

INDETERMINATE SENTENCE REVIEW BOARD
BOARD MEETING
SUMMARY MINUTES

Monday, September 8, 2025

A regular meeting of the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board was held in the ISRB Office Building located at 637 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey, WA 98504, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Present were:

Board Members:

Kecia Rongen
Corey McNally
Jeff Patnode
Jill Getty
Meghan Kelly-Stallings

Staff:

Leah Landon, Executive Director
Rebecca Torrence, Executive Assistant

A. To the Table Case – Members had a full Board discussion of this ISRB case.

PRE-LT JUVBRD

- SUAREZ, Robert
- DOC #881226
- Purpose: Full Board Discussion
- Date: September 8, 2025
- List of Documents Reviewed
 - ISRB File
- An updated prosecutor recommendation was not received.

- Robert Suarez was seen for a Release hearing on August 27, 2025 at the Washington Corrections Center.

- **Summary Discussion**
Mr. Patnode presented the case to the full Board.

- Robert Suarez is being seen by the Board for his conviction of Murder in the First Degree in Benton County Cause 04-1-01119-5.

In September 2004, Mr. Suarez and an accomplice murdered a local teacher, coach and mentor. He was 16 years of age at the time of the crime and is currently 37 years of age.

Previous Criminal History:

Mr. Suarez has charges from November 2023 of Controlled Substance Violation and Criminal Trespass in the Second Degree.

Risk assessments show him to be a low risk to re-offend.

Mr. Suarez has not had a serious infraction since 2019 for being in an unassigned location in the facility. His last violent serious infraction was in 2013.

Mr. Suarez is not currently participating in any programming. However, he has an extensive transcript of programming to include receiving certifications.

Mr. Suarez would like to release to his grandmother's home.

- **Decision:**

The panel recommends Mr. Suarez not be released.

- **Reasons:**

- Mr. Suarez has a history of committing violence in prison that is connected to a gang affiliation. From 2006-2019, he received multiple serious infractions that either included assaultive behavior or some use of aggression. Mr. Suarez acknowledges these behaviors were primarily driven by his gang association.
- The March 2025 psychological evaluation indicates Mr. Suarez score as follows on the Violence Risk Assessment Guide-Revised (VRAG-R). Mr. Suarez's scored in the second highest category of 9 (7 of 9), which indicated that 45% of similar offenders are expected to meet criteria for violent recidivism within 5 years of release, and 69% within 12 years. He scores high on the ACE Questionnaire (8 out of 10). Mr. Suarez's responses resulted in a score of 8, suggesting that he experienced a seriously dysfunctional upbringing, which likely complicated his ability to develop trust, empathy/caring for other people, and prosocial decision making ". The Personality Assessment Inventory indicates Mr. Suarez' profile contains some features that suggest questionable validity. He endorsed a significant number of uncommon items, so much so that his score on the Infrequency (INF) scale was higher than 96% of the normative sample.
- Mr. Suarez provides a version of the index offense which has not been previously recorded and appears to be an attempt to place him in a more favorable light. Additionally, his expressed desire to return

to the community where the murder occurred, indicates a lack of understanding this murder has had on the survivors and community at large. The victim was a “beloved” teacher and coach in the public school system.

- **Recommendations:**

- Sober Support Groups.
- If eligible, Thinking for a Change, Redemption, Bridges to Life, Alternatives to Violence, Domestic Violence Treatment.
- Remain infraction free and have positive interactions with staff.
- Participate in next Hearing.
- Develop a release plan/community support.
- Programing that emphasizes developing victim empathy and the impacts of crime.

- **Next Action:**

- Pursuant to RCW 9.94A.730, Mr. Suarez is eligible to repetition five years from the date of the decision. The Board will not set an earlier repetition date. Mr. Suarez’ current earned release is December 2030.

- **Vote:**

Jeff Patnode	Agree with recommendation
Kecia Rongen	Agree with recommendation
Corey McNally	Does Not Agree with recommendation
Jill Getty	Agree with recommendation
Meghan Kelly-Stallings	Does Not Agree with recommendation