



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

DECISION AND REASONS

NAME: RAGAN, Tommy
DOC #: 287417
FACILITY: MCC-TRU
DATE OF HEARING: November 6, 2018
TYPE OF HEARING: .100
PANEL MEMBERS: Kecia Rongen & Elyse Balmert
FINAL DECISION DATE: November 19, 2018

This matter came before the above named Board Members of the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board (ISRB or the Board) for a .100 hearing in accordance with RCW 9.95.100. In preparation for the hearing, the Board reviewed Mr. Ragan's ISRB file. Mr. Ragan appeared in person and was represented by Attorney Darrel Lahtinen. Testimony was provided by Department of Corrections (DOC) Classification Counselor (CC) Edward Snydsman, Tommy Ragan and Sex Offender Treatment and Assessment Program (SOTAP) Supervisor Joan Howe.

The original recommendation from the Judge and Prosecutor was Life for Mr. Ragan.

Updated recommendations were received by the Pacific County, Thurston County and Lewis County Prosecutors which all recommended Mr. Ragan not be released.

LAST BOARD DECISION:

At the September 9, 2014 hearing, the Board found Mr. Ragan not parolable and added 60 months to his minimum term.

CURRENT 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. Ragan is not parolable and adds 75 months to his minimum term

NEXT ACTION:

Scheduled a .100 hearing 120 days prior to his ERD.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

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 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 9.95.100, the Board finds Mr. Ragan not parolable for the following reasons:

- **Mr. Ragan scores as a high risk to reoffend on the risk assessments, PCL-R, VRAG-R**
- **Mr. Ragan does not want to be released**
- **He continues to have thoughts of sexually assaulting minor males**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Mr. Ragan should participate in whatever programming is available to him to include Bridges to Life and chemical dependency treatment.

JURISDICTION:

Tommy Ragan is under the jurisdiction of the Board on a May 16, 1977 conviction in Lewis County Cause #4881 for Murder in the Second Degree and an October 4, 1977 conviction in Pacific County Cause #C-1943 for Count I – Assault in the Second Degree and Counts II and III – Sodomy, both with a Habitual Criminal Finding, to be served concurrently. The time start on the Murder in the Second Degree was September 13, 1977. The minimum term was set at 20 years (240 months) from a Sentencing Reform Act (SRA) range of 175 to 233 months. The time start on the

Assault in the Second Degree and two counts of Sodomy was October 4, 1977. The minimum term was set at 15 years (180 months - mandatory) from SRA of 55 to 69 months and 129 to 171 months. The maximum term is Life. Mr. Ragan has served approximately 502 months total in prison and 0 days of jail time.

OFFENSE DESCRIPTION:

File materials indicate that in 1977, Mr. Ragan, age 34, murdered a 14 year old male victim, cut off his head and dismembered his body. The body was buried in a shallow grave near Yelm, WA.

In 1974, Mr. Ragan, age 31, assaulted a 16 year old boy with a knife and forced the boy to perform fellatio. Mr. Ragan then raped the boy anally. The offense was not reported until 1977.

PRIOR CRIMINAL / RISK RELATED CONDUCT:

Mr. Ragan has a 1960 conviction for Careless use of a Firearms and Burglary. He served two years for these offenses in Federal Prison in Colorado, from which he escaped twice during this period.

Mr. Ragan has 1964 conviction for Kidnapping in the Second Degree, wherein he anally raped a 12 year old male. He was sentenced to a maximum of 10 years and served approximately four years confinement. Mr. Ragan also has a conviction in 1969 for Burglary in the Second Degree in Lewis County. He has a criminal history that begins at age 5 and his juvenile record includes Auto Theft, Escape and Burglary in the Second Degree. He was committed to Green Hill School, from which he escaped, and he was then committed to the Washington State Reformatory for nine months.

PROGRESS/BEHAVIOR:

CC Edward Snydsman testified that Mr. Ragan has not had any infractions since his last hearing. He has completed SOTAP, Community Transition, Living Longer Living Stronger and Financial Peace University and is a Groundskeeper. He has former inmates in the community who support him.

Mr. Ragan was asked to take the Board through his index offense of murder which he did. Mr. Ragan skipped over the part where he dismembered the body of the victim. When asked why he did this, he stated it was to try to conceal the identity of the victim. He denied there was any sexual motivation to the murder. He indicated his life was completely out-of-control at the time and he did not have any motivation to do the right thing in life.

Mr. Ragan indicated he is older now and has tried hard to change his thinking patterns. He did tell the panel that he does have thoughts about sexually assaulting young males still about every 6 months. Mr. Ragan was asked to provide the Board with his high risks which he had difficulty doing, except when prompted. He indicated it was alcohol, impulsiveness and attraction to minor males. He admits that he is more comfortable with younger inmates.

Mr. Ragan was asked if he felt he deserved to get out of prison and he indicated “no.” He was also asked if he wanted to get out and he said “not really.” He does not think he can “make it out there.”

SOTAP Supervisor Joan Howe testified that Mr. Ragan gave good feedback to others. He completed his assignments. It was brought to Mr. Ragan’s attention that there was concern about him “hanging” out with younger inmates on the unit.

Mr. Lahtinen indicated that Mr. Ragan did not have the conversation with him about not getting out. He thought it likely went back and forth depending on the day. In regards to the Forensic Psychological Evaluation (FPE) Mr. Lahtinen argued that it is done for a very specific reason. He pointed out that most of the risk assessments are based on the static risk. Mr. Lahtinen pointed out that Mr. Ragan has completed SOTAP for the second time. He recommended the Board find Mr. Ragan conditionally parolable.

At this point Mr. Ragan’s FPE is from 2011, normally the Board would request an updated one be completed, however Mr. Ragan has expressed that he doesn’t really want to get out of prison,

RAGAN, Tommy – DOC #287417

Page 5 of 6

does not believe he will be successful in the community and is still has thoughts about sexually abusing minor males.

KR: ts

November 12, 2018

November 19, 2018

November 27, 2018

cc: MCC-TRU
Darrel Lahtinen
File



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

TO: Full Board

FROM: Kecia Rongen (Teresa Schmidt)

RE: RAGAN, Tommy, DOC #287417

Panel recommends: Not parolable – add 75 months to minimum term.

Next action: Schedule .100 120 days prior to PERD.

Agree	Disagree
Elyse Balmert 11-19-2018 Lori Ramsdell-Gilkey 11-19-2018 Jeff Patnode 11-19-2018 Kecia Rongen 11-19-2018	