



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
INDETERMINATE SENTENCE REVIEW BOARD
P.O. BOX 40907, OLYMPIA, WA 98504-0907

DECISION AND REASONS

NAME:	MURPHY, Jeannette
DOC #:	273043
FACILITY:	Washington Corrections Center for Women – WCCW Peninsula Work Release (PWR)
TYPE OF HEARING:	.100 Hearing
HEARING DATE:	April 12, 2017
PANEL MEMBERS:	JP & TW
FINAL DECISION DATE:	April 21, 2017

This matter came before Jeff Patnode and Tana Wood, who are members of the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board (ISRB or the Board) on the above date for a release hearing in accordance with the provisions of RCW 9.95.100. Ms. Murphy appeared in person and was represented by attorney Darrel Lahtinen. Testimony was provided by Department of Corrections (DOC) Classification Counselor 3 (CC3) Michelle Thresh, Community Correction Officer 3 (CCO 3) Greg Guidi, and Ms. Murphy. This hearing took place at WCCW but Ms. Murphy is was actually in the Peninsula Work Release (PWR) Program at the time of this hearing.

BOARD DECISION:

This was a Deferred Decision. Based on the requirements of RCW 9.95.009(3) and RCW 9.95.100 and the totality of evidence and information considered by the Board, the Board finds that Ms. Murphy is parolable.

NEXT ACTION:

Submit an Offender Release Plan (ORP) for Board approval.

JURISDICTION:

Jeannette Murphy is currently serving on Count II, Murder in the First Degree under Thurston County Cause #83-1-00171-8. The time start is January 30, 2000. This count ran consecutively to Count I, Murder in the First Degree, and Count III, Arson in the First Degree under the same cause number. The Board previously paroled her off of Counts I and III to start serving on Count II on January 30, 2000. The statutory maximum sentence on all counts is Life. The minimum term on Count II was set at 388 months, from a Sentencing Reform Act (SRA) range of 291 to 388 months.

Ms. Murphy served approximately 195 months on Counts I and III; and then an additional 174 months on Count II for a total time in prison of approximately 33 years and four months. She also has 148 days of jail time credit.

The Judge's original recommendation was life, however, Ms. Murphy submitted a letter from Judge Gerry L. Alexander, the sentencing Judge that stated, "While Ms. Murphy's criminal acts were extremely serious and justified severe punishment...it appears that a strong argument can be made that she has served an adequate amount of time in prison, considering the fact that she was very young at the time the acts were committed and the additional fact that she has been a model prisoner for approximately thirty years." Judge Alexander further stated "...people can change for the better and when they do, society does not greatly benefit from their continued incarceration." The Prosecuting attorney agreed with the Board's standard range calculations, but noted that at the time of sentencing Ms. Murphy "Denied she committed the offense and showed no remorse for her actions. She should be considered as highly dangerous and a risk to reoffend and should never be released from prison".

NATURE OF INDEX OFFENSE(S):

According to file materials, on April 22, 1983, Ms. Murphy, at her age of 19, shot both of her parents in the head, killing them in the family home. Ms. Murphy then poured gasoline on each of the bodies and the interior of the house and set it on fire. In May of 1983, after being found deceptive in a polygraph test regarding her involvement in setting the fire at her parents' home, Ms. Murphy fled Washington State. She was later apprehended in Oklahoma and confessed that she had been at home when she heard two gunshots. She stated that she investigated the shots, and found her parents dead. At that time she states she set the house on fire, although never gave any reason or motivation about why she would do that. At the time of the trial, Ms. Murphy reverted back to denying any involvement in either the shooting of her parents or of setting their home on fire. There was other circumstantial evidence linking Ms. Murphy to the murders, including a blood spot that was observed on her blouse shortly after the fire. Ms. Murphy maintained her innocence until 2009.

PRIOR CRIMINAL CONDUCT:

No known criminal history.

HISTORY/COMMENTS:

Ms. Murphy's last hearing was in August of 2014 at which time the Board found that Ms. Murphy was conditionally parolable to a Mutual Re-entry Plan (MRP). No time was added to her minimum term as the hearing took place three years prior to her Parole Eligibility Review Date (PERD) for MRP consideration. The Decision and Reason dated September 5, 2014 noted, "The Board would like the MRP to include work release as one of its components. Her behavior, attitude and performance during her MRP will be carefully reviewed by the Board to determine, in the future, whether Ms. Murphy meets all the criteria for parole to the community".

Since the last hearing Ms. Murphy has continued to be a model inmate and has a long list of continued programming and accomplishments to include but not limited to Horticulture – 2016, Roots of Success, , Flagging Course, Self-Care Seminar – April 16, 2014, and a variety of other

programs/activities along with positive behavioral observations. Additionally, Ms. Murphy has previously obtained an AA degree and is reportedly close to completing her Bachelor's degree.

CC 3 Thresh who was Ms. Murphy's CC before she transferred to PWR, provided a summary of programming, behavior and release plan information for Ms. Murphy. Though it has been a relatively short time since the last hearing with Ms. Murphy, she has accomplished an array of programs and activities. CC Thresh indicated Ms. Murphy has not been a management problem in any way and it has been approximately 20 years since her last serious infraction.

CCO 3 Guidi provided a summary of Ms. Murphy's performance in her program during the 35 days she has been at PWR. He said Ms. Murphy had full time employment arranged before she transferred to his program. CCO 3 Guidi stated the employment Ms. Murphy has is very fast paced and stressful at times, and Ms. Murphy has been doing an outstanding job to date. He stated she also has another job in which she is also reportedly doing very well. CCO 3 Guidi could not be more favorable in his reporting of Ms. Murphy in the relatively short period of time she has been there. CCO 3 Guidi stated she is now eligible for sponsored community access to assist her in reintegration. He said they have discussed her release plans which include living with a local married couple whom she has become friends. They are a strong source of community support for Ms. Murphy. CCO 3 Guidi concluded by stating that Ms. Murphy at the work release site has not been a management problem and gets along well with other inmates as well as staff.

Ms. Murphy provided a disclosure of her index offense and it was evident, that she has done significant work in looking at her behavior and the events that occurred on the day she murdered her parents. She stated she had denied her culpability in the murders until approximately 2009 at which time she was completing a clemency action and began to participate in individual counseling which enabled her to come to grips with what she did when she was 19 years old. Ms. Murphy presented as very thoughtful, intelligent, and transparent in a manner that is not common.

INFORMATION CONSIDERED:

In preparation for Ms. Murphy's hearing and its decision in this case, the Board completed a review of Ms. Murphy's ISRB files. The Board considered all information contained in those files, including but not limited to: the most recent DOC facility plan; information regarding institutional behavior and programming; any letters of support and/or concerns sent to the Board; the Pre-Sentence Investigation report; and psychological evaluations. The Board also considered the testimony of the witnesses listed above.

REASONS:

This was a deferred decision following a full Board discussion using a structured decision-making framework that takes into consideration; the statistical estimate of risk, criminal history, parole/release history, ability to control behavior, responsivity to programming, demonstrated offender change, release planning, discordant information, and other case specific factors. Based on the requirements of RCW 9.95.009 (3) and RCW 9.95.100 the Board finds Ms. Murphy parolable.

Ms. Murphy committed a horrible crime approximately 35 years ago as a 19 year old girl. Since that time she has completed an extraordinary number of programs, many hours of therapy, and appears to have done extensive examination of the drivers/causes of her index offense. Ms. Murphy has taken a very active role in her rehabilitation and appears to have taken full advantage of the opportunities available to her in the Department of Corrections.

The most recent psychological evaluation dated July 8, 2014, and authored by Dr. Wentworth, assesses Ms. Murphy as a low risk to reoffend. It was noted that she has admitted her guilt, and takes full responsibility and shows proper empathy in regards to the damage that she did to her sister with her offense. Dr. Wentworth recommended that Ms. Murphy transition through lower levels of custody to assist her with transition to the community. Ms. Murphy appears to have

been quite successful in her MRP and exceeded the expectations of the Board. Ms. Murphy will be under the supervision of the ISRB and the DOC during her period of parole supervision.

JP:ffo

April 12, 2017

April 21, 2017

May 8, 2017

cc: Institution
Jeannette Murphy
Attorney Darrel Lahtinen
File



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
INDETERMINATE SENTENCE REVIEW BOARD
P.O. BOX 40907, OLYMPIA, WA 98504-0907

DATE: April 12, 2017

TO: Full Board

FROM: JP & TW (Fawn)

RE: MURPHY, Jeanette, #273043

Panel recommends: Find Ms. Murphy Releasable.

Next action: Submit an ORP.

Agree	Disagree
Jeff Patnode 4-21-2017 Tana Wood 4-21-2017 Lori Ramsdell-Gilkey 4-21-2017 Kecia Rongen 4-21-2017	