



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

DECISION AND REASONS

NAME: BEBB, Robert
DOC #: 912074
FACILITY: Rap House Work Release
TYPE OF HEARING: .100 Hearing
HEARING DATE: May 11, 2017
PANEL MEMBERS: JP & LRG
FINAL DECISION DATE: May 31, 2017

This matter came before Jeff Patnode and Lori Ramsdell-Gilkey, 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. Mr. Bebb appeared in person and chose not to be represented by an attorney. Testimony was provided by Department of Corrections (DOC) Classification Counselor (CC) Debbie Moore, DOC Psychology Associate Jim Walton, and Mr. Bebb.

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 Mr. Bebb parolable upon approval of an ORP (Offender Release Plan).

NEXT ACTION:

Submit an ORP for Board approval, at which time the Board may cut time and release Mr. Bebb prior to his current PERD.

JURISDICTION:

Robert Bebb is under the jurisdiction of the Board on a 1983 conviction of Murder in the First Degree in Spokane County Cause #82-1-00647-6. His time start is July 10, 1985. His initial duration of confinement was set by the Board at 548 months. The standard range of the Sentencing Reform Act at the time was 411 to 548 months. His maximum term is Life. Mr. Bebb has served approximately 382 months in prison and 0 days of jail time. The Judge and Prosecutor both recommended life.

NATURE OF INDEX OFFENSE(S):

File materials describe the underlying offense as occurring in January 1979 when Mr. Bebb killed an unknown adult female during the course of an armed robbery. The victim was an attendant at a Password/Western Union store. At about 11:00 pm on the date of the offense the victim's body was discovered in the Password/Western Union store by a private security officer. The victim had been shot in the neck/shoulder area with what appeared to be a shotgun. A note was discovered stating, "This is a robbery. Give me the money/give me the money box. I have a shotgun." Nothing however, appeared to be missing from the store. Mr. Bebb was connected to the crime through fingerprint and hand-writing analysis. Testimony was also provided that Mr. Bebb had been in the area at the time the crime occurred. In addition, Mr. Bebb had made a comment to authorities in California when he was booked into custody there that he had "An unknown charge" pending against him in Spokane.

At the time the police interviewed Mr. Bebb on the current offense, he was incarcerated in California on a separate offense. He was later extradited from California to Washington for trial. However, the trial was delayed when Mr. Bebb was transferred for competency evaluations on two occasions. Mr. Bebb was ultimately determined to be competent and later found guilty of the offense by jury trial.

PRIOR CRIMINAL CONDUCT:

Mr. Bebb has an extensive criminal history beginning in January 1963 when he was convicted in California for auto theft. Mr. Bebb was a juvenile at the time and was released to the Attorney General for an indeterminate term under the Federal Youth Authority.

In July 1966 Mr. Bebb was convicted of Assault in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Mr. Bebb reports that this was a fight with a friend and he was sentenced to 30 days confinement.

In September 1967 he was convicted of Forgery in San Diego, California. Mr. Bebb indicates that he was writing bad checks and was sentenced to six months to 14 years.

In July 1968 he was convicted of Escape in San Bernardino, California. In this incident Mr. Bebb escaped with a partner and stole a car in the process. He was sentenced to six months to five years.

In March 1973 he was convicted of six counts of Armed Robbery in Sacramento, California. In these instances Mr. Bebb reportedly robbed bars during the night with a co-defendant. He was sentenced to the state penitentiary on an indeterminate sentence.

In September 1977 he was convicted of Driving under the Influence in Napa, California.

In January 1979 he was convicted of Assault with a Deadly Weapon on a Police Officer, Robbery, and Possession of a Firearm by an Ex-Felon in Sacramento, California. He was sentenced to nine years confinement.

In addition to these offenses there were several other arrests for felonies between 1958 and 1978 that were either not pursued or dismissed.

HISTORY/COMMENTS:

The Board first met with Mr. Bebb for an In-Person Progress Hearing in April 2007. At that time the Board recommended that he be scheduled for a .100 hearing and considered for a Mutual Reentry Plan (MRP). Mr. Bebb was next seen in December 2007 for the .100 hearing. At that time the Board found him not parolable and made no change to his current time structure. The Board reasoned at that time that although Mr. Bebb's behavior warranted MRP consideration, such an action would have required an unreasonable reduction in the length of his sentence.

This is Mr. Bebb's fourth meeting with the Board and the first since he was found conditionally parolable to a MRP at his last .100 hearing in September of 2014. Since his last hearing and while in a camp setting Mr. Bebb was very active in pursuing vocational, educational, and offender change programming, and he has a long list of accomplishments to his credit. Mr. Bebb has been in the Rap/Lincoln Work Release program for a relatively short time. However, he has reportedly made excellent progress and shown high levels of initiative in obtaining employment and housing that will be available upon release, as well as identifying available community mental health services.

CCO Debbie Moore provided a summary of programming, behavior, and other relevant plans for Mr. Bebb. She stated that Mr. Bebb has not been a management problem in any way and he is respectful and gets along well with others. She stated Mr. Bebb volunteered three days a week at a local non-profit when he first arrived. She stated he has just recently obtained community support through a local faith based organization that has helped him to obtain housing and a job at a drug and alcohol agency working as a counselor aid, which he has already started and is 40 hours per week. She stated he has been highly motivated and gets along with everyone and is a strong role model for other offenders. CCO Moore stated Mr. Bebb has resources for paying his own rent and will not need to access the housing voucher program.

Mr. Bebb provided a disclosure of his index offense that is somewhat consistent with file material

information. Mr. Bebb fully acknowledges that he planned the robbery and was the “mastermind” behind the event. He did not minimize his role in the murder and was also adamant that he was not the person that killed the victim. He also stated that he is completely responsible for what occurred and that he has lead a life in which he has done many terrible things for which he was not held accountable. He stated he is very appreciative of the opportunity the Board has provided to him, as for many years he did not believe he would ever get out of prison. He stated he had a radical shift in his attitude when his wife at the time had told him it was time for him to “grow up”, and that was the turning point for him. He stated he remembers the conversation like it was yesterday.

Mr. Bebb stated he has also found peace through this religious beliefs and practices and found this to be invaluable to him living a life free from antisocial behavior and crime. He stated his greatest concern upon release is how he will interact with other “old people” and he still identifies himself as young in his mind. He further stated that he is very grateful to have what is being made available to him in the community and that his new boss spoke to him in a way that made him feel as if he is “somebody”, maybe for the first time in his entire life.

Mental Health Psychological Associate Walton provided a summary of his work with Mr. Bebb. He stated Mr. Bebb appears very stable and has met with him on several occasions, though he is not currently taking any mental health medications. Mr. Walton stated Mr. Bebb has been an active participant and makes valuable contributions to his treatment group. He stated has been very impressed with Mr. Bebb’s level of motivation which he described as unusually high. He further stated that he has already looked at connecting Mr. Bebb to local community mental health resources which they both agreed will be important for him upon release.

INFORMATION CONSIDERED:

In preparation for Mr. Bebb’s hearing and its decision in this case, the Board completed a review of Mr. Bebb’s ISRB file. The Board considered all information contained in that file, 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 the psychological evaluation prepared by Dr. Curtis Hileman dated August 20, 2014. The Board also considered the testimony of the witnesses listed above.

The Spokane Prosecutor's Office submitted a recommendation on April 11, 2017, in which they oppose any reduction in Mr. Bebb's sentence.

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 Mr. Bebb parolable.

Mr. Bebb has continued to make progress during his MRP and since his last hearing with the Board. He has participated in a variety of programs at camp, and though at work release for a short period of time, has received highly favorable reviews from DOC staff and has already secured employment and housing for his anticipated release to parole. Mr. Bebb has done what he can in order to mitigate his risk and states that he is as ready as he will ever be to be back in the community. Mr. Bebb acknowledges that he will need to continue to manage his mental health and finds it very helpful to have someone to be able to talk with on a regular basis regarding the challenges he encounters and this will be an important component of his reentry.

Mr. Bebb reportedly has employment and housing available to him as he is released. He appears to have completed the programs available to him in order to address his needs, is motivated to

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return to the community, and has reached an age that is likely a mitigating factor (74). He understands he will be under DOC and ISRB supervision for a period of 36 months and he verbalized that he believes he has the ability to be in full compliance with his supervision conditions.

JP:jas

May 11, 2017

cc: Rap/Lincoln Work Release
Robert Bebb
File



STATE OF WASHINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
INDETERMINATE SENTENCE REVIEW BOARD**

P.O. BOX 40907, OLYMPIA, WA 98504-0907

DATE: May 11, 2017

TO: Full Board

FROM: JP & LRG

RE: BEBB, Robert #912074

Panel recommends: Find Mr. Bebb parolable.

Next action: Submit an ORP for Board approval at which time the Board may cut time and release Mr. Bebb prior to his current PERD.

Agree	Disagree
Jeff Patnode 5-31-2017 Lori Ramsdell-Gilkey 5-31-2017 Elyse Balmert 5-31-2017 Kecia Rongen 5-31-2017	