



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

DECISION AND REASONS

NAME: FORREST, Warren
DOC #: 287319
FACILITY: WSP
TYPE OF HEARING: .100 Hearing
HEARING DATE: July 18, 2017
PANEL MEMBERS: KR & LRG
FINAL DECISION DATE: July 28, 2017

This matter came before Kecia Rongen 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. Forrest appeared in person and was represented by attorney George Marlton. Testimony was provided by Department of Corrections (DOC) Classification Counselor (CC) Eleanor Faaumu, DOC Sex Offender Treatment and Mr. Forrest. Others present at the hearing were: Media Reporters from KOIN TV.

BOARD 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 Mr. Forrest is not parolable and adds 90 months to his minimum term.

NEXT ACTION:

Schedule a .100 hearing 120 days prior to his ERD. A new psychological evaluation will be required for the next hearing.

JURISDICTION:

Warren Forrest is under the jurisdiction of the Board on a 1979 conviction in Clark County Cause #10264 for Murder in the First Degree. His time start was April 26, 1979. His minimum term was set at 628 months at the Duration of Confinement hearing, from a Sentencing Reform Act (SRA) guideline range of 240 – 320 months, adjusted to 234 – 314 months, with 180 days jail credits. The maximum term is Life. Mr. Forrest has served approximately 458 months in prison.

The Duration of Confinement hearing was conducted by the Board in June of 1990, at which time his minimum term was set at 628 months. During the Murder First Degree Review the Prosecutor recommended Life without Parole, and in 1990 a Judge adopted the same recommendation.

NATURE OF INDEX OFFENSE(S):

File materials indicate that in July of 1974 a 19 year old victim was last seen by an acquaintance getting in to an unknown blue van in the Vancouver area. On July 11, 1976, the remains of a female were found in a Clark County parks maintenance depot, which was secured by a series of locked gates. The remains were identified as the victim through dental records. The victim was found in a shallow grave, in a “hog-tied” position with puncture holes in her shirt.

It was discovered that the only employee with access to the maintenance depot, with a vehicle matching the description of the one the victim was last seen entering in 1974, had been Mr. Forrest. In addition, the material used to tie the victim was available to park department employees. Also, Mr. Forrest matched the description that the witnesses provided of the owner of the vehicle the victim was seen entering.

Mr. Forrest admitted that he drove her to his work place at Tukes Mountain Park near Vancouver, Washington, and attempted to rape her, and then stabbed her to death because she struggled.

PRIOR CRIMINAL CONDUCT:

Mr. Forrest was charged with Assault in the First Degree, Rape, and Armed Robbery in Clark County in 1974 under cause #8541. He was found not guilty by reason of insanity and he was, in

fact, in custody at Western State Hospital on this offense when the index cause Murder charges were filed, although it appears that he actually committed the murder offense prior to the insanity acquittal.

File materials indicate in October of 1974 Mr. Forrest lured an unknown 20 year old female into his vehicle under the guise that he was a college student doing a photography project, and he wanted to pay her to model for him. The victim accepted and got into his blue van. Once in the vehicle they drove a short while before Mr. Forrest stopped the vehicle. At that point, he choked and bound the victim and drove to a remote Clark County parks area that was secured. Mr. Forrest gained access to the area with a key he possessed as an employee. He parked his vehicle and proceeded to remove portions of the victim's clothing. He fired darts into her breasts; he also inserted plastic tubing into the victim's vagina and then attempted to rape her. He was unsuccessful on his first attempt, he then took the victim from the vehicle, untied her feet, and placed a slipknot over her neck. The victim was then led into a heavily wooded area and after they had walked a distance, Mr. Forrest proceeded to choke the victim with the rope around her neck until she was unconscious. When the victim awoke, she was lying under a heavy pile of logs and was having difficulty breathing. After some time she was able to sit up, and discovered that all her clothing and shoes were gone, and she was no longer bound. She further discovered that she had been stabbed in the chest several times. The victim was able to make her way out of the woods, onto a gravel road, where she was eventually found by a passerby.

In July of 1974 a 15 year old female was visiting the city of Ridgefield, Washington, with her family and went for a walk. She was sitting by the side of the road when a man (later identified as Mr. Forrest) driving a blue van stopped and began talking with her. He offered to take her for a ride and the victim accepted. They drove a short distance when Mr. Forrest attacked the victim at knifepoint, and bound and gagged her. They drove for some distance until they arrived at the location later determined to be a Clark County maintenance depot. There Mr. Forrest removed the victim from the vehicle and carried her some distance before tying her between two sapling trees. He then left the victim, telling her he would return in a short time. While he was gone the

victim was able to remove the gag and chew through the twine tying her head to one tree. She was then able to break some of the twine on her hands and ankles, and with some difficulty was able to get to a standing position. With her hands and feet still bound, she was able to hop some distance before rolling underneath a fence and into a pasture area. She then heard some noises coming from the area where she had been tied and she lay in the pasture area until the noises subsided. The victim got up and began moving through the field until she came to some buildings, and while she was attempting to locate someone for help a different park employee assisted her and contacted law enforcement.

It appears that Mr. Forrest was charged regarding this incident, but the charges did not result in a conviction. It should be noted that according to news stories included in the file materials, Mr. Forrest is suspected of four additional cases where 16-18 year old female victims went missing between December of 1971 and August 1974; and some remains were later recovered in remote areas of Clark County. Law enforcement has indicated that Mr. Forrest likely committed these crimes; however, they had insufficient evidence for charges or convictions.

HISTORY/COMMENTS:

Mr. Forrest's last hearing was held on February 19, 2014. At that time the Board found him not parolable and added 60 months to his minimum term. The Board noted he was too high of a risk to release at that time.

As a preliminary matter, Mr. Marlton wanted to confirm that the Board had received support letters for Mr. Forrest, which we had.

CC Faaumu testified Mr. Forrest has not had any infractions since 1993. His work evaluations are positive and he is rated as above average to superior. He currently works for the Correctional Industries box factory.

Mr. Forrest believed that the last decision made by the Board to not release him was partly based on erroneous information. He referenced a chrono that was written by his SOTAP Therapist and on-going fantasies about staff. Mr. Forrest felt that information was cleared up at his last hearing. Mr. Forrest also acknowledged there were other reasons for the Board not finding him releasable. He read a statement to the panel about why he came to the hearing with a full beard and no haircut. He indicated he did not mean any disrespect to the Board but wanted to the Board to see him as he is every day.

Mr. Forrest was able to identify what was occurring with him when he committed the murder. He described being under a lot of stress and needing a “distraction” which were his violent fantasies. These fantasies were related to power, but denied they had anything to do with killing women. He admitted to the murder, although without much attachment to his feelings. He was asked how he felt after the murder and he indicated he could not get in touch with any feelings at the time. When asked to think about his feelings now, he mentioned that he could speculate that there was sorrow, sadness, frustration, regret and fear. Mr. Forrest maintains that he did not set out to murder the victim but when a struggle ensued, he strangled her to death. With the crime of assault, rape and armed robbery he was trying to kill her to cover up the crime. He admitted that he was not in touch with his feelings that time. Despite asking a variety of different ways, Mr. Forrest’s answer was consistent that he was not in touch with his feelings during his crime spree.

Mr. Forrest was asked about other unadjudicated victims he may have during that same time period. Attorney George Marlton advised Mr. Forrest not to speak to the Board about that information since it is a public hearing and of the 5th Amendment. He was asked about the Crime Laboratory Report presented to him by Det. Schultz from the Clark county Sheriff’s Office, which he declined to discuss. The Board Member asked about unadjudicated victims that he had previously discussed in the Sex Offender Treatment and Assessment Program which he also declined to discuss and referred the Board to the program summary.

A psychological evaluation completed by Dr. Johnson and Wentworth in January of 2017. Mr. Forrest scores in the low to moderate range in psychopathy, moderate range to re-offend violently and moderate range for protective factors. According to the evaluation this indicates a “lower risk to reoffend.”

Mr. Marlton and Mr. Forrest requested that the Board find him conditionally parolable to a Mutual Re-entry Plan (MRP) in order for him to transfer to the minimum security area of WSP.

INFORMATION CONSIDERED:

In preparation for Mr. Forrest’s hearing and its decision in this case, the Board completed a review of his/her 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; psychological evaluation prepared by Dr. Johnson and Dr. Wentworth dated January 17, 2017. 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 Mr. Forrest not parolable.

The Board did receive an updated recommendation from the Clark County Prosecuting Office which recommended Mr. Forrest remain incarcerated due to “documented history of extreme sexual violence against women.”

Mr. Forrest admits to one murder against a young female and abductions of two other young

women. He is suspected of the disappearance and murders of at least 5 additional females. Mr. Forrest denies being involved in any of the unsolved murders. In SOTAP, Mr. Forrest did admit to offending against “seventeen different female victims during sixteen different incidents.” The behaviors ranged from voyeurism to the murder of the index victim. In the SOTAP summary, it indicates that “Mr. Forrest made minimal progress identifying and exploring distortions, feeling and behaviors which contributed to his decision to engage in homicidal behaviors.” At this time, the Board views Mr. Forrest as too high of a risk to release and not fully rehabilitated or a fit subject for release. He should remain infraction free and participate in whatever programming is available to him.

KR

(7-27-2017)

cc: Institution
Warren Forrest
File
George Marlton, Attorney



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DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
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P.O. BOX 40907, OLYMPIA, WA 98504-0907

DATE: *July 27, 2017*

TO: Full Board

FROM: KR (*Christine*)

RE: FORREST, Warren, DOC #287319

Panel recommends: No parolable, add 90 months to minimum term.

Next action: Schedule .100 Hearing 120 days prior to Parole Eligibility Review Date (PERD).

Agree	Disagree
Lori Ramsdell-Gilkey 7-28-2017 Jeff Patnode 7-27-2017 Elyse Balmert 7-27-2017 Kecia Rongen 7-27-2017	

