



STATE OF ILLINOIS
 BRUCE RAUNER, GOVERNOR
PRISONER REVIEW BOARD

Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET: MEETING OF APRIL 26, 2018

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 319 E. Madison, Suite A, Springfield, Illinois, on April 26, 2018, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for the following inmates:

C01252	Carl Reimann
L11109	Paul Bryant
C64129	Richard Baske
C90899	Harrison Chancy
C10727	Ruben Taylor
L02079	Donald Grant

The meeting was called to order by Craig Findley.
 Roll call was taken by the Recording Secretary: Robynn Davis

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Ms. Edith Crigler	X	
Mr. Salvador Diaz	X	
Mr. Donald Wayne Dunn	X	
Mr. Pete Fisher	X	
Ms. Vonetta Harris	X	
Ms. Ellen Johnson	X	
Mr. Tom Johnson	X	
Ms. Virginia Martinez	X	
Mr. William Norton		X
Mrs. Aurthur Mae Perkins	X	
Mr. Donald Shelton	X	
Mr. Ken Tupy	X	
Chairman Craig Findley	X	

12 Members Present

Meeting was adjourned (TJ - PF). Leave.
 Submitted by: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary



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**EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— APRIL 26, 2018**

Inmate Name: **Carl Reimann**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C01252**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 319 E. Madison, Suite A, Springfield, Illinois, on April 26, 2018 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Carl Reimann, IDOC #C01252.

Members present were: E. Crigler, S. Diaz, D.W. Dunn, C. Findley, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, T. Johnson, V. Martinez, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, and K. Tupy.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Member T. Johnson presented the case of Carl Reimann to the Board. Carl Reimann was interviewed on March 15, 2018, at the Dixon Correctional Center. Present at the interview were Board Member T. Johnson, Ken Berry (a paralegal from Winston and Strawn), and a long-time friend of Reimann from the Hinsdale Covenant Church.

Carl Reimann is currently 77 years of age, and has served a total of 46 years in prison. Currently, his MSR release date is scheduled for October of 2036. He has received votes in the past as follows: five votes in 2017, two votes in 2013, and one vote in both 2009 and 2010. Carl Reimann has a criminal history that includes a Burglary charge in 1962 with no disposition; a Contributing to the Sexual Delinquency of a Minor charge in 1966 with no disposition. He was also charged with Armed Robbery and felonious Assault on a Police Officer in Omaha in 1968. He was sentenced to five years; after his release he violated his parole and was recommitted to serve the balance of his sentence. Finally, in December of 1972, he was charged with his current offenses of Armed Robbery and Murder. He received a sentence of 20-60 years for the Armed Robbery Charge and 50-150 years for the Murders.

Member T. Johnson stated that the crimes occurred on December 29, 1972. At approximately 10:15 p.m., Carl Reimann and Betty Piche entered the Pine Valley Restaurant and Lounge after consuming several drinks. Carl Reimann pulled out a .32 automatic from Betty Piche's purse and commenced holding the three employees and two patrons of the restaurant at gun point while Betty Piche cleaned the cash out of the cash register and cash box from behind the bar. During the robbery, John Cantrell, his four children, and his son's girlfriend entered the bar. They were also held at gunpoint by Reimann as Piche continued to remove the money from the bar. Once Piche removed the money, Reimann began shooting. Eight shots in total were fired; four of which struck the three employees of the Pine Valley Restaurant and Lounge, one struck a patron in the head causing death, and two struck the back of another patron also causing death. Reimann and Piche left the restaurant carrying the bank bag, which was later discovered in their vehicle. The two parties fled the scene and were apprehended approximately 30 minutes later by



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the Morris Police Department. The five people shot at the Pine Valley Restaurant and Lounge included a sixteen-year-old girl and a man in his seventies.

Member T. Johnson reviewed Carl Reimann's institutional adjustment and found that he is currently A-grade, minimum security, and low escape risk. He has been a member of the hospice group at Dixon Correctional Center for over 24 years. Since arriving at Dixon in 1986, he has only received seven major IDRs and six minor IDRs. His latest SPIN assessment classified him as minimal risk with overall high strengths. Overall his SPIN assessment was positive, with no real negative variables.

Member T. Johnson stated that Carl Reimann told him that the precise turnaround moment in his life occurred in February of 1988 when he attended a Salvation Army service at Dixon Correctional Center, where he had a deep and personal conversion. Member T. Johnson noted that Reimann's record and actions since that date confirm the consistent reality of that experience, beginning with very few disciplinary infractions since that date.

Reimann has received consistent good reviews by the Board with rationales often referring to his exceptional work. Member T. Johnson provided the following examples of this work: Reimann spent twelve years working with Reverend Marrandino, the Chaplin at Dixon; he spent 24 years volunteering for and being a vital part of Dixon's hospice program; and he has remained an active participant in church services and leads informal Bible studies. In addition, the spouse of one victim has met with and forgiven Reimann for his actions.

Carl Reimann is divorced and has three children, whom he has no contact with. He has a sister in Mississippi, with whom he has periodic contact via mail. Reimann does receive visits at Dixon from friends. Member T. Johnson advised that, since 1988, Carl Reimann has continued to express deep sorrow and remorse for his actions and fully understands that he may never be released.

Member T. Johnson commented that Carl Reimann has a solid parole plan and that a member of Hinsdale Covenant Church has offered his home as a parole site. The potential host stated that he would work closely with Reimann in his readjustment to society. Reimann will also find great support among members of the church, which the pastor has confirmed. Reimann would like to continue to his hospice work upon his release.

Member T. Johnson stated that there are numerous letters in both support and protect of Carl Reimann's release. Eric Weis, the Kendall County State's Attorney, strongly opposes parole for Reimann due to the senseless killing of five people, making this case one of the most horrific crimes in Kendall County's history. Member T. Johnson requested to go into closed session to review the other letters of protest.

Motion to go into Closed Session (TJ-AMP)
Motion to return to Open Session (CF-KT)



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After a careful review of the history of the case and Reimann's record, Member T. Johnson notes that there is little to be gained at this point by keeping Reimann locked up, while there is potentially much to be gained by releasing him and providing him the opportunity to give back.

Ken Berry, a proponent for release for Carl Reimann, spoke on his behalf, noting a correction in the presentation by Member T. Johnson. Mr. Berry advised that at the last *en banc* hearing, Carl Reimann received a total of seven votes, not five votes.

State's Attorney Eric Weis spoke on behalf of the Kendall County State's Attorney's Office. He noted that Carl Reimann was on parole at the time of the offense. He also reminded the Board that this case has five victims to consider. He stated that while the wife of one of the victims did eventually forgive Carl Reimann, she still did not want him to be paroled or released.

Member Diaz asked State's Attorney Weiss to clarify his statement that one of the victim's wives forgave him but did not want to see him released. State's Attorney Weis advised that she had visited Carl Reimann in prison and forgave him for the crime he committed, but that she did not want him released from prison. State's Attorney Weis noted that the victim's wife is now deceased. Member Johnson noted that he can verify that the victim's wife did not want his release.

Member Shelton asked if Carl Reimann was 31 at the time of the offense. Ken Berry advised that Reimann was 30 at that time.

Member Tupy requested to know if Carl Reimann stated why he killed the victims in this crime. Member T. Johnson noted that he just said that he did it, but not why. Member Tupy asked if the victims had threatened Carl Reimann. Member T. Johnson advised they did not.

Member T. Johnson stated that Carl Reimann did not dispute the facts of the offense or the offense itself. Reimann walked away from the crime with \$624. He lives with this crime day and night. Member T. Johnson advised that he feels as though the State's interest in this case has been met.

Member Shelton noted that Carl Reimann was 30 at the time of the crime, an adult, and not a child. He killed a total of five people, including a 16-year-old girl, for no reason.

Motion to grant parole (TJ-DWD). Motion prevails by a vote of 8 to 4. Members voting in favor of the motion are: Ms. Crigler, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Harris, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Ms. Perkins and Chairman Findley.

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



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EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— APRIL 26, 2018

Inmate Name: **Paul Bryant**

IDOC Number & Institution: **L11109**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 319 E. Madison, Suite A, Springfield, Illinois, on April 26, 2018 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Paul Bryant, IDOC #L11109.

Members present were: E. Crigler, S. Diaz, D.W. Dunn, C. Findley, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, T. Johnson, V. Martinez, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, and K. Tupy.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Member Martinez presented the case for Paul Bryant. Bryant was interviewed on March 15, 2018, at Dixon Correctional Center. Bryant is currently serving a sentence of 500-1500 years for Murder, consecutive to a 6-year, 8 months to 20-year sentence for Burglary in the same case, and concurrent to a 90-100-year sentence for a second Murder and 5-15 years for Robbery connected to that second murder. He was also convicted of five cases of Rape, Home Invasion, Burglary, and Robbery, involving four victims. Two of those cases also included Deviate Sexual Assault. He was sentenced to 20 years for each Rape and 7 years for Robbery and Burglary, all of which were to run concurrently. Member Martinez noted that two of the counts involved the same woman.

Member Martinez relayed the statement of facts in relation to the crime. Paul Bryant was arrested on August 9, 1979, at 535 W. Addison in the early morning, after a call to police by a woman who reported that she had been raped. The victim, who had also been raped two days earlier, identified Bryant as the perpetrator in both instances. He was identified in several line-ups by three other rape victims. On August 11, 1980, at 1:26 a.m., Bryant's statement was taken before a court reporter and he signed a confession to two murders that had occurred in 1976 and 1977.

The first murder case, that of Francis Parro, was heard by a jury. Paul Bryant's confession was entered into evidence and he did not testify. The jury found him guilty of both Murder and Burglary. He was sentenced on December 17, 1980, to 500 to 1500 years in prison for Murder and 6 years, 8 months to 20 years on the Burglary to run consecutively. Member Martinez advised that Bryant appealed, claiming, among other things, that physical mistreatment and psychological pressures rendered his confession involuntary. He raised the issue of whether his sentence was excessive and vindictive. This murder conviction was affirmed by the courts. Post-conviction motions and proceedings, as well as two Habeas Corpus petitions, have all been dismissed. All legal motions and proceedings have been exhausted.

The second murder involved a 16-year-old African-American woman, LaDonna Warren, whose body was found on September 29, 1977, in a basement stairwell on the North side of



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Chicago. Paul Bryant pled guilty to First Degree Murder and Robbery, and on March 15, 1981, he was sentenced to 90 – 100 years for the Murder with a concurrent sentence of 5 to 15 years for Robbery.

In 1997, Bryant filed a motion for forensic DNA analysis in both murder cases. The motion was denied because the evidence had been destroyed.

Member Martinez found that Paul Bryant adjusted to 37 years of incarceration very well. He is currently on A grade and classified as low risk, minimum security. He has received five major tickets since 1994, involving unauthorized movement, contraband, and disobeying a direct order. He has received no tickets for violence.

Member Martinez advised that Bryant has been approved through Interstate Compact to go to Texas if he is paroled. There he will reside with his niece, who has also offered employment and other support.

Member Shelton stated that the Illinois Department of Corrections shows a total of seven different cases for Paul Bryant. He requested to know if Bryant admits to any of the cases. Member Martinez advised that he does not. Bryant stated that he was a thief and was in the area committing a burglary that he was never arrested for.

Member Martinez noted that the murders occurred two years prior to the rapes. The file states that Paul Bryant killed the victims in the murders because they could identify him. However, he didn't kill the women that he was charged with raping.

State's Attorney Hillmann spoke on behalf of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. She advised that mace was found on the victim, which was physical evidence from the crime that was also found on Paul Bryant.

Member Martinez advised that she feels that Paul Bryant was beaten, that his confessions were involuntary, and that without his confessions he would not have been convicted. She noted that there were issues with beatings and sleep deprivation.

Member Shelton requested to know whether Member Martinez believed that he was beaten. Member Martinez stated that she believed it was a common practice of the police in Chicago at the time.

Member Diaz commented that there were false accusations and rumors going around about the Chicago Police Department during that time. He advised that Member Martinez was using a broad brush to depict the Chicago Police Department and the police officers.

Member Crigler stated that the Board is aware of the Burge cases in Chicago and what happened in that precinct at the time.



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Member Fisher requested to know if Paul Bryant was identified by his victims, outside of the murder charges. Member Martinez advised that he was identified by four women on the five rape charges.

Member Perkins requested to know his current age. Member Martinez stated that he is 68 years old.

Chairman Findley requested to know if Member Martinez believed that Paul Bryant was both wrongfully convicted and innocent of the crimes. Member Martinez confirmed that she believed that he was both innocent of the crimes and wrongfully convicted.

State's Attorney Hillmann noted that there were four separate identifications of Paul Bryant in this case. She also advised that he pled guilty to the rape cases. She stated that this is not the time to relitigate this case, as there are other avenues for Paul Bryant to explore that option. She commented that the Board has specific factors that it is required to examine and consider regarding release onto parole for these cases.

Member Shelton asked the State's Attorney if she could tell if during the line-ups the victims were independently brought in, or were they brought in all together. State's Attorney Hillmann advised that she could not say for certain how the line-ups were completed. Member Shelton also requested to know where the show-up occurred. State's Attorney Hillmann advised that the show-up happened near or in front of the victim's apartment.

Member Diaz requested that the case be referred to be examined for potential torture during interrogation.

Josh Tepfer, with The Exoneration Project, advised that his organization would look into and review Paul Bryant's case.

Motion to grant parole (VM-EC). Motion does not prevail by a vote of 6 to 6. Members voting in favor of the motion are: Ms. Crigler, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Harris, Ms. Martinez, Ms. Perkins, and Mr. Shelton.

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



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EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— APRIL 26, 2018

Inmate Name: **Richard Baske**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C64129**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 319 E. Madison, Suite A, Springfield, Illinois, on April 26, 2018 at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Richard Baske, IDOC #C64129.

Members present were: E. Crigler, S. Diaz, D.W. Dunn, C. Findley, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, T. Johnson, V. Martinez, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, and K. Tupy.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Member Diaz presented the case of Richard Baske to the Board. Member Baske was interviewed on March 15, 2018, at Dixon Correctional Center. Baske is currently incarcerated for Murder and Burglary and is serving a sentence of 100 to 300 years. He has currently served a total of 44 years.

Member Diaz provided a synopsis of the events of the crimes. On the morning, of March 23, 1974, the Chicago Fire Department responded to a fire at the home of 84-year-old Loretta Hoppe. The firefighters were forced to break down the side and rear doors to gain entry to the building. Once inside, they found Hoppe's body lying on her bed. Hoppe was transported to Holy Cross Hospital and pronounced dead upon arrival. Her body had been partially burned and she has been stabbed a total of 30 times.

While at Hoppe's home, police officers found that the basement door had been forced open prior to the firefighter's arrival, papers were thrown around the floor of the front room, drawers were pulled out of place, and the telephone line had been cut. The police discovered that at least four separate fires were set within the home.

Officers recovered a wallet on top of the bushes in front of Hoppe's home. The wallet was dry, even though it had been snowing for some time. The wallet contained the identification for Robert Stevenson, and police learned that the wallet had been stolen about a month earlier. Stevenson had told police that he suspected Richard Baske of stealing his wallet. Police officers went to Baske's home, which was located just down the street from Hoppe's residence. Baske was in the basement of his parent's home, where he was residing at the time of the crime. Initially, Baske denied any knowledge of the fire, but after police commented that his jacket smelled of smoke, he admitted that he was present at Hoppe's home during the fire. He told police that he had held open the door for the paramedics as they carried out Hoppe's body. Baske was transported to police headquarters, where he gave two contradictory statements for the night of the crime. Police officers obtained consent and searched Baske's basement residence. They found a hunting knife behind a conduit on the basement wall. On the blade of the knife, officers observed a red stain.



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Richard Baske was ultimately charged with Murder and Burglary. Prior to the trial, Baske filed motions to quash his arrest, suppress his statements, and suppress evidence. Several witnesses testified on Baske's behalf. During the motion, Baske's testimony conflicted with his previous statements to police and with subsequent statements that he has since provided the Board during interviews. After hearing all provided evidence, the court denied his motions.

Member Diaz advised that since his conviction, Richard Baske has filed appeals and petitions in his case. He appealed his conviction in 1978, but the appellate court upheld his conviction. In 1981, he filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus, and in 1988, he filed two petitions for post-conviction relief, both of which were dismissed. In 2000, he filed a third post-conviction relief petition, which was denied as well. Finally, in 2004, he filed a petition for declaratory judgement, which was also denied.

Member Diaz reviewed Richard Baske's criminal history. Baske was first arrested in 1968 for Criminal Damage to Property and was sentenced to one year of supervision. While on supervision for that charge, he was arrested again for Battery and Resisting Arrest, for which he received fifteen days in jail and one year of probation. While on bond for the Battery case, Baske was arrested for Criminal Damage to Property and sentenced to 15 days in jail and one year of probation, to run concurrent to the Battery sentence. In 1974, after being arrested for this case, Baske was charged with Burglary and was sentenced to 5 years' probation.

Baske received two IDRs in 2017, including a violation for dangerous contraband for possessing a pen that had a sharpened blade on the end. Member Diaz noted that Richard Baske stated that he used that item as seam ripper as he worked in the textiles department and did work in his cell. Member Diaz noted that the other IDR came from an issue where Baske had been working in a position and was suddenly removed when a new group of inmates came in. He had felt as though he lost the job unfairly and it was given to another inmate as a favor.

Member Diaz stated that Richard Baske claims that he is innocent of the crime, but has expressed remorse for the family of the victim. He has a great institutional adjustment, minus the two tickets in 2017, that would lend credence toward the expectation of a successful re-entry into society for Baske.

Member Crigler noted that starting with the crime, up through the job at the prison, it appears Richard Baske likes to point the finger at someone else for his problems. Member Diaz consented that there does appear to be a pattern, with intermittent periods.

Member Shelton requested to know his age at the time of the crime. Member Diaz advised that he was 23 at the time the crime was committed.

Member Perkins requested to know how old he currently is. Member Diaz stated that Richard Baske is currently 67 years old.



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State's Attorney Hillmann spoke on behalf of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. She advised that Baske received a major ticket just last year for possessing a pen that had a sharpened blade on it.

Member Diaz advised that Baske has claimed that it was a sewing tool to be used as a seam ripper.

Member E. Johnson requested to know if Richard Baske was back to claiming that he did not commit the crime. Member Diaz confirmed that he states he did not commit the crime.

Member T. Johnson noted that Baske does admit that he had a part in the crime, but did not commit the actual crime itself.

Motion to grant parole (SD-DS). Motion prevails by a vote of 7 to 5. Members voting in favor of the motion are: Mr. Diaz, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Harris, Ms. Martinez, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Shelton and Chairman Findley.

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



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EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
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Inmate Name: **Harrison Chancy**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C90899**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 319 E. Madison, Suite A, Springfield, Illinois, on April 26, 2018, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Harrison Chancy, IDOC #C90899.

Members present were: E. Crigler, S. Diaz, D.W. Dunn, C. Findley, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, T. Johnson, V. Martinez, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, and K. Tupy.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Member Perkins presented Harrison Chancy's case. He was interviewed at Illinois River Correctional Center on March 6, 2018. He is currently 59 years of age. He has been incarcerated since June 30, 1974, for a total of 40 years, for the crimes of Murder, Armed Robbery, and Burglary. Chancy received 100-300 years for Murder, 25-50 years for Armed Robbery, and 5-15 years for Burglary. Harrison Chancy states that he is innocent of the crimes. At the time of the interview, Member Perkins advised that Chancy states that he was in jail at the time that the crime occurred. Member Perkins noted that previously, he had stated that he committed the crimes because he believed that the Board would parole him if he took ownership and showed remorse. Chancy advised that this was the result of the advice of another inmate.

The statement of facts in this case are as follows: On May 28, 1977, at approximately 6:15 a.m., Emmanuel Slivinski was out walking his dog. When he returned to his home in Lemont, he heard a knock at the door. Harrison Chancy, armed with a handgun, and two co-offenders forced their way into Mr. Slivinski's home. Chancy then forced Mr. Slivinski and his wife to sit on the couch and held a gun on the couple as the two co-offenders ransacked the home. The couple was then ordered to put pillowcases over their heads. While they were on the couch, Mr. Slivinski started to pray, at which time Harrison Chancy and the co-offenders began to kick and strike him to learn the location of the valuables in the home. Mrs. Slivinski also began to pray. Chancy told them, "I'm a religious man too, but the man upstairs will not help you today".

Chancy and his co-offenders took a diamond pin, three watches, and approximately \$1,200 in cash, which the Slivinskis had saved for their 40th wedding anniversary. The Slivinskis were bound and tied. Unprovoked, Chancy then shot Mr. Slivinski once in the head. This shot blinded Mr. Slivinski immediately. The offenders then left, not harming Mrs. Slivinski. She eventually managed to free herself and summon help. Mr. Slivinski died of his injuries two months later on August 2, 1977. He was blind and paralyzed from the time of the shooting until his death.

Prior to trial, Chancy filed a motion to suppress identification. During this hearing, Mrs. Slivinski testified that in the months that followed her husband's murder she viewed approximately 50 photographs attempting to identify the offenders. The other two co-offenders were never



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apprehended. On November 30, 1977, she viewed five more photographs for a police officer and recognized Harrison Chancy as one of the offenders. When she was shown the same photo at a later date, she again identified Harrison Chancy. On April 4, 1978, Mrs. Slivinski viewed a lineup at the police station and identified Chancy for a third time. The trial judge denied the request to suppress the identification.

Mrs. Slivinski testified at trial and identified Harrison Chancy as her attacker. After he was found guilty, he turned to Mrs. Slivinski, who was seated in the courtroom, pointed his finger at her and went "Bang, Bang" as if he were firing a gun. At trial, Chancy stated that the mentioning of the 1977 Memorial Day weekend jogged his memory. He stated that, "he gets high every weekend on drugs and it's entirely possible he could have committed this murder and not remembered that he did it when he was high, he remembers that he was high that weekend".

Member Perkins noted that in 1980 Chancy appealed his conviction, but the appellate court affirmed both his conviction and his sentence. In 2010, he filed a motion for fingerprint analysis, but the results were unable to be processed because it was presumed that they were lost or destroyed. In 2013, DNA testing was also found to be inconclusive.

Member Perkins noted that Chancy has had a troubled past with many arrests. Chancy was arrested on August 29, 1976, for Burglary in Will County. He was arrested on October 15, 1976, again for Burglary in Will County. He was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance on September 13, 1977, in Will County. Finally, he was arrested in March of 1978 for Aggravated Battery.

Member Perkins stated that Chancy stated that he was a juvenile delinquent when he was arrested for this case. He was arrested multiple times for burglary, drug possession, robbery, and battery-related offenses. He also stated that he was once convicted of Aggravated Battery and sentenced to five years imprisonment. Chancy went on to say that for his other convictions, he had received probation and drug treatment, although he never took those treatments seriously. Chancy stated that he was young and angry and this is also what made him make that frightening gesture to Mrs. Slivinski in the courtroom. He said that he regrets doing that to this very day.

Member Perkins advised that Chancy's life started to change around 2000. He began attending bible class and he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior. Chancy has on many occasions, including in his personal statement, communicated his genuine reflection and sorrow for his misguided aggression toward Mrs. Slivinski, who suffered such horrible tragedy.

Member Perkins advised that Chancy has received numerous letters of support from friends, family, and clergymen. These letters, along with his petition, provide evidence as to how immensely Chancy has changed from the time he committed this crime, at seventeen years of age.

The letters range from those who previously represented Chancy at his last parole hearing; to siblings and other family members he has grown closer to over the past decade; to clergymen, past



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and present, who have worked with Chancy and attest that his decade-old conversion to Christianity is sincere; and even a past cellmate who views Chancy as a positive influence. There are many letters supporting his release, including eight letters from correctional officers. Member Perkins also noted that there are many letters protesting the release of Harrison Chancy.

Member Perkins reviewed the institutional adjustment for Harrison Chancy. She advised that he has had a total of 60-70 tickets. He has been housed at several correctional facilities, including: Stateville, Pontiac, Menard, Pinckneyville, and Big Muddy. He is currently residing at Illinois River Correctional Center. For the past ten years, he has only received two disciplinary tickets. Chancy has recognized that he was wrong for those two incidents, he regrets them, and he takes full responsibility for them.

Member Perkins notes that Chancy currently holds a much sought-after position at Illinois River, as a clerk in the Inner Movement Perimeter Office. He has held this position for over a year. She advised that this job offers Chancy free movement throughout the institution. Last year Chancy was issued over seven years and eight months of good time credit. He earned his GED and has also earned many certificates.

Member Perkins provided that Chancy has a great parole plan and continues to stay focused on his objective to receive parole by the Board. She notes that he has done all the things he was advised by the Board to do to show his innocence. He now a part of the Exoneration Project through the University of Chicago Law School. Member Perkins finds that Chancy's work ethic and adjustment during incarceration makes him an ideal candidate for any re-entry program. Both St. Leonard's and Homeward Bound were identified as potential programs to provide Chancy with housing, vocational assistance, counseling, medical care, and therapeutic care, if paroled.

Member Perkins advised that since these programs provide housing, vocational assistance, counseling and medical and therapeutic care, Chancy would receive employment as part of the re-entry program. She noted that he has a strong, supportive family in place that is ready to assist in his transition. The continuum of supports in place, coupled with Chancy's determination and discipline, will provide him with a successful re-entry upon parole. Member Perkins states that she is supportive of his petition for parole, keeping in mind that the other two co-offenders have never been identified.

Member Shelton advised that there are quite a bit more tickets for Chancy than were alluded to in the presentation. He advised that Chancy's real issues seem to be drug-related.

Member Fisher stated that Chancy is claiming innocence due to being in jail at the time of the offense. He requested to know if this information came out in trial. Member Perkins advised that that the information was not seen at the trial.

Member Perkins noted that Chancy claims that he is innocent of the crimes and was not present at the time they occurred.



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Member Crigler requested to know if Harrison Chancy was in jail at the time of the offense or was he high at the time of the offense, as the Board has heard both stories.

Josh Tepfer spoke on behalf of Harrison Chancy. He noted that Chancy never once said that he was in jail at the time of the offense. He has continually maintained his innocence of this crime. In 2006 he filed a clemency petition, stating his guilt, in hope that he would get out and see his dying mother. He withdrew the petition after her death and regrets putting false statements in the petition. He was only doing what he felt was needed to possibly be released. Chancy also believes that his SPIN results were due to a miscommunication with the assessor. Josh also noted that DNA was unable to be retrieved in order to be tested, it was not that the test was completed and inconclusive. Josh also noted that all eight correctional officers who submitted letters of support on behalf of Harrison Chancy have never sent letters in the past on another case. Finally, Josh submitted that Chancy has not received any tickets in the past seven years.

The victim's grandson spoke to the Board. He noted that the crime was particularly heinous. His grandmother was hog-tied, and a pillow case was placed over his grandfather's head before the shooting. He also noted that the dog was killed as well. Jeff wanted to ensure the Board knew that the family was threatened by Chancy. They were told that if he gets out he will kill the entire family. The family is requesting a three-year set.

State's Attorney Hillmann spoke on behalf of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. She noted that Harrison Chancy has only served 41 years, and if he was sentenced today he would be required to serve at least 45 years.

Member Crigler noted that she took the protests for this case and that there were ten family members present to protest the release of Harrison Chancy.

Chairman Findley requested to know if there were past votes in this case. Member Perkins noted that he received two votes in the past. Chairman Findley stated that there have been years with more votes in the past and there have also been years with no votes.

Member Shelton advised that he did not believe that the presentation portrayed just how horrible this crime actually was.

Chairman Findley commented that this case seems like an acceptable risk for parole.

Motion to grant parole (AMP-EC). Motion prevails by a vote of 8 to 4. Members voting in favor of the motion are: Ms. Crigler, Mr. Diaz, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Harris, Ms. Martinez, Ms. Perkins, Mr. Tupy, and Chairman Findley.

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



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Craig Findley, Chairman

EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— APRIL 26, 2018

Inmate Name: **Ruben Taylor**

IDOC Number & Institution: **C10727**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 319 E. Madison, Suite A, Springfield, Illinois, on April 26, 2018, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Ruben Taylor, IDOC #C10727.

Members present were: E. Crigler, S. Diaz, D.W. Dunn, C. Findley, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, T. Johnson, V. Martinez, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, and K. Tupy.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Member E. Johnson presented the case for Ruben Taylor to the Board for parole consideration. Ruben Taylor was interviewed on March 15, 2018, at Dixon Correctional Center. He currently serving concurrent terms of 100-150 years for four counts of Murder and 20-60 years for Armed Robbery. Taylor has been at Dixon Correctional Center since April 13, 1988.

Member E. Johnson provided the Board with the statement of facts for this case. On August 4, 1972, Ruben Taylor and three other men left a party in the South-side of Chicago and drove to Barrington Hills and randomly picked a house to rob. One man rang the doorbell, which was answered by Marion Corbett. Another man in the group pointed a gun in her face and asked her how many people were residing in the home. The four men then entered the house and forced Mrs. Corbett (58), Mr. Corbett (67), their daughter, Brenda (22), and Mrs. Corbett's sister, Dorothy (60) into the pantry. The men ripped out the phone cord and demanded money and jewelry from the group. While one man went upstairs to look for more valuables, the other three men held the victims at gunpoint. The victims were ordered to lie down on the floor. Just as this was occurring, a family dog began barking which caused of the offenders to throw a knife at it. The daughter jumped up and told the men to leave the dog alone, at which point Ruben Taylor turned and shot her in the chest. One of the other men then shot the other three victims in the head, execution-style, before all four men fled the scene. The four victims were discovered by other family member upon their return to the home. Mr. and Mrs. Corbett were still alive, but later died at the hospital.

Member E. Johnson advised that Ruben Taylor stated that he and the other three men were at a party and decided to go and get some money. He said that his mother was a teacher in the area where the crime took place, and he had ridden through that neighborhood with her and was familiar with it. Taylor stated that he was the driver. The men all decided to rob a random house and take their jewels and money. Taylor claimed that he stood guard and had the rifle, while his brother Donald Taylor had the .25. He stated that when the victim jumped, it startled him and caused him to shoot her. He noted that his brother shot the other three victims.



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Member E. Johnson noted that Ruben Taylor was a member of the De MauMau gang. He told her that “De MauMau” stands for “Let’s go-Run away,” and there were about fifteen members in Chicago who met at Malcolm X College. Taylor advised that his brother was not a member of the gang, but was being pulled into other gang activity. Taylor stated that he was trying to set his brother straight.

Member E. Johnson stated Ruben Taylor claims that he was in the wrong place and the wrong time and that he was not thinking right, which caused four people to be killed. Taylor commented that “what can you say, other than you’re sorry”. Taylor said he “jumped the rails” due to emotional immaturity. He understands the pain of the victims’ family. Member E. Johnson noted that Taylor stated that he was wrestling with his own demons at the time, and that while he has forgiven himself for the crime, he still feels guilt for his younger brother being involved. When asked how he would respond to being called “unrepentant”, Taylor stated “they don’t know me and haven’t walked in my shoes.”

Member E. Johnson found that Ruben Taylor’s institutional adjustment continued to be excellent. Upon his arrival to the Illinois Department of Corrections, Taylor received 51 disciplinary tickets between 1974 and 1983. Since that time, his adjustment has moved from notable improvement to excellent. His last major ticket was in 2011 for Disobeying a Direct Order, which resulted from him not being seated in the dining room. His last minor ticket was in 2014 for Contraband for possession of pages of a magazine. Taylor has been working in correctional industries as an optician for almost 30 years. He also obtained his paralegal degree, which he pursued due to his lack of respect for the law in the 1960s. His desire was to instead learn the laws. Taylor advised that he used \$2,000 of his own money to take the courses. Member E. Johnson notes that Taylor has admitted that he has not had any counseling or therapy while in IDOC, as he believes in self-help, such as praying, yoga, and religious meditations.

Member Perkins inquired as to the current age of Ruben Taylor. Member E. Johnson advised that he is currently 68 years of age.

Member E. Johnson noted that he has completed 45 years and his first parole hearing was in 1981.

Member Fisher requested to know if he was convicted in the other murders. Member E. Johnson advised that he was charged, but that the charges were dropped after the conviction in this case.

Member T. Johnson noted that he has interviewed Ruben Taylor four times in his tenure on the Board. He stated that if Taylor does not have a place to go, that he can live with him. They both served time in Vietnam and came back to turmoil in the United States, compounded with the King Assassination and the Bobby Kennedy Assassination, along with the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, where part of the town was burned. Member T. Johnson advised that



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Taylor has and is still confronting his demons from Vietnam. Taylor has taken responsibility for the crimes and the only thing that is holding him back at this time is the nature of the crime, not his ability to succeed in society. Member T. Johnson stated that he will support release for Ruben Taylor.

Nicole Schult, representative for Ruben Taylor, spoke on his behalf. She advised that the weapons found by the police were actually a cache of weapons for the entire gang, and not a personal collection for Ruben Taylor, noting that anyone had access to them. She commented that the crimes were definitely racially-charged. She believes that Ruben Taylor can be a great asset to society.

State's Attorney Hillmann spoke on behalf of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office. She noted that he killed a total of four people in their home and that he was the one who fired the first shot. She advised that his sentence today would be natural life with no potential for parole. She commented that punishment is punitive and not rehabilitative. The Cook County State's Attorney's Office opposed parole for Ruben Taylor.

Motion to grant parole (EJ-EC). Motion prevails by a vote of 8 to 4. Members voting in favor of the motion are: Ms. Crigler, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Harris, Ms. Johnsons, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Martinez, Ms. Perkins, and Chairman Findley.

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



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EN BANC MINUTE SHEET
OPEN SESSION— APRIL 26, 2018

Inmate Name: **Donald Grant**

IDOC Number & Institution: **L02079**

The Illinois Prisoner Review Board met in open *en banc* session at 319 E. Madison, Suite A, Springfield, Illinois, on April 26, 2018, at the 9:00 a.m. session to discuss and deliberate parole eligibility for Donald Grant, IDOC #L02079.

Members present were: E. Crigler, S. Diaz, D.W. Dunn, C. Findley, P. Fisher, V. Harris, E. Johnson, T. Johnson, V. Martinez, A.M. Perkins, D. Shelton, and K. Tupy.

Other(s) present: Robynn Davis, Recording Secretary

Member Crigler presented Donald Grant's case to the Board for consideration. Donald Grant was interviewed on March 15, 2018, at Dixon Correctional Center. Inmate Grant is a 64-year-old African-American male who has been housed at Dixon Correctional Center since April 25, 1990. Member Crigler noted that Grant states that he is in good health, except for problems with his knee, which causes him pain and problems from time to time. Donald Grant is serving 60 to 180 years for Murder and 20 to 60 years for Armed Robbery.

Member Crigler presented the statement of facts for this case. On May 24, 1976, Donald Grant shot and killed security guard Robert Jackson in a grocery store in Peoria, Illinois. Early on the 24th of April, the victim and offender had an encounter where the victim had accused Grant of shoplifting. A verbal confrontation ensued and Grant was eventually removed from the store. On the evening of May 24, 1976, Grant returned to the store, driven by Martin Ray Williams, his co-defendant. Grant entered the store, put a loaded, .22-caliber handgun to the head of Robert Jackson's head, and fired one round. At that point, Grant took Mr. Jackson's revolver and fled the scene. Member Crigler noted that Robert Jackson was a retired Peoria County Sheriff and was in his security guard uniform at the time of the murder.

Member Crigler advised that Donald Grant was not arrested, convicted, and sentenced for the murder of Mr. Jackson until 1981. Grant has also committed several armed robberies between 1975 and May 1976. He was convicted of Burglary and Armed Robbery in Illinois in 1976 and was convicted of Armed Robbery in federal court in 1976. He was sentenced to four years in Wisconsin and was paroled for that crime in June of 1980. In 1981, he was charged with the Murder and Armed Robbery of Robert Jackson. A mistrial was declared during the first trial because the jury could not reach a unanimous verdict. Following a second jury trial in 1982, Grant was convicted on both charges and received an indeterminate sentence of 60 to 180 years for the Murder charge and 20 to 60 years for the Armed Robbery charge.

Member Crigler found that Donald Grant has an excellent institutional record. As reflected in the Offender Overview dated March 1, 2018, "Mr. Grant has displayed an excellent institutional adjustment." He is dependable and hardworking. He is always willing to assist



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staff, regardless of the duty. Grant has earned an Associate of Arts Degree and an Associate of Applied Science Degree. He has also earned certification in Business Management, Construction Occupations, and Photographic/Graphic Arts. He served as Violence Prevention Peer Facilitator from 2008 to 2016. He has completed Lifestyle Redirection and Anger Management classes. Grant remains active with work assignments and bettering himself by getting an education, completing programs, volunteering, and learning skills to become a productive citizen. He has worked as a lead worker in Optical Industries Lab, crew repairman, tool control, and many other specialized positions throughout the facility

Member Crigler stated that she found Donald Grant to be a focused, sincere individual who has great remorse for the decisions he made as a young, immature person. He expressed accountability and remorse for killing Robert Jackson and stated that the fact that he took another man's life and robbed his family of their husband, father, brother, and uncle weighs heavily on him every day. He expressed that the only thing he wanted out of life was to be a better father than the one he had. He wanted to raise his children and teach them how to be good, productive people. He admits and accepts responsibility for his actions and that what he did was wrong, foolish, and unlawful.

Member Crigler believes that to release Inmate Grant poses no threat to society, based on his age, his excellent institutional adjustment, his education, and his family and community support.

Member Diaz requested to know about past votes. Member Crigler advised that he received two votes last year.

Member Shelton advised that he took protests for this case. He noted that the victim's daughter and the Assistant State's Attorney from Peoria County presented letters from various family members. He stated that the father was a loving man and there was prior contact with victim and Donald Grant before the crime.

Attorney Carolyn Klarquist spoke on behalf of Donald Grant. She noted that Grant is so trusted at Dixon that he is currently working in the office there. She also advised that Grant has noted that he wished that he had stayed in the military as it was good for him.

Member Harris requested to know how much time he has served for this case. Member Crigler noted that he has served a total of 36 years so far.

Member Fisher noted that the victim in this case was an off-duty sheriff's deputy. He also advised that it was known that the security at this specific store were police officers.

Member Shelton stated that the victim was a retired sheriff's deputy, not off-duty.



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Motion to grant parole (EC-AMP). Motion does not prevail by a vote of 6 to 6. Members voting in favor of the motion are: Ms. Crigler, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Harris, Ms. Martinez, Ms. Perkins, and Chairman Findley.

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