and raped the victim he dumped the lifeless body into the trunk of his

vehicle. Inmate Smith further admitted that he inserted a beer bottle into her vagina and thereafter directed the bottle toward her rectum. Inmate Smith was sentenced to 199-200 years of incarceration in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The sentence was ordered consecutive to the aforementioned sentences.

- C. Ms. Obie Faye Ash, (20 yoa) (Arkansas Murder):
On 12-3-1969, inmate Smith abducted the victim raped, strangled and stabbed the victim to death while in Mountain Home, Arkansas. On March 18, 1971, inmate Smith entered into a stipulated bench trial whereby he admitted to the murder of Ms. Ash. According to the available records as to this case, on 3/18/1971 a life sentence was imposed on case number DK1969-766 in Baxter County, Arkansas.
- D. Escape from Pontiac Correctional Facility:
On April 22, 1977, inmate Smith had previously prepared to escape from the Pontiac Correctional Facility. A facility check revealed inmate Smith in the boiler room preparing to escape. On 9-16-1977 inmate Smith entered a guilty plea for the offense. Inmate Smith was sentenced to 6 to 18 years in Randolph County, Illinois. The sentenced was consecutive to the aforementioned sentences.
- E. In 1969, inmate Smith was enlisted in the United States Army and stationed in the country of Germany. Inmate Smith is suspected of 3 to 8 murders of female victims in the country of Germany during his period of enlistment. Finally, the record indicates that inmate Smith was court-marshaled in 1967 for an assault on four African-American co-Army members.

F. INMATE VERSION:

Inmate Smith does not dispute the facts and circumstances that led to his current incarceration. What he does dispute is that he only committed 2 murders in Germany and not three to eight that he has been accused of committing. Originally, inmate Smith signed a waiver form with the correctional authorities indicating that he was waiving his interview as he

has done in past years. I introduced myself and inquired as to the waiver. Inmate Smith stated “why bother I am not going to ever be paroled”. I informed inmate Smith that the option was his. Inmate Smith stated that he had a few things to tell me. The interview began regarding inmate

Smith’s social information, family and upbringing. Inmate Smith stated that he would like to continue the interview and the interview continued.

During the course of the interview I questioned why he committed all of these heinous murders of women, inmate Smith stated that he is no longer the young, stupid, unconscionable person that he was in his youth. He stated that he has changed but realizes that it too late.

G. CASE PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

Inmate Smith pled guilty to the aforementioned offenses. According to inmate Smith there is no pending litigation in relation to his criminal convictions or sentences.

He has never filed a clemency petition or a request for a commutation of his sentence. Inmate Smith informed me that he realizes that he will never be a free man.

H. PRIOR CRIMINAL HISTORY:

- (i) **Adult:** the aforementioned criminal convictions consist of inmate Smith’s adult prior criminal history.
- (ii) **Juvenile:** at the age of 7, inmate Smith’s mother remarried and the family relocated to McHenry County. Inmate Smith attended the local grade school however inmate Smith was having difficulties with anger and the transition to a new location. According to the available records, at the age of 8, at school, inmate Smith became angry with another student and stabbed the student numerous times in the back after he became angry. As a consequence of the incident, inmate Smith was sent to a psychiatrist.

I. INSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT:

- **Certificates:** Vocational, Artistry (he states that he is very good artist) and photography.

- **Educational Advancement:** According to inmate Smith, prior to his incarceration he went as far as a sophomore in high school. During the years of his incarceration, inmate Smith has completed his GED and has an Associate's Degree. Furthermore, inmate Smith stated that he is a few hours short of completing his Bachelor's Degree.
- **Institutions:** Pontiac, Statesville and Menard.
- **Current Grade:** Protective custody, A grade, maximum security and designated as a high escape risk due to an attempted escape in 1970.
- **Assignments:** Inmate Smith is currently unassigned as he is in protective custody. During the years of his incarceration he has held assignments in janitorial, lifers, baker, merchandise store, hospital/health assistant, plumbing, maintenance and welder and according to inmate Smith any other assignment that was made available within the institution.
- **IDRs:** During the years of incarceration between 1971 to 1977, inmate Smith acquired 27 IDRs. Most were categorized as major ranging from contraband, weapons, drugs and insolence. During the years of 1985 to 2008, inmate Smith acquired 14 IDRs. Inmate Smith most recent IDR was in 2008 for assaulting another inmate (major).
- Lost Time:

J. FAMILY HISTORY:

During the course of the interview I questioned inmate Smith about his family contact. Inmate Smith stated that he has no real brothers or sisters but did have a step-brother and sister early in life. He does not maintain contact with any family members. Thereafter, inmate Smith stated he did not want to continue this part of the conversation.

K. RELEASE / PAROLE PLANS:

Inmate Smith does not have any parole plans and accepts the fact that he will never live in a free society again. He has never attempted to develop a formidable parole plan in light of the extent of his criminal convictions. Inmate Smith informed me that he has currently served 44 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Inmate Smith further recognizes that he currently has a pending life sentence in the State of Arkansas. What inmate Smith requested was that he be transferred to the State of Arkansas. He stated that he has spent

enough time in the Illinois correctional system and has completed everything within the State's correctional system.

L. CONCLUSION:

The interview of inmate Mark Alan Smith was very interesting. In preparing for the interview I recognized that inmate Smith had previously refused to be interviewed by other Board members. Inmate Smith is very sharp, decisive, articulate and an educated man. However, as most serial murderers, inmate Smith has been diagnosed as a sociopath and had demonstrated a lack of respect for authority and human life. To parole inmate Smith would seriously deprecate the seriousness of his offenses, promote disrespect for the law and I believe that he would not comply with reasonable conditions of parole. Therefore, it is my opinion that the parole request for inmate Mark Alan Smith C-10587 should be denied.

Motion to deny parole. (ADM – DS). Motion carries 14 – 0.

Board Members also indicated they would not vote for this petitioner within the next five years.

Motion for a five year set. (ABD – DS). Motion carries 14 – 0.

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

Illinois Prisoner Review Board
EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION August 28, 2014

Inmate Name: Thomas Fuller

IDOC Number & Institution: C10244

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open En Banc session at 319 E. Madison Street, Springfield, IL, on August 28, 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 Harris nreal presented a summary of the parole interview and a review of all file materials.

Inmate Thomas Charles Fuller II, C-Case 10244, age 65: born December 27, 1949 in Mattoon, IL. Waived his rights to an interview on **July 1, 2014**. However, I did interview the family of the Cox family whose protests were insistent that their families and protests supporters would never see the day that he is released from prison.

Inmate Thomas Charles Fuller II was convicted for the crime of Multiple Murder for the deaths of 5 children from the Cox family. He was sentenced to 70-99 years on 3countsCC, 2countsCS to total 140-198 years on December 10, 1968. He has served thus far, 46 years.

On the 27th day of April in 1968, Inmate Thomas Charles Fuller, II knowingly and without lawful justification and with intent to kill, shot Edward Louis Cox, Theresa Jean Cox, Mary Catherine Cox, Gary Lee Cox, and Kenneth Winford Cox with a .22 caliber pistol. The victims were all brothers and sisters of his girlfriend, Louise Cox. The children's ages ranged from 5- 16 years old. (I would like to note that Edward Louis Cox was the eldest child murdered and the twin brother of Louise.)

Following the arraignment, and plea of not guilty, upon order of the Court, the defendant was examined by two qualified psychiatrist and one qualified psychologist, appointed by the court, to determine if Inmate Thomas Fuller be mentally competent to stand trial. After the examination, they reported that he was fully able to understand the nature of charges, the consequences if found guilty and the ability to cooperate with counsel. During that time, the study of evidence, as well as the court's observation revealed him to be of neat and personable appearance. He was free from any drugs or under any influences. During the examination, at times Thomas Fuller was not completely cooperative, but he did openly discuss his home and school life. It included his association with the Cox family, particularly his relationship and affection for Louise Cox. He disclosed his frustration arising out of opposition by Louise's parents to their marriage as well as his dislike for Louise's brother Louis. Inmate Fuller's version of the

tragic occurrence and his explanation as to why he committed the horrendous offense was that he was freeing Louise from what he termed as “undue oppression from her parents so he and Louise could get married.

Inmate Fuller had ambitions of becoming a writer. He kept a journal that he used to write novels and poetry. He also displayed, through writing his pent up feelings of anger, passion, and at times humor. The psychologist reports states that his writing dealt with fantasy tending towards the morbid side of life, and ranging from a display of insecurity and immaturity. Dr. Satten diagnosed Inmate Fuller as suffering from latent schizophrenia, otherwise described as pseudo-psychopath which is a personality disorder characterized by anti-social behavior along with diminished empathy and remorse. His journal also disclosed built up feelings against the Cox family except for Louise and Timmy (age 15) at the time. In his journal he found expressions indicating a plan to dispose of the entire family, except Louise, and then fleeing to Canada with her. He felt that her family was persecuting Louise.

On the morning of April 27, 1968, there was a scuffle with Inmate Fuller, Louis, and two younger siblings. Shortly after the scuffle all of the gentlemen went outside behind the barn to shoot birds. That’s when he first shot Louis and then Gary and Kenneth. The shooting of Gary and Kenneth seems to have arisen out of fear that they would report the shooting of Louis. After he shot all three brothers, he went inside the house for a glass of water and then talked with Louise. He even brought Louise a bucket of water from the pump outside. There soon, he went out into the yard where Theresa, and Mary were playing. He asked them if they liked rats and took them to the crib where he shot and killed them both.

Inmate Fuller transferred to Graham CC on 9/24/80. Since his last PRB appearance in 2008, Inmate Fuller has been employed as a skilled worker in the clothing room. He hasn’t received any disciplinary reports since his last PRB appearance and has maintained his “A” grade status. He had two minor tickets at Graham in 2003 and another in 2007 for the same offense: contraband/unauthorized property, he received verbal reprimands for both.

Inmate Fuller receives visits from his mother every few months. He corresponds through the mail and other family members. Inmate Fuller has adjusted positively to his environment over the time he has been incarcerated. He goes to work each day, performs assigned duties and remains anonymous. He keeps to himself as he lives out each day. If paroled, Inmate Fuller plans to reside with his brother, Sean Fuller, in Rockland, ME.

After a complete review of relevant and available file information: statement of facts, testimonies of the psychologist and psychiatrists, the journals written by Inmate Fuller, and the admission of a strong dislike for the Cox family.

Inmate Fuller has been the given the opportunity to exercise his rights to a hearing but he refuses any attempt to show the board that the immature Thomas Charles Fuller II who committed that heinous crime in 1968 is now a changed man and can be of some

use to society, if granted parole. Therefore, it is my opinion that to parole Inmate Thomas Charles Fuller, II would deprecate the seriousness of the crime committed and promote disrespect for the law.

Motion to deny parole. (VH – WS). Motion carries 14 – 0.

Board Members also indicated they would not vote for this petitioner in the next five years.

Motion for a five year set. (VH – WN). Motion carries 14 – 0.

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