

Appendix B
Pamela Smart Achievements & Certifications

Certifications and Achievements for Pamela Smart

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Inmate Progress Reports

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Honor Floor References

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Academic Degrees

Master of Fine Arts, English Literature (GPA 4.0), Summa Cum Laude, Class Valedictorian, Mercy College, May 2003.

Master of Science in Law, (GPA 4.0), Summa Cum Laude, Southern California University for Professional Studies, May 2001.

Bachelor of Science in Communications, Magna Cum Laude, Florida State University, 1988.

Additional Academic Achievements

- Completion of Unit 1 – Clinical Pastoral Education (St. John’s Episcopal Services, NY), April 2007.
- Graduate Level Research Course (Columbia University), April 2000.
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude, University of Alabama Criminal Justice Program, April 1997.
- Teaching Apprenticeship through N.Y. State Department of Labor, April 1997.
- Awarded University of Alabama’s Sam Howard Memorial Endowed Scholarship for Criminal Justice Studies, 1996.
- Certified, GED Teacher's Aide, New York State Department of Labor, 2005-2014; 1993-2003.
- Completed Civil Rights Movement Course (CUNY), December 1995.
- Graduated (Highest in Class), Legal Research Course, January 1995.
- Certified Peer Facilitator, AIDS Institute and New York Department of Health.

Additional Volunteer Work

- Administrative assistant, Physical Education Department June 2017-Present
- Peer Facilitator, AIDS, Counseling and Education Program 2014 – June 2017
 - Create curricula for groups on HIV/AIDS Hepatitis C, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and other women's Health Issues;
 - Facilitates HIV-positive support group, women's health groups and, and HIV/AIDS information groups for new inmates;
 - Certified as a Peer Facilitator through the AIDS Institute and the New York Department of Health;
 - Trained to conduct Center for Disease Control "Respect" groups, which are evidence-based, individual-level intervention, client-focused HIV prevention intervention groups;
 - Responsible for implementing SHE (Strong HIV-Positive Empowered groups);
 - Conducts Peer Facilitator Training Curriculum from the AIDS Institute and Department of Health to train and certify new peers;

- Trained in "Seeking Safety," an evidence-based counseling program from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Health Bureau of HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control that studies the multidirectional relationship between trauma substance abuse and HIV/AIDS.
- Certificate of Appreciation for Years of Dedication to Volunteer Tutoring Program, June 2013.
- Tutor: adult basic education, pre-GED, GED and college classes, 2012. Selected by school principal as his Academic Assistant
- 2012 certified as an HIV/AIDS counselor through the New York State Department of Health. This training program involved instruction on disease transmission and prevention, medical treatment, risk reduction and much more.
- Elected by staff as Honor Floor corridor representative, 2012
- Guest Speaker at Family Violence Group regarding the therapeutic experience of making "What I Want My Words to Do to You", January 2011
- Certified in Church Leadership Presider Training August 2010
- Editor/Writer of Weekly Church Bulletin, January 2010-present
- Editor for "Sons and Daughters Ministry" 2004-present
- Unit maintenance and paint crew, 2003-present
- Volunteer Tutor in Long Term Care Hospital Unit, 2003-present
- Researcher and Emcee for Motown Extravaganza Event, 2003
- Performer at Latin Explosion Educational Event, 2002
- Network/Step Up" Inmate Program Aide
- Organized and oversaw "Childhood Games" night in RMU3 – Mental Health Unit, 2000-2002.
- Cleaned and painted for Accreditation, 1994, 2000
- Academic Outreach Tutor, 1993-2008
- Taught pre-college math workshops involving the creation and design of pre-tests (all but one student passed their college entrance exams), 2000
- Assisted Dr. Michelle Fine (Columbia University), Participatory Action Research, published by the American Psychological Association
- Researcher for Harlem Renaissance Event, 2001
- Volunteer tutor for Pre-GED 1 & 2, GED, Pre-college, college, and Master's students, 1993-present.
- Research Project re: impact of college on women in prison. Involved extensive research, conducting focus groups, designing the project, writing, editing, data analysis, and constructing several reports
- Red Cross Certificate in Recognition of Haiti Relief Fund

Published Works

- “What I Want My Words To Do To You”. Ed. Judith Katz. PBS “Point of View” Documentary, 2003. This documentary won the coveted “Freedom of Expression” award at the 2002 Sundance Film Festival, and the “PASS Award” from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency
- “Changing Minds”: The Impact of College in a Maximum Security Prison. Collaborative research by the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and Women in Prison at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. September 2001
- “A Space for Co-Constructing Counter Stories Under Surveillance”. Critical Psychology. The International Journal of Critical Psychology. Eds. Michelle Fine and Anita Harris. London: Lawrence and Wishart. 2001.

Group Participation

- Actor, singer, dancer in "The Wiz," shown at the United Nations Symposium on Poverty and Criminal Justice, 2017.
- Writer, actor, singer and dancer in original RTA musical production, “Amazing .Grace” – July 18, 2013.
- Leadership Sacred Table – under Pastor Doris Tongo, October 2009 – Present.
- Rites of Passage – Seven Week Spiritual Courses – October 2009 – January 2010.
- World AIDS Day, December 2009 – Spiritual Dancer.
- Appointed Director of Praise Dance Ministry by Rev. Maria Lopez, 2006 – present.
- Gospel Reader, Church Services, 2005–present.
- Member of Church Praise Dancers, 2005–present.
- Elected Long-termers’ Committee Delegate, 2005–present.
- Member of Playwright Eve Ensler’s creative writing group, 2000-present
- State Volleyball Team, 1996.
- Weightlifting Competition, 1996.
- Organized Intramural Softball League, 1995-present.
- State Softball Team 1994-present.
- Member of N.O.W., May 1994-present.
- Member of Long termers’ Committee, 1994-present.
- Inmate Liaison Committee President, 1994.
- Nominated by population for Inmate Grievance Representation, 1993-present.
- Participated in ACE Walk-a-thon, 1993 through 2004.

Programs Attended

- Completed 13 week, daily Family Violence Program, July 2013.
- 2012 Pastoral Training Program. Pame is still working as a Church Leader. She is the Director and Choreographer of the Praise Dancers and also dances with the group at services.
- Completed Rehabilitation Through the Arts course, “Creating a Safe Haven” through music, writing and performance, January 2011.
- Completed Rehabilitation Through the Arts, “Women & Mythology” August 2010.
- Completed Rehabilitation Through the Arts, “Interpreting Shakespeare through Writing and Performing Original Scenes, June 2010.
- Completed Rehabilitation Through the Arts, “Art & The Individual”; Interpreting Great Art through Character Development Course, September 2009-December 2009.
- Completed Rehabilitation Through the Arts, “Creative Discovery Workshop, July 2009.
- Rehabilitation Through the Arts, “Interpreting Great Writings” September 2008.
- Service Award for Exemplary Tutoring, 2006-present.
- Network One Year Certificate 2004.
- Inmate Program Aide in Network/Step Up Program, 2003-October 2005.
- Alternatives to Violence II, November 2000.
- Down on Violence, May 2000.
- Anger and You, April 2000.
- Alternatives to Violence, March 2000.
- Six Week HIV/AIDS Workshop, February 1997.
- Academic I.P.A. Training, March 1995.
- Academic Outreach Tutor, 1994-present.
- Teacher’s Aide in Pre-GED 1, 1994-2003.
- Money Addiction, November 1994.

Mercy College

To all persons to whom these letters may come

Greetings

Upon certification by the Faculty that the requirements prescribed have been duly fulfilled,
by virtue of the authority vested in the Board of Trustees by the University of the
State of New York, Mercy College hereby confers upon

Pamela A. Smart

the Degree of

Master of Arts

English

With Distinction

with all the rights, privileges and immunities thereto appertaining.

Witness this Diploma given at Westchester County, New York in the month
of May, two thousand and three bearing the seal of the College
and the signatures of the President and of the Provost.

Lucie H. Lewis
Provost

Lucie Laporte
President



Southern California University
for Professional Studies
Santa Ana, California

Know all persons by these presents, That

Pamela Ann Smart

having completed the program of study and satisfied the requirement of the University
for the degree of

Master of Science in Law

Specialization: Criminal Justice

Summa Cum Laude

is hereby admitted to that degree with all the Rights, Privileges, Honors and
Marks of Distinction thereto pertaining here or elsewhere,

In Witness Whereof, the seal of the University and the signature of its officers have been herein affixed
this fifth day of April, 2001

James H. ...
Chancellor

Michael ...
President of the University



Cl Stanton
Dean

Bonnie Flood
Registrar

**Southern California University
for Professional Studies**

1840 East 17th Street, Santa Ana, CA 92705-8605
714/480-0800 800/477-2254 FAX 714/480-0834

ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT

| | |
|---|--|
| SSN: 001643805 | Degree: Master of Science in Law |
| Name: Pamela Ann Smart | |
| Address: # 93G0356 114B-13 247 Harris Rd Bedford Hills, NY 10507-2496 USA | Date Awarded: 4/5/01 |
| Dissertation: | Concentration/ Specialization: Criminal Justice |

Basis of Admission: BS - The Florida State University, 1988

Units Accepted in Transfer:

Units Grade

No Units Accepted in Transfer

Units Earned Through Southern California University for Professional Studies Toward the Degree:

| Date | Course Title | Number | Units | Grade | Points | GPA |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------|--|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| 10/11/99 | Prison Reform: Punish, Isolate or Rehabilitate | CJLAW 607 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| 10/21/99 | Social & Ethical Issues in Criminal Justice | CJLAW 504 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| 2/20/00 | Law and Theory in Contemporary Society | CJLAW 502 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| 7/24/00 | American Corrections | CJLAW 601 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| 8/3/00 | American Delinquency | CJLAW 604 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| 9/22/00 | Punishment Theories | CJLAW 606 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| 1/31/01 | Psychology and the Law | CJLAW 603 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| 4/5/01 | Past, Current & Future Trends in Criminal Justice | CJLAW 503 | 4.0 | A | 16.00 | |
| GRADUATED: SUMMA CUM LAUDE | | | Total Units Earned through SCUPS: | 32.0 | 128.00 | 4.00 |
| WITH HIGHEST HONORS | | | Total Units Toward Degree: | 32.0 | | |

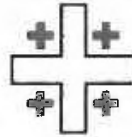
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ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPT


Registrar

**Southern California University
for Professional Studies**

**Under provisions of the Family Educational
Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, this transcript
may not be released or revealed to a third party
without the written consent of the student.**



CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Awarded to

Pamela Smart

in Recognition of Successful Completion of *One Unit* (450 Supervised Hours) Clinical Pastoral Education training, in accordance with the Standards of the College of Pastoral Supervision & Psychotherapy, within the period of *October 2006 to April 2007* at the Episcopal Health Services Clinical Pastoral Education Training Center, Far Rockaway, New York.

The Reverend Dr. Richard Liew.
Director of Clinical Pastoral Education

April 2007

The Reverend Maria Lopez
Supervisor-In-Training

The Right Dr. Reverend Orris G. Walker, Jr.
*The Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island
President of the Board of Managers, EHS*

The Reverend Dr. Cecily Broderick y Guerra
*Vice President of Pastoral Care & Education
Episcopal Health Services*

Corbett A. Price
*Executive Vice President and CEO
Episcopal Health Services*

CERTIFICATE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

This is to certify that

Pamela Smart

has, on this date, May 9, 1997, completed
the Certificate in Criminal Justice

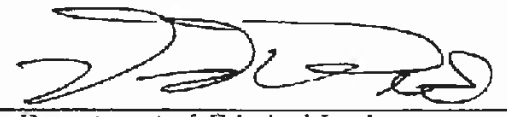
Offered by

The University of Alabama
College of Continuing Studies and
The Department of Criminal Justice



Director, Independent Study





Chair, Department of Criminal Justice

State of New York
GEORGE E. PATAKI, Governor
Department of Labor

Certificate of Completion

for
Apprenticeship Training

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

PAMELA A. SMART

HAS SERVED AN APPRENTICESHIP OF ONE YEAR(S)

AT THE OCCUPATION OF: TEACHER AIDE (FACILITY)

IN THE EMPLOY OF: NYS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES-BEDFORD HILLS

**UNDER STANDARDS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF LABOR
AND IS A QUALIFIED TEACHER AIDE (FACILITY)**

GIVEN AT ALBANY, NEW YORK, THIS 9TH DAY OF APRIL, 1997

James I. McGowan, Commissioner of Labor



Certificate of Achievement

This Award is presented to

Pamela Smart

In recognition of Distinguished Achievement in

Teachers Aide

*Given at BHCF Academic Department
On this 19th Day of May in the Year 2011.*

Sr Katherine Fisher
Teacher

Raymond A. Tompso
Principal

Certificate of Achievement

This Award is presented to

Pamela Smart

In Recognition of Distinguished Achievement as a
Teacher Aide

Given at BHCF Academic Department
On this 14th day of May in the Year 2009.

Dr. Katherine Ficker
Teacher

Raymond H. Lemay
Principal

Certificate of Achievement

This Award is presented to

Pamela Smart

In Recognition of Distinguished Achievement as a

Pre-GED Teacher Aide

*Given at BHCF Academic Department
On this 15th day of May in the Year 2008.*

Sr. Katherine Fisher
Teacher

Raymond A. Tomups
Principal

Certificate of Achievement

This Award is presented to

Pamela Smart

In Recognition of Distinguished Achievement in

Teacher Aide

*Given at BHCF Academic Department
on this 24th day of May in the year 2007.*

An Katherine Fisher
Teacher

Raymond A. Sumupo
Academic Supervisor

Certificate of Achievement

This Award is Presented to

Pamela Smart

In Recognition of Distinguished Achievement as a
Teacher Aide

*Given at BHCF Academic Department,
on this 18th day of May in the year 2006.*

Dr. Katherine Fisher
Teacher

Raymond A. Tompkins
Supervisor

THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES
FALL SEMESTER 1995
BEDFORD HILLS, NEW YORK

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

(With Distinction)

Pamela Smart

HAS GIVEN PROPER EVIDENCE OF THE STUDY AND UNDERSTANDING OF INTRODUCTORY PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPTS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE STUDY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, AND HAS FULFILLED SATISFACTORILY ALL EXAMINATION AND ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS OF A CONCENTRATED WORKSHOP, AND IS THEREFORE AWARDED THIS CERTIFICATE THERETO ATTESTING.

This 18th Day of December
Nineteen Hundred and
Ninety Five.



WORKSHOP LEADER

David Julian Hodges
David Julian Hodges, Ph.D.

Professor
Hunter College (CUNY)

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

Pamela Smart #93-G-0356

Has successfully completed a 36 hour course in
Basic Legal Research and Law Library Management

At Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

issued this 13th day of January, 1995

Carla Clancy Botta
DOCS' Law Library Coordinator

[Signature]
Superintendent

Certificate of Completion

This certificate is presented to:

Pamela Smart

Successfully completed and demonstrated the skills of a **PEER FACILITATOR** *for the*
Women's Prison Association ACE Program **HIV/AIDS FACILITATOR TRAINING**

Presented on
MARCH 16, 2012
TOTAL HOURS ATTENDED 60



[Signature]

Instructor

[Signature]
DOCCS Administrator



Certificate of Completion

Awarded to

PAM SMART

For Participation in the six week workshop series: HIV/AIDS Information

Presented by

ACE (AIDS, COUNSELING & EDUCATION) PROGRAM

February 12, 1997



Rev. Liz Mastroieni, Coordinator



Diane Smith

Certificate of Appreciation

The Volunteer Tutoring Program
for

Pamela Smart

On June 20, 2013

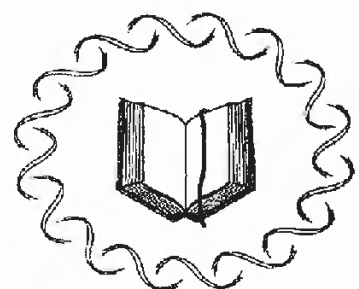
*Your exceptional dedication and
commitment for many years as a Tutor in
the Volunteer Tutoring Program.*

"Learning is but an adjunct to ourself, and where we are, our learning likewise is."

-- William Shakespeare

L. Wildman

Mr. L. Wildman, Program Supervisor



Certificate of

PARTICIPATION

This award honors

Pamela Smart

*for participation with dedication in
Volunteer Tutoring Program*

this 4th day of April, 19 2012

Signed Lynn Wildman



BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
Bedford Hills, New York

April 4, 2012

Pamela -

Words cannot adequately express my gratitude to you for all that you have done for the women who have been tutored by you in the Volunteer Tutoring Program. Your strong commitment and caring attitude to the women you tutored have made a huge difference in more ways than merely helping them with their academic deficiencies.

I also want you to know how much it has meant to me personally for your loyal support and cooperation. We truly were an unusual "team" that has made a highly significant contribution to the educational program at Bedford.

Your considerable talents and positive personal qualities bode well for your remaining time at Bedford and when you leave here. It has been a great privilege to have shared so much with you. I shall miss you.

Best wishes,

Lynne Wildman

Certificate of Recognition

THE VOLUNTEER TUTORING PROGRAM

This Certificate is Awarded to

Pamela Smart

For

Exceptional Dedication
as a Tutor



Sheldman

Program Supervisor

3-30-12

Date

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Awarded to

Pame Smart

Outstanding For Tutoring

On this 30th day of April, 19 98

Lynn Waldman

Volunteer Tutoring Program Supervisor

Bedford Hills Education Department

honors

Pamela Smart

for Service to her peers in the Academic Department

"Everyone has the capacity for greatness, not for fame
but for greatness, because greatness is
determined by service."

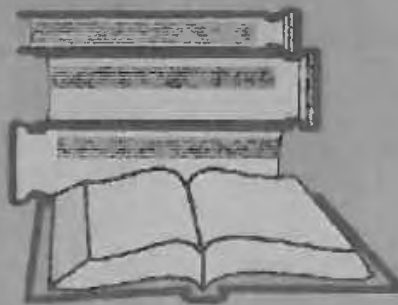
Martin Luther King, Jr.

PRESIDERS TRAINING CERTIFICATE

This certificate is presented to

Pamela Smart

for participating in 15 hours of Presiders' Training



F. Fiore

F. Fiore, DSP

Christy M. P. Briel

Chaplain

Facilitator

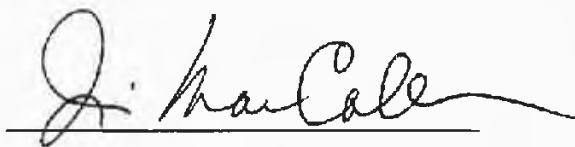
Date

9/1/2000

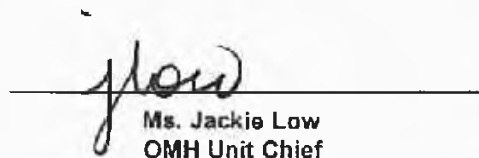
STEP UP/ NETWORK PROGRAM

Hereby acknowledges the anniversary of your participation and progress in the Step Up/ Network therapeutic program and grants this certificate for achieving program goals and objectives on this 29th day of March 2005, to:

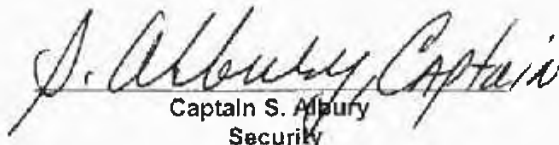
Pamela Smart



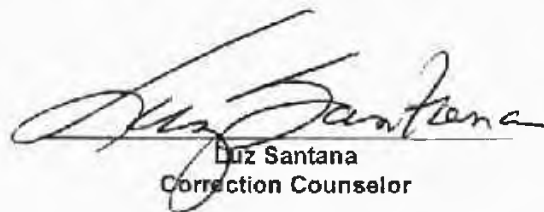
Ms. J. MacCalla
Deputy Superintendent of Programs



Ms. Jackie Low
OMH Unit Chief



Captain S. Albury
Security



Liz Santana
Correction Counselor

Certificate of Achievement

This Award is presented to

Pamela Smart

In Recognition of Distinguished Achievement in

Outreach Tutoring

*Given at BHCF Academic Department
On this 14th day of May in the Year 2009.*

Lynn W. DeGroot
Teacher

Raymond A. Lemus
Principal

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to

Pame Smart

in recognition of valuable contributions to

COLLEGE BOUND PROGRAMS ★

Paul E. Dinter

Paul Dinter, Executive Director

June 1, 1999
Date

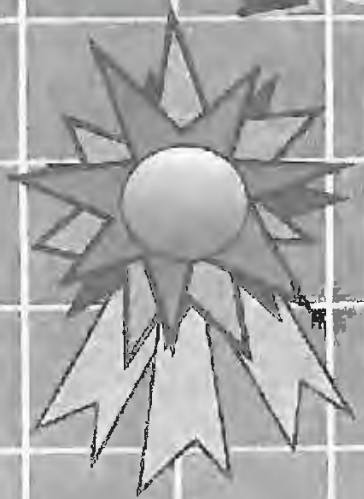
Benay Rubenstein

Benay Rubenstein, Academic Coordinator

June 1, 1999
Date

Thank you for your contribution to "Redirection through Education"

"Reaching Out, Lending a Hand"



**This certificate is
awarded to:**

P. Smart -

**in recognition of donations made to
American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund.**

Awarded on February 5, 2010.

M. McKenna

Mr. McKenna, Haiti Relief Coordinator

Certificate of Appreciation

presented to

Pamela Smart

on behalf of every bright young person who will now be able to attend college,
in recognition of a generous gift to United Negro College Fund 2008 Drive.



Donald L. Long Ph.D.
President and CEO, UNCF

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This

Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart

For participation in

Public Speaking & Communication

A workshop exploring how the art of improvisation can be applied to
effective communication and self-presentation in life.

January - April, 2017

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility



Margaret Ables, Facilitator



Paul Fitzgerald, Facilitator



Katherine Vockins, Executive Director

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This
Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart
for participation in



Bedford Hills
Correctional Facility
July 25, 2013

An Intensive One Year
Rehearsal & Performance Project

Writing Poetry, Character Development, Singing, Dancing & Acting
for the Prison Population & Community Guests

Anne Lloyd

Anne Lloyd
Facilitators

Michael Minard

Michael Minard

Phyllis Ross

Phyllis Ross

Aixa Kendrick

Aixa Kendrick

Katherine Vockins

Katherine Vockins
Program Director

John

Certificate of Participation

Daniel

This certifies that

Matthew

Pamela Smart

Job

Luke

Has participated in a seven-day spiritual

Genesis

Rites of Passage Classes from November

30, 2009~ January 25, 2010

Acts

Revelation

Dove

Isaiah

Psalms

Doris Tongo

Rev. Doris Tongo, Chaplain

February 2, 2010

Date of Certificate

FATHER O'SHEA, HEAD COACH

presents

PAMELA SMART

GUARDED ANGELS

in recognition of outstanding performance and contributions to the team.



Father Michael C. Shea 11/25/93
Father O'Shea Date

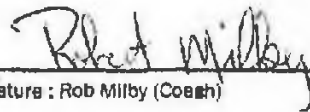
Ms. Jordan 11/25/93
Date

Outstanding Sportsmanship

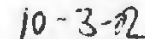
presents

Pame Smart

Softball Award



Signature : Rob Milby (Coach)



Date 10-3-02

BEDFORD HILLS EDUCATION CENTER

Athletic Award

This Certifies That

PAME SMART

*Is Hereby Awarded This Certificate
For Outstanding Accomplishments In*
B.H. STATE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

For The Year Of 19₉₆ _____

Dan Mulvey RPT II _____

[Signature]

BEDFORD HILLS EDUCATION CENTER

Athletic Award

This Certifies That

F. Smart

*Is Hereby Awarded This Certificate
For Outstanding Accomplishments In*

Weight Lifting

For The Year Of 19

Don Quilty RPL

[Signature]

Certificate of Participation

Awarded to

Pamela Smart

For your participation in the 2011 ACE Program

AIDS WALKATHON


At Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

presented by the

ACE Program

on this day of

August 6, 2011



WPA/ACE Program Coordinator-S. Coles

WPA/ACE Program Manager-K.Peters

Certificate of Participation

awarded to

Pamela Smart

For your participation in the 2010 ACE Program

AIDS WALKATHON

at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

presented by

ACE Program

on this day

August 7, 2010

Tina Ithier

ACE Program Coordinator- Tina Ithier

Thomas Phillips

Women's Prison Association- T. Phillips

Certificate of Appreciation

awarded to
P. Smart

**For your participation in ACE's 2009 Walk-a-thon
to raise money for families living with HIV/AIDS.**

presented by
ACE

August 8, 2009

A. Coprew

Audrey Coprew, ACE Coordinator

Lora Pitoscia

Assia Serrano

Rose Hall



Certificate of Participation

awarded to

P. SMART

**The ACE Program congratulates you on your participation in the ACE
Walk-a-Thon!**

Thank you for your support in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

August 9, 2008



New York State Defenders Association

This is to certify that


Pamela Smart

has been admitted to membership in the


New York State Defenders Association

and is entitled to

all rights and privileges associated thereto


Edward J. Nowak, President




Jonathan E. Gradess, Executive Director



"Arise, shine; for thy **light**
is come..." Is. 60:1

Date *February 13, 2012*

Expiration, Indefinitely

Signature

Pastor Ernestine Urquhart

Pastor Ernestine
Urquhart

Certificate of Discipleship

By Guiding Light Interdenominational Church

This certifies that the bearer hereof

Pamela Smart

has been properly instructed on discipleship in The Gospel in accordance with the Word of God and the General Principles of Guiding Light Church. Her gifts and usefulness being such as to qualify Her as a proper person to encourage others in the Gospel as long as Her conduct and encouragements are consistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This certificate is only valid when accompanied by Certificate of Fellowship under the seal of the General Council, which certificate need not to be renewed and issued annually.

"...the **Lion** of the tribe of Judah,..
shall break every chain and give to
us the victory again and again!"
Rev. 5:5



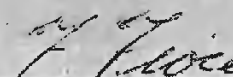
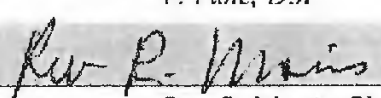
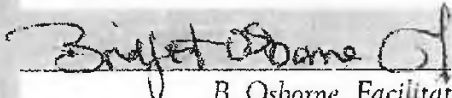
Certificate of Achievement

This certifies that

Pamela Smart

has successfully completed 22 1/2 hours of
WORSHIP PLANNING TRAINING

"To prepare God's
people for works of
service, so that the
Body of Christ may be
built up"
(Ephesians 4:12. NIV.)

| | |
|---|---------|
|  | 9/15/11 |
| F. Fiore, DSP | Date |
|  | 9/20/11 |
| Rev. R. Morris, Chaplain | Date |
|  | 9-20-11 |
| B. Osborne, Facilitator | Date |

*Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This*

Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart

For participating in

Broadway Cabaret Workshop

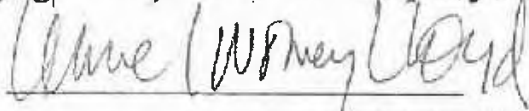
Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

Fall, 2016

We're Gonna Go Through it Together:

Cabaret and the Broadway Connection

Engagement in cabaret performance, listening, teamwork and musical theatre



Anne Twomey Lloyd, RTA Facilitator



Michael Minard, RTA Facilitator

Rehabilitation Through The Arts

*Proudly Presents This
Certificate of Achievement*

*to
Pamela Smart*

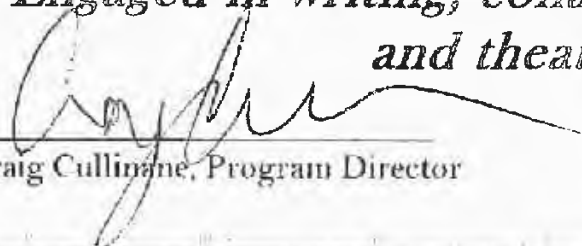
For participating in

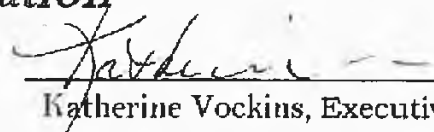
Devising Theatre Workshop

*Bedford Hills
Correctional Facility
Fall, 2016*

Using Devised Theatre to Explore Moments of Transition

*Engaged in writing, collaboration, movement, storytelling
and theatrical presentation*


Craig Cullinane, Program Director


Katherine Vockins, Executive Director

Rehabilitation Through The Arts

proudly presents this

Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart

For completion of the semester on the subject of 'Love':

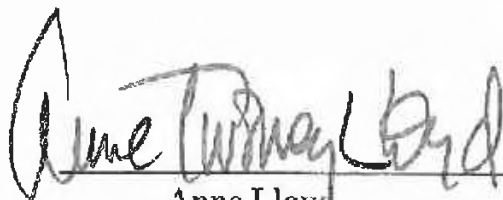
Familial, Friendship, Spiritual, Romantic

Including Visual Literacy, Composition, Monologue Writing,

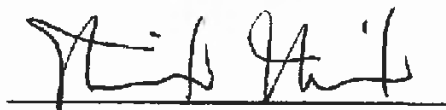
Musical & Monologue Performance

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

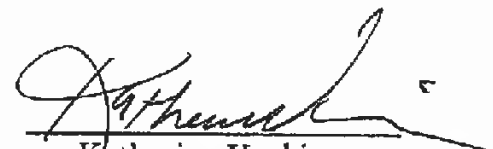
June 2, 2014



Anne Lloyd
Facilitator



Michael Minard
Facilitator



Katherine Vockins
Program Director

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This

Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart

for

Committed RTA Participation

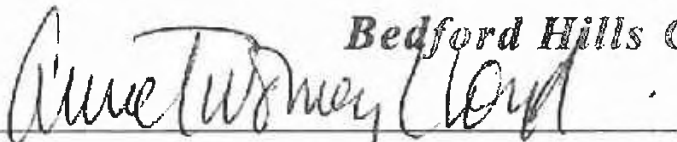
September 2011 – June 2012

in

**Creative Writing, Ensemble Building and Performance of
Singing, Acting and Movement**

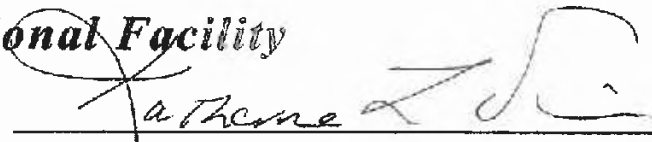
Presented June 12, 2012

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility



Anne Lloyd, on behalf of Facilitators

Michael Minard, Phyllis Ross and Kimberleigh Weiss-Lewit



Katherine Vockins, Program Director

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This

Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart

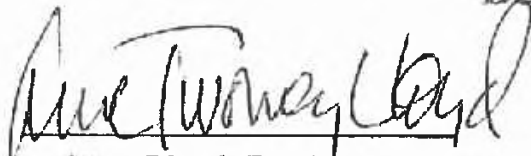
for

Committed RTA Participation

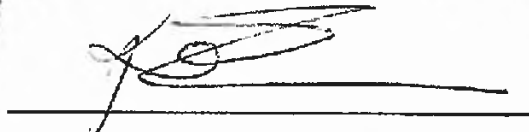
2010 – 2011

Presented June 12, 2012

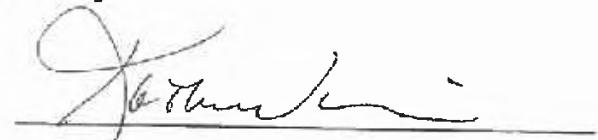
Bedford Hills Correctional Facility



Anne Lloyd, Facilitator



Kimberleigh Weiss-Lewit, Facilitator



Katherine Vockins, Program Director

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This
Certificate of Achievement

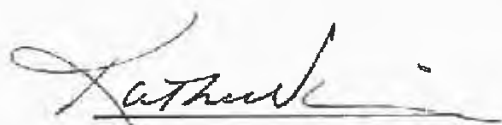
to

Pamela Smart

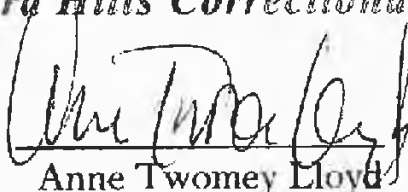
For Commendable Participation
in the workshop

Exploring Mythology - Summer Session
Including Writing, Visual Art and Storytelling

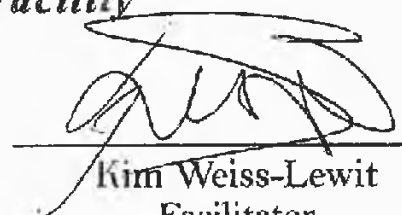
Presented April 1, 2011
Bedford Hills Correctional Facility



Katherine Vockins
Program Director



Anne Twomey Lloyd
Facilitator



Kim Weiss-Lewit
Facilitator

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This
Certificate of Achievement
to

Pamela Smart

For Successfully Completing a Workshop in

The Tempest
Interpreting Shakespeare Through
Writing and Performing Original Scenes



June 18, 2010

K. Vockins

Katherine Vockins
Program Director

Anne Twomey Lloyd

Anne Twomey Lloyd
Facilitator

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

Ronald Jenkins
Facilitator

Kim Weiss-Lewit

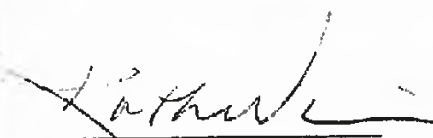
Kim Weiss-Lewit
Facilitator

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This
Certificate of Achievement
to

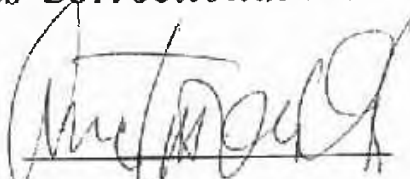
Pamela Smart

For Successfully Completing the 12-Week Course
Art & The Individual
Interpreting Great Art Through
Character Development & Original Monologues

December 18, 2009
Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, Bedford Hills, NY



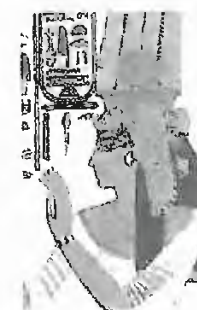
Katherine Vockins
Program Director



Anne Twomey Lloyd
Facilitator



Marybeth Metelski
Facilitator



Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This

Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart

*For Successfully Completing a
Creative Discovery Workshop Series
Based on the play "The Syringa Tree"*



July 9, 2009

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility

Bedford Hills, NY

Katherine Vockins

Katherine Vockins
Program Director

Anne Lloyd

Anne Lloyd
Facilitator

Kim Weiss-Lewit

Kim Weiss-Lewit
Facilitator

Rachel Thompson

Rachel Thompson
Facilitator

Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This
Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela A. Smart

For Successfully Completing A
12-Week Discovery Course Including
Original Monologues, Improvisation &
Mask-Making



April 16, 2009

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility
Bedford Hills, NY

Katherine Vockins
Program Director

Anne Lloyd
Facilitator

Kim Weiss-Lewit
Facilitator

Rachel Thompson
Facilitator

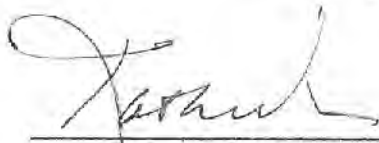
Rehabilitation Through The Arts
Proudly Presents This
Certificate of Achievement

to

Pamela Smart

For Successfully Completing The Initial
12-Week Discovery Course in
Poetry, Monologues, Improvisation and Collage

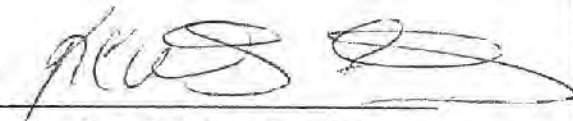
December 23, 2008
Bedford Hills Correctional Facility
Bedford Hills, NY



Katherine Vockins
Program Director



Rachel Thompson
Co-Facilitator



Kim Weiss-Lewit
Project Leader

Certificate of Recognition

This certificate is in
Recognition and in
celebration of

Pamela Smart 1993

for your endurance,
faith and strength.

Ken Tye, M.
OFFICIAL OF MINISTERS

June 3, 2007

Date

AVP

THE ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE PROJECT, INC.

CERTIFIES

that

PAMELA SMART

has completed an ADVANCED COURSE in Nonviolent Conflict Resolution

Allen F. Ozk

Facilitators

11/26/00

Date

Pamela Smart Betsy Rott

**Co-Presidents
AVP Board of Directors**

PAMELA SMART
NAME

IS AWARDED A CERTIFICATE
OF ATTENDANCE
FOR THE ANTI-VIOLENCE PROGRAM

DOWN ON VIOLENCE

May 3, 2000
DATE

Wilma Houston
SIGNATURE NDSP

PAMELA SMART

NAME

IS AWARDED A CERTIFICATE
OF COMPLETION FOR
THE ANGER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

ANGER AND YOU

April 28, 2000

DATE

Delores Thornton

SIGNATURE ADSP

AVP

THE ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE PROJECT, INC.

CERTIFIES

that

PAMELA SMART

has completed a BASIC COURSE in Nonviolent Conflict Resolution

Allison Dench
Facilitators

3/26/00
Date

Pamela Smart Betsy Roth
Co-Presidents
AVP Board of Directors

This is to certify that
Pamela Smart
has satisfactorily completed instruction in
Academic I.P.A. Training
and in evidence of which has been awarded this

Certificate of Achievement

in Testimony Whereof we have affixed our signatures this

10th day of March A.D. 1995
Patricia Williams, S.V.T.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Awards

PAMELA SMART

with this

Certificate of Participation

in the

MONEY ADDICTION PROGRAM


Supervisor, Volunteer Services



Date

ICP Therapeutic Aide

Pamela Smart

September 21, 1994

Appreciation for Outstanding Service

Edward Fuchs, Psychologist

Dominic Ahuasi C. RES.

Martin J. Wayne, Psychologist II

Peter H. Kraus, Senior Counsel

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

INMATE PROGRESS REPORT

Name: Smart, Pamela DIN: 93 G 0356

Name of Program/Work Assignment: Family Violence

Job Item Number (Payroll sheet - Left Column): 859215

Current Hourly Rate (Payroll Sheet - Listed Under "RATE"): 0.1583

- ☐ Pay Increase Recommended
☐ Pay Decrease Recommended
☐ General Evaluation
☒ Final Evaluation

FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE USE ONLY

- ☐ INCREASE / DECREASE EFF. / /
☐ AT TOP OF GRADE ALREADY - NO INCREASE
☐ READING LEVEL = TOO LOW - NO PAY INCREASE YET
☐ NO INCREASE

| | EXCELLENT | ABOVE AVERAGE | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | POOR |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|---------|------------------|------|
| Attendance/Punctuality | ✓ | | | | |
| Interest in Program Assignment | ✓ | | | | |
| Effort and Initiative | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Towards Peers | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Authority Figures | ✓ | | | | |
| Follows Rules and Safety Practices | ✓ | | | | |
| Ability to Follow Directions | ✓ | | | | |
| Quality of Work | ✓ | | | | |
| Dependability | ✓ | | | | |
| Aptitude/Employability <u>N/A</u> | | | | | |

EXPLAIN INMATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS / JOB TITLES / SPECIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED:

Very supportive, insightful, did listen to group's advice at times. Used the group to her advantage. Could have spoken more about her past relationships prior to incarceration & help discover other issues that arise.

INMATE'S COMMENTS:

This was a very informative and well organized program. I enjoyed the process & found the skills acquired to be helpful.

Pamela Smart
INMATE'S SIGNATURE

Michaela Lisa Swati
EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE

SWATI
TITLE

7/2/13
DATE

DISTRIBUTION: WHITE - GUIDANCE UNIT, YELLOW - INMATE, PINK - EVALUATOR

(REV. 1/12)

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

INMATE PROGRESS REPORT

Name: Smart, Pamela - Teacher Aide DIN: 93 G 0356

Name of Program/Work Assignment: 522 Pre-GED (1)

Job Item Number (Payroll sheet - Left Column): 522401

Current Hourly Rate (Payroll Sheet - Listed Under "RATE"): . 2583

☐ Pay Increase Recommended

☐ Pay Decrease Recommended

☒ General Evaluation

☐ Final Evaluation

FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE USE ONLY

☐ INCREASE / DECREASE EFF. / /

☐ AT TOP OF GRADE ALREADY - NO INCREASE

☐ READING LEVEL = TOO LOW - NO PAY INCREASE YET

☐ NO INCREASE

| | EXCELLENT | ABOVE AVERAGE | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | POOR |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------|------|
| Attendance/Punctuality | ✓ | | | | |
| Interest in Program Assignment | ✓ | | | | |
| Effort and Initiative | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Towards Peers | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Authority Figures | ✓ | | | | |
| Follows Rules and Safety Practices | ✓ | | | | |
| Ability to Follow Directions | ✓ | | | | |
| Quality of Work | ✓ | | | | |
| Dependability | ✓ | | | | |
| Aptitude/Employability | ✓ | | | | |

EXPLAIN INMATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS / JOB TITLES / SPECIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED:

When Pamela explains academic subjects to students in this class, she is clearly understood because her presentation is well prepared and clearly expressed. She is very dedicated to helping students progress and is most generous.

INMATE'S COMMENTS:

Thank you, Pamela for your service each day.

Pamela
INMATE'S SIGNATURE

Dr. Katherine Fisher
EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE

Teacher II
TITLE

4/12
DATE

DISTRIBUTION: WHITE - GUIDANCE UNIT, YELLOW - INMATE, PINK - EVALUATOR

(REV. 1/12)

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
INMATE PROGRESS REPORT

Name: SMART, Pamela T.A. DIN: 93 G 0356

Name of Program/Work Assignment: 522 PRE-GED (1)

Job Item Number (Payroll Sheet - Left Column): 522401

Current Hourly Rate (Payroll Sheet - Listed Under "RATE"): . 2583

- ☐ Pay Increase Recommended
- ☐ Pay Decrease Recommended
- ☒ General Evaluation
- ☐ Final Evaluation

FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE USE ONLY

- ☐ INCREASE/DECREASE EFF. : _____ / _____
- ☐ AT TOP OF GRADE ALREADY - NO INCREASE
- ☐ READING LEVEL = _____ TOO LOW-NO INCREASE YET
- ☐ NO INCREASE:

| | EXCELLENT | ABOVE AVERAGE | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | POOR |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------|------|
| Attendance/Punctuality | ✓ | | | | |
| Interest in Program Assignment | ✓ | | | | |
| Effort and Initiative | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Peers | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Authority Figures | ✓ | | | | |
| Follows Rules and Safety Practices | ✓ | | | | |
| Ability to Follow Directions | ✓ | | | | |
| Quality of Work | ✓ | | | | |
| Dependability | ✓ | | | | |
| Aptitude/Employability | ✓ | | | | |

EXPLAIN INMATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS / JOB TITLES / SPECIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED:

During the past month, Pamela prepared a tribute which celebrates Black History Month for our students. Whenever she researches anything, presents it to the class, the lesson is most interesting, clear and valuable to our curriculum. She assists students individually & is always willing to contribute in any area necessary. Pamela is most generous & well informed. All of her efforts are greatly appreciated. Thank you Pamela

INMATE'S COMMENTS:

lesson is most interesting, clear and valuable to our curriculum. She assists students individually & is always willing to contribute in any area necessary. Pamela is most generous & well informed. All of her efforts are greatly appreciated. Thank you Pamela

Pamela
INMATE'S SIGNATURE

Katherine Fisher
EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE

Teacher IV - PreGED522
TITLE

3/12
DATE

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
INMATE PROGRESS REPORT

Name: SMART, Pamela Teacher Aide DIN: 93 G 0356

Name of Program/Work Assignment: 522 Pre-GED (1)

Job Item Number (Payroll Sheet - Left Column): 522401

Current Hourly Rate (Payroll Sheet - Listed Under "RATE"): 2583

- ☐ Pay Increase Recommended
- ☐ Pay Decrease Recommended
- ☒ General Evaluation
- ☐ Final Evaluation

FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE USE ONLY

- ☐ INCREASE/DECREASE EFF. : / /
- ☐ AT TOP OF GRADE ALREADY - NO INCREASE
- ☐ READING LEVEL = TOO LOW-NO INCREASE YET
- ☐ NO INCREASE:

| | EXCELLENT | ABOVE AVERAGE | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | POOR |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------|------|
| Attendance/Punctuality | ✓ | | | | |
| Interest in Program Assignment | ✓ | | | | |
| Effort and Initiative | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Peers | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Authority Figures | ✓ | | | | |
| Follows Rules and Safety Practices | ✓ | | | | |
| Ability to Follow Directions | ✓ | | | | |
| Quality of Work | ✓ | | | | |
| Dependability | ✓ | | | | |
| Aptitude/Employability | ✓ | | | | |

EXPLAIN INMATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS / JOB TITLES / SPECIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED:

Pamela's academic skills are outstanding. She is able to explain difficult matter in a way

INMATE'S COMMENTS: that is understandable. She is most generous and interested in the progress of our class.

Pamela Smart INMATE'S SIGNATURE Katherine Fisher EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE Teacher IV TITLE 11/10 DATE

Name: Matthew J. P. P. DIN: 12 G 5.6

Job Item Number (Payroll Sheet - Left Column): 572425

☐ NO INCREASE:B69

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
INMATE PROGRESS REPORT

Name: SMART, PAMELA DIN: 93 G 0356

Name of Program/Work Assignment: 522 PRE-GED (1)

Job Item Number (Payroll Sheet - Left Column): 522401

Current Hourly Rate (Payroll Sheet - Listed Under "RATE"): . 2583

- ☐ Pay Increase Recommended
- ☐ Pay Decrease Recommended
- ☒ General Evaluation
- ☐ Final Evaluation

| | |
|---|--|
| FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE USE ONLY | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE/DECREASE EFF. : _____ / _____ / _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AT TOP OF GRADE ALREADY - NO INCREASE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> READING LEVEL = _____ TOO LOW-NO INCREASE YET | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO INCREASE: | |
| | |

| | EXCELLENT | ABOVE AVERAGE | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | POOR |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------|------|
| Attendance/Punctuality | ✓ | | | | |
| Interest in Program Assignment | ✓ | | | | |
| Effort and Initiative | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Peers | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Authority Figures | ✓ | | | | |
| Follows Rules and Safety Practices | ✓ | | | | |
| Ability to Follow Directions | ✓ | | | | |
| Quality of Work | ✓ | | | | |
| Dependability | ✓ | | | | |
| Aptitude/Employability | ✓ | | | | |

EXPLAIN INMATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS / JOB TITLES / SPECIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED:

Pamela continues to assist students in our class. Her gifts are many. She has patience with individuals. She

INMATE'S COMMENTS:

is also very effective when she is teaching group lessons. We have had many promotion to GED + some have received a GED. Thank you Pamela for all you do.

INMATE'S SIGNATURE

EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

*6ED
522*

5-6-09

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
INMATE PROGRESS REPORT

Name: SMART, PAMELIA DIN: 93 G 0356

Name of Program/Work Assignment: 522 4th. FIED (1)

Job Item Number (Payroll Sheet - Left Column): 522401

Current Hourly Rate (Payroll Sheet - Listed Under "RATE"): . 2583

- ☐ Pay Increase Recommended
- ☐ Pay Decrease Recommended
- ☒ General Evaluation
- ☐ Final Evaluation

| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE USE ONLY | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INCREASE/DECREASE EFF. : | <u>1</u> / <u>1</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AT TOP OF GRADE ALREADY - NO INCREASE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> READING LEVEL = | <u>TOO LOW-NO INCREASE YET</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NO INCREASE: | |

| | EXCELLENT | ABOVE AVERAGE | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | POOR |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------|------|
| Attendance/Punctuality | ✓ | | | | |
| Interest in Program Assignment | ✓ | | | | |
| Effort and Initiative | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Peers | ✓ | | | | |
| Attitude Toward Authority Figures | ✓ | | | | |
| Follows Rules and Safety Practices | ✓ | | | | |
| Ability to Follow Directions | ✓ | | | | |
| Quality of Work | ✓ | | | | |
| Dependability | ✓ | | | | |
| Aptitude/Employability | ✓ | | | | |

EXPLAIN INMATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS / JOB TITLES / SPECIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED:

After working with students in Pre-GED522 for so many years, Pamela's contributions continue to be excellent. No matter what subject she is asked to prepare

INMATE'S COMMENTS: and present, Pamela does it with enthusiasm. Her rapport with students in our class makes her approachable and enables them to understand the skills she teaches them. Thank you Pamela for all that you do.

Pamela Smart INMATE'S SIGNATURE Katherine Fisher EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE Teacher IV TITLE 2-93-09 DATE

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
INMATE PROGRESS REPORT

1128-02

NAME: Pamela Smart DIN: 93 G 0356

NAME OF PROGRAM/WORK ASSIGNMENT: Teacher Aide / Vol. Tutoring Prog.

JOB ITEM NUMBER (PAYROLL SHEET - LEFT COLUMN): 572422

CURRENT HOURLY RATE (PAYROLL SHEET - LISTED UNDER "RATE"): 12.583

☐ PAY INCREASE RECOMMENDED

☐ PAY DECREASE RECOMMENDED

☒ GENERAL EVALUATION

☐ FINAL EVALUATION

FOR PROGRAM COMMITTEE USE ONLY

☐ INCREASE/DECREASE EFF.: / /

☐ AT TOP OF GRADE ALREADY - NO INCREASE

☐ READING LEVEL = TOO LOW-NO INCREASE YET

☐ NO INCREASE :

| | EXCELLENT | ABOVE AVERAGE | AVERAGE | BELOW AVERAGE | POOR |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|---------|------------------|------|
| ATTENDANCE/PUNCTUALITY | ✓ | | | | |
| INTEREST IN PROGRAM ASSIGNMENT | ✓ | | | | |
| EFFORT AND INITIATIVE | ✓ | | | | |
| ATTITUDE TOWARD PEERS | ✓ | | | | |
| ATTITUDE TOWARD AUTHORITY FIGURES | ✓ | | | | |
| FOLLOWS RULES AND SAFETY PRACTICES | ✓ | | | | |
| ABILITY TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS | ✓ | | | | |
| QUALITY OF WORK | ✓ | | | | |
| DEPENDABILITY | ✓ | | | | |
| APTITUDE/EMPLOYABILITY | ✓ | | | | |

EXPLAIN INMATE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS / JOB TITLES/ SPECIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED:

GENERAL COMMENTS: Pamela continues to be an exceptional teacher aide in every respect. Highly capable, effective, motivated.

INMATE'S SIGNATURE

Lynn Wildman
EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURE

Outreach Coordinator
TITLE

6/2/99
DATE

DISTRIBUTION: WHITE - GUIDANCE UNIT, YELLOW - EVALUATOR, PINK - INMATE

(rev.12/97)

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION

TO: Sr. Counselor

DATE: 5/21/99

RE: Pamela Smart D.I.N. 9360356 L.U. 112B-2

Under the Earned Eligibility Program, inmate participation in appropriate therapeutic programs has a significant impact on the Parole Board decision. In order for the Counseling staff to prepare recommendations, they need to know the extent of participation in programs.

Inmate's status in the Pre-GEDI Program in the ☒ AM ☐ PM is as follows:
Teacher Aide

Participation:

- ☒ Inmate has been participation in thes program since 11/14/94
☐ Inmate has never participated in this program
☐ Inmate formerly participated in this program from _____ until _____
☐ Inmate completed the program
☐ Inmate dropped out of the program before completing it
☐ Inmate was removed form the program due to _____

ATTENDANCE: During the past two months (check one)

Days attended/Total: 43/50 = Percent attended: 86 %.

☒ Excellent ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

Comments: _____

Quality of Participation: (check one)

☒ Outstanding ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Comments: Through her preparation, creativity + ingenuity, Pamela has enhanced the writing skills program resulting in motivating students

Progress Toward Reaching Goals Of Program: (check one) to write compositions + discuss current events

☒ Excellent ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Below Ability Level ☐ Poor

Comments: Pamela constantly assists students through her ability to teach. She is generous with her time to all students,

Certificates Received: and makes a valuable contribution

General Comments: to learning in this class.

Many thanks Pamela!

Signature: Sr. Katherine Fisher

cc: School file
Inmate

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION

TO: Sr. Counselor

DATE: 5/29/98

RE: Pamela Smart D.I.N. 9360356 L.U. 113A-22

Under the Earned Eligibility Program, inmate participation in appropriate therapeutic programs has a significant impact on the Parole Board decision. In order for the Counseling staff to prepare recommendations, they need to know the extent of participation in programs.

Inmate's status in the Pre-GED1 Program in the ✓ AM Teacher Aide PM is as follows:

Participation:

- ☐ Inmate has been participation in thes program since ____/____/____
☐ Inmate has never participated in this program
☐ Inmate formerly participated in this program from ____ until ____
☐ Inmate completed the program
☐ Inmate dropped out of the program before completing it
☐ Inmate was removed form the program due to _____

ATTENDANCE: During the past two months (check one)

Days attended/Total: 45/50 = Percent attended: 90 %.

☒ Excellent ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

Comments: _____

Quality of Participation: (check one)

☒ Outstanding ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Comments: Pamela continues to use her talents to mature & teach students. She is very generous with her time

Progress Toward Reaching Goals Of Program: (check one) & has excellent rapport with her students

☒ Excellent ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Below Ability Level ☐ Poor

Comments: On a recent TABE Test, many students have shown improvement & some passed into Pre-GED2

Certificates Received: Thank you Pam for all your

General Comments: efforts in helping them to achieve this goal.

Signature: Sr Katherine Fisher

cc: School file
Inmate

STATE OF NEW YORK - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION

TO: Sr. Counselor

DATE: 6 / 21 / 96

RE: Pamela Smart D.I.N. 9360356 L.U. 113C-28

Under the Earned Eligibility Program, inmate participation in appropriate therapeutic programs has a significant impact on the Parole Board decision. In order for the Counseling staff to prepare recommendations, they need to know the extent of participation in programs.

Inmate's status in the Pre-GED Program in the ☒ AM ☐ PM is as follows:
Teacher Aide

Participation:

- ☒ Inmate has been participation in this program since 11 / 14 / 94
☐ Inmate has never participated in this program
☐ Inmate formerly participated in this program from _____ until _____
 ☐ Inmate completed the program
 ☐ Inmate dropped out of the program before completing it
 ☐ Inmate was removed from the program due to _____

ATTENDANCE: During the past two months (check one)

Days attended/Total: 40 / 40 = Percent attended: 100 %

☒ Excellent ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

Comments: _____

Quality of Participation: (check one)

☒ Outstanding ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Comments: I am very grateful to Pamela for her enthusiastic approach to assisting students in class.

Progress Toward Reaching Goals Of Program: (check one)

☒ Excellent ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Below Ability Level ☐ Poor

Comments: Pamela is very generous with her time and talents. She is effective in teaching students on

Certificates Received: all levels.

General Comments: _____

Signature: Sr Katherine Fisher

cc: School file
Inmate

STATE OF NEW YORK-DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
BEDFORD HILLS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION

TO: Sr. Counselor

DATE: 12/7/95

RE: Pamela Smart D.I.N. 9360356 L.U. 113C-28

Under the Earned Eligibility Program, inmate participation in appropriate therapeutic programs has a significant impact on the Parole Board decision. In order for the Counseling staff to prepare recommendations, they need to know the extent of participation in programs.

Inmate's status in the Pre-G.E.D. I Program in the ☒ AM ☐ PM is as follows:

Participation:

- ☒ Inmate has been participating in this program since 11/14/94
☐ Inmate has never participated in this program
☐ Inmate formerly participated in this program from _____ until _____
☐ Inmate completed the program
☐ Inmate dropped out of the program before completing it
☐ Inmate was removed from the program due to _____

Attendance: During the past two months (check one)

Days attended/Total: 28/30 = Percent attended: 93 %

☒ Excellent ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

Comments:

Quality of Participation: (check one)

☒ Outstanding ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Needs Improvement ☐ Poor

Comments: Pamela continues to share her expertise with students in class. She shows consistent interest in the progress of all students in class.
Progress Toward Reaching Goals of Program: (check one)

☒ Excellent ☐ Above Average ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Below Ability Level ☐ Poor

Comments: Pamela has the patience to deal with difficult students and the ability to help them succeed.
Certificates Received:

General Comments:

Thank You for all the time that you give

Signature: M. Katherine Fisher

cc: School file
inmate

HONOR FLOOR REFERENCE FORM

Honor Floor applicants are expected to have a positive behavior and attitude, evidence of willingness to work well with staff and inmates in a cooperative manner, and maintenance of good personal hygiene with regards to both one's person and one's surroundings.

All applicants must exhibit a definitive desire to improve, take the necessary steps towards rehabilitation, and portray an outstanding degree of program participation. In addition, all applicants are to behave and act at a level well above the norm.

Name of applicant: SMART, P DIN: 9360356 Unit: 114 C/D

Please print the following information:

Name of reference: R. RODRIGUEZ Title: C.O.

Name of program: CNIT OFFICER

Do you think the applicant is suitable for the Honor Floor? Circle one: Yes No

Reason: INMATE SMART HAS ALWAYS DEMONSTRATES
A POSITIVE ATTITUDE. SHE IS WILLING TO HELP
OTHERS AND SHOW RESPECT TOWARDS STAFF.

Point out some of the applicant's attributes or achievements which she has displayed/ accomplished:

SMART IS A VOLUNTEER TUTOR, A CHURCH
LEADER, PRAISE DANCE DIRECTOR AND AN
HONOR FLOOR COORDINATOR IZOP. SHE IS ALWAYS
WILLING TO HELP OTHERS IN NEED.

Would you consider the applicant an approachable individual?

YES, SHE IS VERY APPROACHABLE^{BY} BOTH STAFF AND
HER PEERS.

How would you rate the applicant's general attitude/behavior during her participation in your program?
Pick one of the following:

☐ Poor

☐ Average

☒ Good

☐ Above average

Additional comments: I'VE KNOWN INMATE SMART FOR
OVER FIVE YEARS. SHE LIVES ON 114 C/D HONOR
FLOOR OF WHICH I WAS THE BIDDED OFFICER
FOR FOUR YEARS.

Signature of reference: R. RODRIGUEZ Date: 4/13/12

PLEASE RETURN THIS REFERENCE DIRECTLY TO "HONOR FLOOR COMMITTEE" C/O GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

HONOR FLOOR REFERENCE FORM

Honor Floor applicants are expected to have a positive behavior and attitude, evidence of willingness to work well with staff and inmates in a cooperative manner, and maintenance of good personal hygiene with regards to both one's person and one's surroundings.

All applicants must exhibit a definitive desire to improve, take the necessary steps towards rehabilitation, and portray an outstanding degree of program participation. In addition, all applicants are to behave and act at a level well above the norm.

Name of applicant: Pamela Smart DIN: 9360356 Unit: 114A

Please print the following information:

Name of reference: Lynn Wildman Title: Outreach Coordinator

Name of program: Volunteer Tutoring Program

Do you think the applicant is suitable for the Honor Floor? Circle one: (Yes) No

Reason: Very reliable - cooperative - disciplined. Does not need supervision

Point out some of the applicant's attributes or achievements which she has displayed/ accomplished:

She is an outstanding tutor in my program - efficient, energetic, enthusiastic.
A number of her students have been helped to pass her GED. Thoughtful - well mannered -
dependable. I selected Pama several years ago to tutor Selma Price and another
student in Long Term Care because I knew she was self-directed and very capable. She
did an excellent job!!

Would you consider the applicant an approachable individual?

Very much so - she is very well liked by her students. Many students have requested
that she be their tutor

How would you rate the applicant's general attitude/behavior during her participation in your program? Pick one of the following:

☐ Poor

☐ Average

☐ Good

☒ ^{Superior}
Above average

Additional comments: She has been one of the very best tutors I have had in
my program over the past 20 years.

Signature of reference: Lynn Wildman Date: 3/01/10

PLEASE RETURN THIS REFERENCE DIRECTLY TO "HONOR FLOOR COMMITTEE" C/O GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

HONOR FLOOR REFERENCE FORM

Honor Floor applicants are expected to have a positive behavior and attitude, evidence of willingness to work well with staff and inmates in a cooperative manner, and maintenance of good personal hygiene with regards to both one's person and one's surroundings.

All applicants must exhibit a definitive desire to improve, take the necessary steps towards rehabilitation, and portray an outstanding degree of program participation. In addition, all applicants are to behave and act at a level well above the norm.

Name of applicant: Pamela Smart DIN: 9360356 Unit: 114A-15

Please print the following information:

Name of reference: Sr. Katherine Fisher Title: Teacher IV - Pre GED 522

Name of program: Pre GED 522

Do you think the applicant is suitable for the Honor Floor? Circle one: Yes No

Reason: Pamela is most cooperative, a team player, A person who gives of her time, has creative and excellent suggestions and ideas, is honest concerning issues & opinions.

Point out some of the applicant's attributes or achievements which she has displayed/ accomplished:

Pamela has been my Teacher Aide for about 16 years.
Attributes: Academically gifted, Skilled in teaching challenging material to students who find subject matter difficult, very generous with her time, respectful toward inmates & staff, does over & above what is required, anticipates needs of situations, logical

Would you consider the applicant an approachable individual?

Definitely! Pamela is even tempered, not inclined to mood swings, very kind to her peers, has a sense of humor, most generous, unpretentious.

How would you rate the applicant's general attitude/behavior during her participation in your program? Pick one of the following:

☐ Poor

☐ Average

☐ Good

☒ Above average

Additional comments: Pamela's behavior & general attitude is excellent
There has never been an incident in the past 16 years that contradicts this statement. She has done much more than expected

Signature of reference: Sr. Katherine Fisher Date: 2-24-10

PLEASE RETURN THIS REFERENCE DIRECTLY TO "HONOR FLOOR COMMITTEE" C/O GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

HONOR FLOOR REFERENCE FORM

Honor Floor applicants are expected to have a positive behavior and attitude, evidence of willingness to work well with staff and inmates in a cooperative manner, and maintenance of good personal hygiene with regards to both one's person and one's surroundings.

All applicants must exhibit a definitive desire to improve, take the necessary steps towards rehabilitation, and portray an outstanding degree of program participation. In addition, all applicants are to behave and act at a level well above the norm.

Name of applicant: PAMELA SMART DIN: 9350380 Unit: 114A/B

Please print the following information:

Name of reference: A. McRae Title: CO.

Name of program: Unit Officer

Do you think the applicant is suitable for the Honor Floor? Circle one: Yes No

Reason: Inmate Smart has been a very cooperative, helpful & a model inmate since I've taken over 114A/B.

Point out some of the applicant's attributes or achievements which she has displayed/ accomplished:

Intelligent, curious, polite and very helpful.

Would you consider the applicant an approachable individual?

Yes I do ~~and~~ consider inmate Smart very approachable.

How would you rate the applicant's general attitude/behavior during her participation in your program? Pick one of the following:

☐ Poor

☐ Average

☐ Good

☒ Above average

Additional comments: _____

Signature of reference: CO. A. McRae Date: 2/23/10

PLEASE RETURN THIS REFERENCE DIRECTLY TO "HONOR FLOOR COMMITTEE" C/O GUIDANCE & COUNSELING

Appendix C
Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations (Appendix C)

| | |
|--|------|
| 1. Summary of Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations | C1 |
| 2. Debra Jenner-Tyler | C13 |
| 3. Walter Arvinger | C16 |
| 4. Shirley Lute..... | C20 |
| 5. Doreen Washington | C22 |
| 6. Kylleen Hargrave-Thomas..... | C27 |
| 7. Dante Ferrazza | C29 |
| 8. Debra Gindorf | C32 |
| 9. Roosevelt Moore..... | C43 |
| 10. Linda Hamilton | C46 |
| 11. Joanne Schmid | C52 |
| 12. Thomas Cress..... | C54 |
| 13. Al-Kareem Shadeed..... | C57 |
| 14. Keith O. Smith | C69 |
| 15. Tyrone Werts | C76 |
| 16. William Fultz | C83 |
| 17. Betty Smithey..... | C90 |
| 18. Tamara Settles..... | C100 |
| 19. Rasberry Williams | C104 |
| 20. Larry Lee Fisher..... | C107 |
| 21. Shelby Arabie..... | C114 |
| 22. Travion Blout..... | C116 |
| 23. Orlando Ames | C121 |
| 24. Thurmond Berry..... | C129 |
| 25. Barry Beach | C136 |
| 26. David Conyers | C150 |
| 27. Louis Calderon..... | C156 |

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| 28. Matthew Hattley..... | C159 |
| 29. Donnie Daniels..... | C164 |
| 30. Valerie Seeley | C170 |
| 31. Daniel Peters | C188 |
| 32. Judith Clark..... | C194 |
| 33. Daniel Wiltse | C196 |
| 34. Kenneth Hartman | C199 |
| 35. Susan Russo | C202 |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|--------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| Debra Jenner-Tyler | 2003 | SD | Janklow | 30 | <p>Sentenced to a term of life imprisonment after brutally murdering her 3-year old daughter in 1987. The commutation of her sentence from life in prison to 100 years provided the ability to go before the parole board. Governor Janklow granted the commutation in January 2003, after believing Jenner-Tyler was sorry for her daughter's death.</p> <p><i>Debra Jenner-Tyler's Parole Request Is Denied</i>, KELOLAND MEDIA GROUP, Oct. 17, 2003, http://www.keloland.com/news/article/other/debra-jenner-tylers-parole-request-is-denied.</p> | A |
| Walter Arvinger | 2004 | MD | Ehrlich | 55 | <p>Sentenced to a term of life imprisonment, after a one day trial in 1968, for beating to death James R. Brown. Govenor Ehrlich's commutation of Mr. Arvinger's life sentence results in his release from prison after 36 years behind bars.</p> <p>Matthew Mosk, <i>Ehrlich Prolific in Granting Clemency</i>, The Washington Post, August 25, 2006, THE WASHINGTON POST, available at http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/24/AR2006082401851.html</p> | B |
| Shirley Lute | 2004 | MO | Holden | 73 | <p>Sentenced to a term of life-without-parole for at least 50 years, for aiding her son in killing her husband. After spending almost 25 years in prison, she was released from prison at the age of 76 in 2007, after the state Supreme Court overturned the parole board's denial of her release. The commutation made her eligible for parole was granted by Governor Holden in 2004.</p> <p><i>Woman paroled 25 years after killing husband</i>, ASSOCIATED PRESS, May 4, 2007, http://www.nbcnews.com/id/18492723/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/t/woman-paroled-years-after-killing-husband/?_sm_au=iVVvW0VNfvv1Rtns#.WTBp42eGND8.</p> | C |
| Doreen Washington | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 67 | <p>Sentenced on August 23, 1988 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on May 16, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board. She was released after serving 20 years.</p> <p>Alison Costello, <i>Advocacy group pushes clemency for imprisoned women</i>, MLIVE MICHIGAN, Oct. 10, 2008, http://blog.mlive.com/cns/2008/10/advocacy_group_pushes_clemency.html.</p> <p>Releases, The Michigan Women's Justice and Clemency Project, http://umich.edu/~clemency/women_sm/releases.html.</p> | D |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| Kylleen Hargrave-Thomas | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 56 | <p>Sentenced on November 30, 1993 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder for stabbing her fiancé and torching his bed, after he called off their wedding. The commutation was granted on July 24, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board. Governor Granholm ordered for Hargrave-Thomas to be released in September 2008.</p> <p>Associated Press, <i>Granholm frees woman who fatally stabbed ex-fiance</i>, MLIVE MICHIGAN, Aug. 6, 2008, http://blog.mlive.com/grpress/2008/08/granholm_frees_woman_who_fatal.html.</p> | E |
| John Ulmer | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 58 | <p>Sentenced on October 26, 1973 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on July 31, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-14., Reg. Sess., at 221 (Mich. 2009).</p> | |
| Joseph Page | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 72 | <p>Sentenced on January 7, 1963 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on August 5, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-14., Reg. Sess., at 221 (Mich. 2009).</p> | |
| Minnie Boose | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 63 | <p>Sentenced on January 9, 1980 to two terms of life imprisonment for the crimes of first degree murder and conspiracy to commit first degree murder. The commutation was granted on October 2, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-14., Reg. Sess., at 221 (Mich. 2009).</p> | |
| Paula Campbell | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 52 | <p>Sentenced on May 7, 1976 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on October 2, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-14., Reg. Sess., at 221 (Mich. 2009).</p> | |
| Joseph Kozlow | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 67 | <p>Sentenced on December 1, 1969 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on October 7, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-14., Reg. Sess., at 221 (Mich. 2009).</p> | |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| Dante Ferrazza | 2008 | MI | Granholm | 65 | <p>Sentenced on June 16, 1967 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on October 14, 2008 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-14., Reg. Sess., at 221 (Mich. 2009).</p> <p>Jameson Cook, <i>Judge affirms Granholm, parole board decisions</i>, MACOMB DAILY, Jan. 7, 2009, http://www.macombdaily.com/20090107/judge-affirms-granholm-parole-board-decisions.</p> | F |
| Debra Gindorf | 2009 | IL | Quinn | 44 | <p>Sentenced in 1986 to a term of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole after killing her two young children before attempting to commit suicide. Expert testimony revealed that Gindorf was suffering from severe post-partum psychosis when this took place. The commutation reduced her sentence to time served in May 2009.</p> <p>Eric Zorn, <i>Quinn brave where Blago was cowardly -- announces he will release Debra Gindorf</i>, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, May 1, 2009, http://blogs.chicagotribune.com/news_columnists_ezorn/2009/05/quinn-to-release-debra-gindorf.html?_sm_au_=iVVvW0VNfvv1Rtns.</p> | G |
| Roosevelt Moore | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 62 | <p>Sentenced on July 8, 1971 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on October 29, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board.</p> <p>John Hausman & Teresa Williams, <i>Gov. Granholm commutes sentence of man convicted in 1970 slaying</i>, MLIVE MICHIGAN, Nov. 22, 2009, http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2009/11/gov_granholm_commutes_sentence.html.</p> | H |
| Betty Jean Dennis | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 77 | <p>Sentenced on February 21, 1995 to terms of life imprisonment for the crime of conspiracy to commit first degree murder, 20 to 50 years imprisonment for the crime of assault with intent to commit murder, and 20 to 50 years imprisonment for the crime of soliciting first degree murder. The commutation was granted on March 6, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010).</p> | |
| Brian Hurst | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 51 | <p>Sentenced on May 20, 1980 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on April 2, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010).</p> | |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| Hollis Jackson | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 61 | Sentenced on June 5, 1970 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on May 29, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). | |
| Linda Hamilton | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 61 | Sentenced on June 28, 1979 and March 27, 1998 to terms of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder, and nine months to two years imprisonment for the crime of attempted larceny. The commutation was granted on June 17, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). LANSING CITY PULSE, <i>City Pulse – Cover Story</i> , http://lansingcitypulse.com/archives/040225/040225cover.html | I |
| Robert Peterson | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 57 | Sentenced on May 20, 1980 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on September 8, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). | |
| Robert Bransford | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 73 | Sentenced on February 1, 1973 to two terms of life imprisonment for the crimes of first degree murder and armed robbery. The commutation was granted on October 14, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). | |
| Zef Lulgjura | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 68 | Sentenced on June 22, 1977 to four terms of life imprisonment for the crimes of three counts of first degree murder, and assault with intent to commit murder. The commutation was granted on October 26, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). | |
| Anne Brown | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 48 | Sentenced on January 31, 1986 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on October 29, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). | |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|---------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|---|---------|
| Levonne Roberts | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 58 | Sentenced on March 13, 1985 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on December 4, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). | |
| John Coulter | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 72 | Sentenced on July 16, 1962 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on December 4, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). | |
| Joanne Schmid | 2009 | MI | Granholm | 72 | Sentenced on January 5, 1984 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on December 9, 2009 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-01., Reg. Sess., at 01 (Mich. 2010). LaNia Coleman, <i>Parole board to consider releasing Skidway Lake woman convicted of murder, arson in '82</i> , THE BAY CITY TIMES, Aug. 4, 2009, http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2009/08/parole_board_to_consider_relea.html | J |
| William Bennett Jr. | 2010 | MI | Granholm | 63 | Sentenced on June 24, 1976 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on May 26, 2010 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-99., Reg. Sess., at 2203 (Mich. 2010). | |
| James Armstrong | 2010 | MI | Granholm | 76 | Sentenced on January 28, 1963 and April 20, 1983 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder and a term of six months to five years imprisonment for the crime of escaping prison. The commutation was granted on June 7, 2010 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board. J. of S., 95-99., Reg. Sess., at 2203 (Mich. 2010). | |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| Thomas Cress | 2010 | MI | Granholm | 54 | <p>Sentenced on June 5, 1985 to a term of life imprisonment for the crime of first degree murder. The commutation was granted on December 28, 2010 and was based on the affirmative recommendation of the Michigan Parole and Commutation Board.</p> <p>J. of S., 95-99., Reg. Sess., at 2203 (Mich. 2010).</p> <p>Ed White, <i>Man convicted in teen's slaying will be released</i>, DESERET NEWS, Dec. 28, 2010, https://www.deseretnews.com/article/700095613/Man-convicted-in-teens-slaying-will-be-released.html</p> | K |
| Al-Kareem Shadeed | 2011 | WA | Gregoire | 42 | <p>Sentenced in 1994 to a term of life in prison without parole under the state's mandatory three-strikes law, after attempting to steal someone's wallet. Shadeed was released after the commutation was granted by Governor Gregoire in 2011.</p> <p>Sara Green, <i>Clemency recommended for 3-strikes offenders</i>, THE SEATTLE TIMES, June 11, 2009, http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/clemency-recommended-for-3-strikes-offenders/.</p> <p>Joe Utter, <i>Moses Lake man was granted clemency for life sentence, now suspected of theft at school</i>, iFIBERONE, Aug. 5, 2015, http://www.ifiberone.com/news/moses-lake-man-was-granted-clemency-for-life-sentence-now/article_59e7522e-3bcb-11e5-b153-bb57571f7036.html.</p> | L |
| Keith O. Smith | 2010 | PA | Rendell | 55 | <p>Sentenced in 1975 to a term of life imprisonment after serving as a lookout during a flower shop robbery in which the store owner was killed. Smith was 19 years old at the time with no criminal record at the time and received the same sentence as his co-defendants. The commutation was granted on December 30, 2010 by Governor Rendell, who noted that Smith was not the killer and served an ancillary role in the crime.</p> <p>Governor Rendell Announces Commutations, PRNEWswire, Dec. 30, 2010, http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/governor-rendell-announces-commutations-112679939.html.</p> | M |
| Tyrone Werts | 2010 | PA | Rendell | 59 | <p>Sentenced in 1976 for his role in a robbery and fatal shooting at a gambling house when he was 23 years old. He remained outside in a vehicle serving as the getaway driver in robbery-turned-murder. The commutation was granted on December 30, 2010 by Governor Rendell, who noted that Werts was not the shooter and served an ancillary role in the crime. Those with a more significant role received the same or lighter sentences, or ended up serving a shorter term than Werts.</p> <p>Governor Rendell Announces Commutations, PRNEWswire, Dec. 30, 2010, http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/governor-rendell-announces-commutations-112679939.html.</p> | N |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| William Fultz | 2010 | PA | Rendell | 58 | <p>Sentenced in 1976 to a term of life in prison for his role in a killing, in which his only role was disposing the murder weapon. The two men that committed the murder received the same sentence as Fultz, who was 22 years old at the time, with no prior adult criminal record. The commutation was granted on December 30, 2010 by Governor Rendell, who noted that Fultz was not the killer and served an ancillary role in the crime.</p> <p><i>Governor Rendell Announces Commutations</i>, PRNEWswire, Dec. 30, 2010, http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/governor-rendell-announces-commutations-112679939.html.</p> | O |
| Betty Smithey | 2012 | AZ | Brewer | 69 | <p>Convicted in 1963 for the murder of a 15-month year old girl that she had strangled to death while babysitting. Smithey was 20 years old when she was sentenced to a term of life imprisonment without parole. Smithey was a problematic prisoner at first, managing to escape four times from three different prisons between 1974 and 1981. Her sentence was commuted to 48 years to life, resulting in her release in August 2012, after 49 years in prison.</p> <p>Alyssa Newcomb, <i>Betty Smithey, Longest Serving Female Inmate, May Get Parole For 1963 Murder</i>, ABCNEWS, July 14, 2012, http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2188166/Betty-Smithey-Americas-longest-serving-female-inmate-freed-49-years.html.</p> <p><i>America's longest-serving female inmate, 69, walks free 49 years after strangling 15-month-old baby to death</i>, DAILY MAIL REPORTER, Aug. 14, 2012, http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2188166/Betty-Smithey-Americas-longest-serving-female-inmate-freed-49-years.html.</p> | P |
| Tamara Settles | 2012 | MD | O'Malley | 53 | <p>Convicted for a 1984 robbery-turned-murder where Settles lured the victim to her boyfriend, who eventually shot and killed the victim while demanding his wallet. Settles was sentenced to a term of life imprisonment, while her boyfriend took a plea deal and was released nine years prior to Settles' sentence commutation. The commutation was granted in March 2012, noting that Settles was not the killer and served an ancillary role in the crime.</p> <p>Aaron Davis, <i>O'Malley commutes sentences of two convicted for murder</i>, THE WASHINGTON POST, Mar. 29, 2012, https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/maryland-politics/post/omalley-commutes-sentences-of-two-convicted-for-murder/2012/03/29/gIQAXuUAkS_blog.html?utm_term=.6d08fa5508d9.</p> | Q |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|-----------|-----|--|---------|
| Travion Blout | 2014 | VA | McDonnell | 23 | <p>Sentenced to six life terms plus 118 years, with no chance for parole under Virginia law, for a 2006 robbery. Blout committed a robbery at age 15 along with two 18-year old accomplices who received 10- and 13- year sentences. The commutation of a sentence reduction was granted in January 2014.</p> <p>Gary Harki, <i>Travion Blount gets a chance at freedom after 6 life sentences for Norfolk robbery when he was 15</i>, THE VIRGINIAN PILOT, May 26, 2017, http://pilotonline.com/news/local/crime/travion-blount-gets-a-chance-at-freedom-after-life-sentences/article_e1de5c34-1c0d-5200-830e-e40c407c982c.html.</p> | U |
| Orlando Ames | 2014 | WA | Inslee | 46 | <p>Convicted in 1994 at the age of 27 to life without parole for second degree assault under the state's three-strikes law. Ames held the victim while a juvenile accomplice stole items from the victim's pockets. Prior to the three-strikes law, Ames would have faced approximately two years in prison. After serving almost 20 years, Governor Inslee granted commutation on November 14, 2014, after recommendation by the state Pardon Board.</p> <p>Austin Jenkins, <i>Another Washington Three-Strikes Offender Wins Clemency Recommendation</i>, NW NEWS NETWORK, June 13, 2014, http://nwnewsnetwork.org/post/another-washington-three-strikes-offender-wins-clemency-recommendation.</p> <p>Chart, Governor Inslee Clemency & Pardons Board Actions since 2012, http://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/BoardRecommendations-20150902.pdf.</p> | V |
| Thurmond Berry | 2015 | PA | Wolf | 68 | <p>Convicted in 1976 at age 29 to life without parole for being an accomplice in a robbery during which someone else killed a bystander. The commutation was granted on December 3, 2015 after recommendation in by the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons, making him eligible for parole. Berry spent almost 40 years in prison before his eventual release.</p> <p>Laura Benshoff, <i>With commutation, the window to freedom opens a crack for lifers in Pa.</i>, NEWSWORKS, May 31, 2016, http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/local/philadelphia/94183-with-commutation-the-window-to-freedom-opens-a-crack-for-lifers-in-pa?_sm_au_=iVVsKLZvDPL1qM6P.</p> <p>Statistics, Pa. Bd. of Pardons, Lifer Cases Granted a Public Hearing Since the 1997 Constitutional Amendment (as of Dec. 13, 2016).</p> | W |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| Barry Beach | 2015 | MT | Bullock | 53 | <p>Sentenced to a term of 100-years-without-parole at age 17 for a 1979 murder. Beach has long-maintained his innocence on the basis of coerced confession. After spending more than 30 years in prison, the commutation was granted on November 20, 2015, resulting in his release.</p> <p>Matt Volz & Matthew Brown, <i>Gov. Bullock frees Barry Beach after 3 decades in prison for murder</i>, THE MISSOULIAN, Nov. 20, 2015, http://missoulian.com/news/local/gov-bullock-frees-barry-beach-after-decades-in-prison-for/article_6f0c5477-7726-5419-9ce5-bca4b01246ae.html?_sm_au_=iVVFQHjZt7j6pVbN.</p> <p><i>Text of the Montana executive order granting Barry Beach clemency</i>, INDEP. REC., Nov. 20, 2015, http://helenair.com/news/crime-and-courts/text-of-the-montana-executive-order-granting-barry-beach-clemency/article_7e3f9cbf-4488-56e0-bd01-34e125d97974.html?_sm_au_=iVVFQHjZt7j6pVbN.</p> | X |
| David Conyers | 2015 | WA | Inslee | 40 | <p>Sentenced in 1995 to a term of life without parole under the state's three strikes law after participating in three robberies with his older brother. He was the youngest person to be convicted under the law, at the age of 20.</p> <p><i>Clemency and a call for reform for three-strikes law</i>, SEATTLE TIMES, Sep. 16, 2015, http://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/editorials/clemency-and-a-call-for-reform-for-three-strikes-law/.</p> | Y |
| Louis Calderon | 2016 | CA | Brown | 36 | <p>Sentenced on April 5, 2000 to a total prison term of 32 years to life for attempted murder plus a firearm enhancement. At the age 19, Calderon was present in a car at the time that his friend shot the victim. The commutation was granted on December 23, 2016, reducing Calderon's sentence to a total of 22 years to life.</p> <p>Melanie Mason & Liam Dillon, LA TIMES, <i>Gov. Jerry Brown pardons 112, commutes one sentence in pre-Christmas tradition</i>, Dec. 23, 2016, http://www.latimes.com/politics/essential/la-pol-ca-essential-politics-updates-gov-jerry-brown-pardons-112-commutes-1482520745.htmlstory.html</p> | Z |
| Matthew Hattley | 2016 | NY | Cuomo | 49 | <p>Sentenced in 1992 to a term of 25 years-to-life for second degree murder. The commutation was granted by Governor Cuomo on December 30, 2016.</p> <p>Chris Rowley, <i>Freedom In A Brand New Year? Governor Cites Gunk Journal Writings In Hattley Decision</i>, SHAWANGUNK JOURNAL, Jan. 5, 2017, http://www.gunkjournal.com/2017/01/05/news/1701050.html</p> | AA |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|--|---------|
| Donnie Daniels | 2016 | OK | Fallin | 54 | <p>Convicted of drug trafficking in 1997 and sentenced to life without parole under the state's mandatory three strikes law. The commutation providing the opportunity for parole was granted in January 2016, following recommendation by the Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board.</p> <p>Jennifer Palmer, <i>Oklahoma governor commutes sentences for two drug-crime inmates</i>, NEWSOK, Jan. 17, 2016, http://newsok.com/article/5473071.</p> <p>Jennifer Palmer, <i>Three commutation requests headed to Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin</i>, NEWSOK, Sep. 28, 2015, http://newsok.com/article/5449659.</p> | BB |
| Valerie Seeley | 2016 | NY | Cuomo | 61 | <p>Sentenced in 2001 to 19 years-to-life for second degree murder for killing her live-in, abusive boyfriend. The commutation was granted by Governor Cuomo on December 30, 2016.</p> <p>Press Release, Office of Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor Cuomo Grants First-Ever Conditional Pardons to More than 100 New Yorkers Convicted of Crimes at Ages 16 and 17 (Dec. 30, 2016), https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-grants-first-ever-conditional-pardons-more-100-new-yorkers-convicted-crimes-ages.</p> | CC |
| Daniel Peters | 2016 | PA | Wolf | 51 | <p>Sentenced at age 17 to life without parole after accompanying his older brother to rob a home where the homeowner later died after a beating that ensued by Peters' brother. The commutation was granted on May 24, 2016 following the January 2016 recommendation by the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons.</p> <p>Samantha Melamed, <i>After decades behind bars, juvenile lifers are released - but to what?</i>, PHILLY.COM, July 11, 2016, http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20160711_After_decades_behind_bars__juvenile_lifers_are_released_-_but_to_what_.html.</p> <p>Statistics, Pa. Bd. of Pardons, Lifer Cases Granted a Public Hearing Since the 1997 Constitutional Amendment (as of Dec. 13, 2016).</p> | DD |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|---|---------|
| Judith Clark | 2016 | NY | Cuomo | 67 | <p>Sentenced on October 6, 1983, to a minimum term of 75 years for driving the getaway car in a 1981 robbery that left a guard and two police officers dead. Clark received one of the longest sentences of her six co-defendants. The commutation was granted on December 30, 2016 by Governor Andrew Cuomo making Clark eligible for parole. Governor Cuomo specifically cited Clark's long sentence and exceptional self-development.</p> <p>JUDITH CLARK, http://judithclark.org/ (last visited May 30, 2017).</p> <p>Eli Rosenberg, <i>Cuomo Commutes Sentence of Judith Clark, Driver in Deadly Bring's Robbery</i>, NEW YORK TIMES, Dec. 30, 2016, https://www.nytimes.com/2016/12/30/nyregion/cuomo-commutes-sentence-of-judith-clark-driver-in-deadly-brinks-robbery.html</p> | EE |
| Daniel Wiltse | 2017 | CA | Brown | 54 | <p>Sentenced in January 1981 to life without parole at the age of 18 for the crimes of murder and conspiracy to commit murder, in arrangement with an acquaintance, who was the person to actually carry out the killer. The commutation was granted on April 15, 2017 making Wiltse's eligible for a parole hearing. Wiltse earned his GED and a variety of certifications while incarcerated and also assisted the prison in designing a computerized tracking system.</p> <p>Michael Watanabe, <i>Gov. Brown commutes sentence for man convicted of stepfather's 1979 murder in Riverside County</i>, THE PRESS ENTERPRISE, Apr. 15, 2017, http://www.pe.com/2017/04/15/gov-brown-commutes-murder-sentence-pardons-6-in-riverside-san-bernardino-counties/.</p> | FF |
| Kenneth Hartman | 2017 | CA | Brown | 56 | <p>Sentenced on July 22, 1980 to life-without-parole for robbery and murder at the age of 19, following an altercation between Hartman, his friend and the victim. The commutation was granted on April 15, 2017, making Hartman eligible for parole.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA, COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE FOR KENNETH HARTMAN (April 15, 2017), https://www.gov.ca.gov/docs/4.15.17_Attested_Pardons_and_Commutations.pdf</p> | GG |

| Commuted Prisoner | Year | State | Governor | Age | Summary | Exhibit |
|-------------------|------|-------|----------|-----|---|---------|
| Susan Russo | 2017 | CA | Brown | 62 | <p>Sentenced on August 16, 1996 to life-without-parole after she plotted with her boyfriend to kill her husband. Russo let two men into her home to kill her husband. The commutation was granted by Governor Jerry Brown on April 15, 2017, making Russo eligible for parole.</p> <p>Chueyee Yang, <i>After years of life sentence without parole, Riverdale woman given chance at reprieve</i>, THE FRESNO BEE, Apr. 15, 2017, http://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/article144870924.html?_sm_au_=iVVsKLZvDPL1qM6P.</p> <p>EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA, COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE FOR SUSAN RUSSO (2017).</p> | HH |

Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

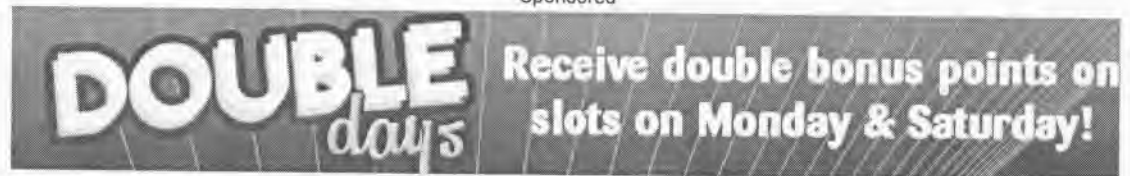
EXHIBIT A

Debra Jenner-Tyler

South Dakota
Governor Janklow
2003

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October 17, 2003 04:51 PM

Debra Jenner-Tyler's Parole Request Is Denied

144
views



Parole board members say she's a liar, isn't remorseful and has mental problems and for those reasons Debra Jenner-Tyler won't be getting out of prison any time soon. Jenner-Tyler killed her three year old daughter Abby Lynn Jenner 16 years ago, by stabbing her 70 times with a kitchen knife and toy airplane. Friday, the parole board decided to keep her in prison. In January, former Governor Bill Janklow commuted Debra Jenner-Tyler's sentence from life in prison to 100 years. That gave Jenner-Tyler the right to ask for parole. This is the second time she's asked for her release from prison, but again parole board members said "no". For years, one woman claimed she was innocent... that she didn't murder her three year old daughter. That is until Debra Jenner-Tyler met with former Governor Bill Janklow in a private meeting during the last part of his

administration. Janklow believed she was sorry for Abby Lynn Jenner's death. But that same story didn't convince the state parole board. Member Bob Hofer says, "I've seen a lot of tough things in my day in my 70 plus years and this is the most heinous crime I have ever seen in my lifetime." Hofer told the board today that somewhere along the line, Jenner-Tyler got the idea they have to let her out of prison. But he says it's the board's job to protect the public. He says, "Do I believe she could commit this again? I'm afraid I do." Several times in Friday's hearing, board members talked about the gruesome pictures taken at the crime scene. Hofer says, "I don't know whether all of you have seen those photographs. But they're devastating." And for that reason among many, the board agrees Jenner-Tyler needs to stay locked up. Hofer says, "All those in favor say I. I. All opposed? (silence) Motions carries." The board members say not only did Jenner-Tyler perjure herself when she finally admitted to killing her daughter, but she was also raising money over an internet site to try and get a proper defense, which they say is clearly fraud. Jenner-Tyler can request her parole every eight months.




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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT B

Walter Arvinger

Maryland
Governor Ehrlich
2004

Ehrlich Prolific in Granting Clemency

By Matthew Mosk
Washington Post Staff Writer
Friday, August 25, 2006

Maryland Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. has been unusually active in his use of executive clemency powers, pardoning scores of convicts and commuting the sentences of five who were serving life sentences for murder.

Since taking office in 2003, Ehrlich (R) has granted clemency to 190 former convicts, reversing a two-decade trend among state and national chief executives, who have largely shelved their power to issue pardons.

Many of his peers consider the practice politically risky, but Ehrlich said he considers it part of his constitutional duty. He has invoked his authority to clean the slate most often for those who have, in the aftermath of a youthful indiscretion, lived exemplary lives.

For example, a series of pardons in recent weeks enabled a 29-year-old Cumberland man to receive a gun permit despite a 1998 arrest in a fistfight and a Hagerstown man, 56, to get a job as a security guard despite a 21-year-old battery conviction.

But the governor has also tackled cases that his predecessor wouldn't touch: a backlog of clemency appeals from lifers who had convinced state parole officials that they were ready to be released. "You have these situations where race may have played a part, insufficient counsel may have played a part, where the shooter is out and the accomplice is still in," Ehrlich said. "Those needed to be addressed."

His pardons touched people across the state and across party lines.

Ehrlich's political advisers cringed when he began holding monthly meetings to review pardon applications, but, he said, his law school training and his marriage to a public defender instilled in him a sense of duty.

"This is what governors do," Ehrlich said. "Criminal justice is something I'm trained in, and I believe in it. But I know at times the system doesn't work even though there are a lot of safeguards."

Ehrlich's Democratic predecessor, Parris N. Glendening, pardoned or commuted the sentences of one-fifth as many felons in his first term and refused to release lifers, maintaining a "life means life" stance throughout his tenure. His reluctance is not uncommon among governors. Nor is it inconsistent with the federal trend. President Bush has largely sidelined the practice, issuing 99 pardons since he took office, the fewest of any modern president.

"It appears that the only two incumbent chief executives who approach their pardoning responsibilities with any amount of proper respect are Governor Robert Ehrlich of Maryland and President Josiah Bartlet of 'The West Wing,'" wrote Margaret Colgate Love, a Democrat who was President Bill Clinton's pardon attorney, in a paper published in January by the American Bar Association.

In an interview, Love said that ever since the Willie Horton episode -- when an attack on a Maryland couple by a furloughed prisoner helped doom the presidential ambitions of then-Massachusetts Gov.

Michael S. Dukakis (D) in 1988 -- politicians have considered pardoned criminals ticking time bombs, capable of destroying a career with a single act.

Glendening said he had been concerned about maintaining a consistent policy. With most pardon petitions coming from former felons who wanted guns, he said, he "had real concerns" about putting firearms in their hands.

"It would be odd, in a way, to say we should restrict the use of guns and then go out and issue a bunch of pardons," Glendening said.

But Ehrlich did not share that objection. He viewed people such as Joseph Stafford, a deer hunter who was turned away by a salesclerk last year when he tried to buy a pistol at a Cumberland gun shop for target shooting, as deserving of a second chance.

Eight years earlier, a scuffle at a mall earned Stafford a second-degree assault conviction. If he wanted a gun permit, the clerk told him, he would need an executive pardon. Three weeks ago, after a long application and interview process, that is what Stafford received.

Other cases were more involved.

Montgomery County council member Tom Perez (D-Silver Spring), who is also a University of Maryland law professor and candidate for attorney general, said he was overseeing a criminal justice clinic five years ago when he discovered 30 inmates who had "fallen through a crack in the system." In 1994, the General Assembly reduced the sentence for daytime housebreaking from 25 years to three years but did not allow the change to apply retroactively.

Perez and his students petitioned Glendening on behalf of the 30 men with 25-year terms on the grounds that others committing the same crime were serving only a fraction of the time because they were convicted after the legislature's action.

Glendening rebuffed Perez's appeal. But soon after Ehrlich took office, Perez said, one of the governor's aides invited him to reapply. Ehrlich has since commuted the sentences of three of the men. And he signed a law that gave the others a one-year window in which to seek parole. One of them was Clifford Sewell, who, Perez said, "is now employed and living in Baltimore."

"Governor Ehrlich commuted his sentence, and I give him a lot of credit for that," Perez said.

Ehrlich has also reversed Glendening's "life means life" policy.

Walter H. Arvinger was 19 when he was arrested in 1968 in the beating death of James R. Brown. Witnesses gave conflicting testimony about whether Arvinger was part of a group that planned to rob Brown on a Baltimore street, but he never held the bat used to kill Brown. After a one-day trial, Arvinger was sentenced to life in prison.

The Maryland Parole Commission first endorsed his release in 1998, noting that everyone else involved in the attack was out, including the man who wielded the bat. But Glendening never considered it. He said his administration's prohibition on commuting life sentences stemmed from his discomfort with the death penalty -- and the only way the public would be willing to abandon the death penalty, he said, was if life sentences were irrevocable.

Ehrlich's decision to commute sentences in that case and other killings has not brought any outcry from victims' advocates.

One reason, said Russell Butler, executive director of the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center Inc., is that Ehrlich sought input from victims' relatives before granting clemency.

Ehrlich is an aberration among those governors endowed with clemency powers, statistics show. Governors in Louisiana and Michigan have, between them, issued a single pardon.

In Virginia, Mark R. Warner (D) issued 53 when he was governor, and Gov. Timothy M. Kaine (D) has signed one. Only two of Warner's involved people serving long felony terms. Both pardons resulted from DNA evidence that exonerated the convicts.

Most politicians, Love said, consider pardons too risky in a world where voters have responded best to those who talk tough about crime.

Pennsylvania's Mark S. Singel is one who learned that lesson the hard way. Singel (D), who had served eight years as lieutenant governor, began his bid for governor in 1994 by highlighting his service as chairman of the state's Board of Pardons to prove his mettle on crime. Of the 2,614 applications he reviewed, eight had been granted.

But a month before the election, one of the eight people pardoned was charged in the kidnapping, rape and robbery of a New York woman. Within days, Singel's opponent, Republican Tom Ridge, aired a television ad in which the narrator said: "In 1992, Mark Singel votes to free a murderer. Now the same man is arrested again. . . . Just a mistake or too liberal on crime?"

Ehrlich hasn't talked much about his pardons as he has campaigned for reelection against Baltimore Mayor Martin O'Malley (D), except before a group of black church leaders last month.

Ehrlich's chief counsel, Jervis S. Finney, said the governor is mindful of the political risks but has established a screening process that borders on the obsessive.

Applications are first reviewed by the state Parole Commission. Applicants who pass muster are then checked by a team from Finney's office. Two lawyers dig into their pasts, subject them to lie detector tests, read transcripts, talk to victims and prosecutors, and conduct a psychological battery that Finney said will provide the governor with the numerical odds that the applicants will commit other crimes.

The process seems to have worked. According to the state Division of Parole and Probation, only one of Ehrlich's clemency recipients has had another brush with the system: Timothy Branham, pardoned June 5 for a breaking and entering conviction, was arrested in a drug possession case later that month.

Even for Stafford, whose offense did not result in jail time, the investigation was thorough, the deer hunter said. An investigator interviewed him at length, called his relatives and past employers, and asked him to submit a 26-page application.

"It took a year," Stafford said. "I guess I could see the risk for [Ehrlich]. Some people, I'm sure, don't deserve it. But I'm glad he did it for me."

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT C

Shirley Lute

Missouri
Governor Holden
2004

Woman paroled 25 years after killing husband

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She claimed he had abused her; Missouri governor commuted sentence

AP Associated Press

updated 5/4/2007 2:51:36 PM ET

JEFFERSON CITY, Missouri — A 76-year-old woman left prison Friday after living 25 years behind bars for helping kill her husband, who she said had been abusing her.

Shirley Lute was released to shouts of support and cries of "We love you, Ms. Lute!" from inmates at the Chillicothe Correctional Center, said Department of Corrections spokesman Brian Hauswirth.

Lute was initially sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole for at least 50 years. She was convicted of aiding her son in killing her husband, Melvin, whom she claims physically tortured and mentally tormented her.

In 2004, then-Gov. Bob Holden commuted her sentence to make her immediately eligible for parole, but the state Board of Probation and Parole refused to release her. Then, earlier this year, the state Supreme Court overturned the board and ordered her released.

The board on Monday granted parole to Lute and another woman who also said she was abused by the husband she killed.

Lute will remain on parole for the rest of her life. Hauswirth said he could not discuss Lute's parole conditions because they are confidential. All parolees must abide by some general requirements, such as not using drugs or possessing weapons.

Her lawyer did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

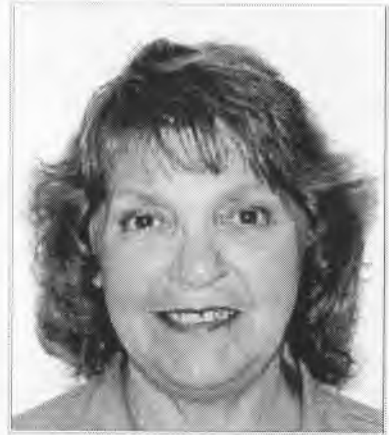
Hauswirth said the other woman granted parole, Lynda Branch, will likely be released next week.

Branch, 54, was convicted of shooting her husband in 1986. She says she grabbed the gun after he threatened to shoot her and her daughter.

Both women's cases were handled by the Missouri Battered Women's Clemency Coalition, which includes professors and students at the state's four law schools.

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Shirley Lute, now 76, is seen in this updated corrections department

Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT D

Doreen Washington

Michigan
Governor Granholm
2009

Michigan

Advocacy group pushes clemency for imprisoned women

By **Alison T. Costello**

on October 10, 2008 at 1:33 PM. Updated October 14, 2008 at 10:14 PM

LANSING- Anita Posey, now 52, was convicted of murder and sentenced to 17 to 50 years of prison in 1993 after she fatally shot her boyfriend who threw her baby against a wall in Eaton County. She's serving her time in the Huron Valley Complex in Ypsilanti.

Levonnie Roberts, now 57, witnessed and reported her abusive boyfriend for stabbing a man to death in 1984 in Wayne County. They were both convicted, and although he was released from prison in 2004, Roberts remains incarcerated for life at the Robert Scott Correctional Facility in Plymouth.

In 1986, Stacy Barker, now 42, killed a man who was trying to rape her in Oakland County. She was convicted of murder, sentenced to life in prison and is serving her time at Camp Valley in Ypsilanti.

There may be hope for women imprisoned in disputes like Posey, Roberts and Barker if the Michigan Women's Justice and Clemency Project has its way.

The non profit project, founded by former prisoner Susan Faire, has worked for 11 years to inform the public about domestic violence and press for clemency for some female felons.

Prisoners receive clemency when the governor decides that he or she deserves a lesser sentence for a crime, but the crime is not erased.

Carol Jacobsen, director of the project, said clemency a slow and frustrating process.

"The governor is not paying enough attention to this," she said. "She is allowing the parole board to rule, and the parole board is not doing their job. The criminal justice system doesn't let go of people, even when they're wrongly convicted."

There are currently 14 clemency petitions awaiting Gov. Jennifer Granholm's signature and 25 waiting for parole.

Before a clemency request gets to the governor, it goes through a process of review in the Department of Corrections.

"We take every clemency request that comes in and review it the same way. Our parole board wants to make the best decision possible," said John Cordell, communications officer for the department.

"All of these women were convicted. Their crime was decided by a jury in a court and it's not the parole board's interest to change the decision. There are times when the clemency should be granted, and we make that recommendation to the governor."

The project's first clemency release was in July of 2008.

Doreen Washington, now 67, served 20 years for a murder in Wayne County. She now lives in Indiana with her son and his family and will be under state supervision until July 2012.

Jacobsen said Washington received clemency probably because she is seriously ill.

"The governor is not understanding about domestic violence," Jacobsen said. "We live in a gendered society. There is not enough public education or understanding about domestic violence."

Consider the story of Mary Suchy, now 60.

She had been abused by her husband for years before someone she knew hired a hit man to kill him. He was shot five times and died. She said she had nothing to do with the killing, but the judicial system was cruel because she's a woman and as a member of the local chamber of commerce, was influential in the firing of Goodrich's chief of police.

"Men go to prison and they might be in 10 to 12 years, and they're out," she said. The good old boys have always run the world. Women have been suppressed for so long and still are."

Suchy served 26 years at the Huron Valley complex and the Robert Scott Correctional Facility and is now living with family in Davison. She was originally charged with arson, first-degree murder and solicitation to murder. But years of challenging the charges with advice from the project reduced her sentence.

"I was fighting all the time to get out. I wanted to be home," Suchy said. "I understand people should do time and I agree with that. But not for the wrong charge."

Every case the project presses is thoroughly researched, and not all battered women deserve clemency or parole, Jacobsen said.

But "there are many dozens of women who deserve clemency or parole now, who pose no threat to anyone, who would return to being good law-abiding citizens if released," she said.

According to Jacobsen, one woman is murdered by her husband or boyfriend on an average of every five days in Michigan. The women who act in self-defense and kill their attacker are almost always sentenced to decades or life in prison, she said.

At least one third to one half of those woman acted in self-defense. "But self-defense doesn't work for women in the court," Jacobsen said.

"We're representing the survivors who are being punished for saving their own lives."

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Releases



Violet Allen

Violet Allen was paroled in 1999 after serving 22 years, thanks to a Motion for Relief from Judgement researched and filed by Attorney Lynn D'Orio and The Clemency Project



Minnie Boose

Minnie Boose received clemency from Governor Granholm, 2008.



Geraldean Gordon



Diane Howe

Diane Howe was paroled in 2006 after serving 16 years.

Release on parole while her petition, filed by the MBWCP, was sitting on the Governor's desk.



Millie Perry

Millie Perry received parole in August 2008 after 29 years. Pictured here, l to r, greeting Millie: Dan Tidswell, Diane Engleman, Susan Fair, Millie Perry, Carol Jacobsen



Mary Suchy

Mary Suchy celebrating her release after serving 26 years.



Juanita Thomas

Juanita Thomas was paroled in 1998 after serving almost 20 years, thanks to a Motion for Relief from Judgment researched and filed by Attorney Andrea Lyon and the Clemency Project.



Doreen Washington

Doreen Washington received clemency from Governor Jennifer Granholm and was released from prison in July 2008, after serving 20 years. She is the first clemency for the Michigan Women's Justice & Clemency Project.

Michigan Women's Justice & Clemency Project | 1019 Maiden Lane | Ann Arbor, MI 48105 | 734.662.0776 | © 2008

Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT E

Kyleen Hargrave-Thomas

Michigan
Governor Granholm
2008

Michigan

Granholm frees woman who fatally stabbed ex-fiance

AP

By The Associated Press

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on August 06, 2008 at 3:56 AM, updated August 06, 2008 at 7:58 AM

LANSING -- Gov. Jennifer Granholm has commuted the life sentence of a woman who fatally stabbed a man for canceling their wedding, then torched his bed.

Granholm's order means 56-year-old Kylene Hargrave-Thomas of Bloomfield Hills goes free Sept. 2 after 11 years in prison for first-degree murder.

Granholm spokeswoman Liz Boyd says the state Parole Board recommended the commutation. The Detroit News says Granholm has commuted 43 sentences, 25 this year.

Hargrave-Thomas was convicted for the 1991 killing of 42-year-old Joe Bernal of Westland. A federal judge overturned the conviction, saying her lawyers offered an inadequate defense. An appeals court reinstated the conviction.

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT F

Dante Ferrazza

Michigan
Governor Granholm
2008

The Macomb Daily (<http://www.macombdaily.com>)

Judge affirms Granholm, parole board decisions

By Jameson Cook, Macomb Daily Staff Writer

Wednesday, January 7, 2009



After 42 years in prison, convicted killer Dante Ferrazza this morning will walk out of Macomb Correctional Facility a free man. Judge Richard Caretti on Tuesday denied Macomb prosecutors' request to halt Ferrazza's release following Gov. Jennifer Granholm's commutation of his life-in-prison sentence and the state Parole Board's endorsement. The judge also denied a stay request by assistant Macomb prosecutor Steven Kaplan while prosecutors seek to appeal to the state Court of Appeals.

Ferrazza, who nervously bounced his leg while seated at the defense table during court proceedings, showed little reaction to the ruling. But his sister, who was sitting in the courtroom, smiled and pounded her fist on her thighs in elation.

"I'm so happy," she said outside the courtroom. "I knew he was coming home."

The 58-year-old Chesterfield Township woman, who pushed for her brother's release, said she planned to pick him up this morning at the Lenox Township prison and will immediately drive him to Mount Clemens to visit his parole officer.

"He wants to go shopping, he wants to go to the Dollar Store," she said. "He wants to get a Coney dog and then I'm going to take him to Famous Dave's for some ribs. Then we'll go home and open Christmas presents."

The ruling, on the other hand, upset and baffled the family of Gary Grayvold, who in 1966 was killed at age 28 by his small-time criminal associates Ferrazza and Harry Whitney.

Two of Grayvold's three sons, Brad and John, and brother Max, 69, of Royal Oak, attended the hearing.

"The family feels we have been victimized twice," Brad Grayvold said after the hearing. "We feel victimized by the state when we're supposed to be supported by the state. The message this sends to the people of the state of Michigan is: I don't know how much weight that laws have."

Granholm and the Parole Board indicated they believe Ferrazza is no longer a danger to society, but the Grayvolds disagree.

"I'm glad I don't live in Macomb County. This person is on the streets and could be in your back yard," said Brad Grayvold, an elementary school principal and high school football coach in the Upper Peninsula.

Grayvold in April 1966 was abducted at gunpoint at Pampa Lanes in Warren, bound and placed in Ferrazza's car trunk, where he suffocated en route to Stony Creek Park in Washington Township. His body was discovered about one month later in a lake in the park.

Ferrazza and Whitney, who fled to Illinois, where they were caught after robbing a store, were convicted of first-degree, premeditated murder in Macomb County Circuit Court and in 1967 ordered to life in prison without parole. Whitney died in prison.

Ferrazza, who lived in Clinton Township, claims that he only meant to beat up Grayvold at Stony Creek in retaliation for having sex with his 15-year-old sister but accidentally bound him too tightly. His sister has told The Macomb Daily as an underage teenager she was forced into sex by Gary Grayvold in an Eight Mile Road motel room.

In granting Ferrazza's release, state officials pointed to Ferrazza's exemplary record in prison, garnering only one citation for a missed medical appointment in the more than four decades.

"In my 30 years (as a state public defender), I've never seen a record like this and probably never will," said Ferrazza's court-appointed attorney, Jeanice Dagher-Margosian.

But the Grayvolds pointed out that Ferrazza had at least three prior armed robbery convictions in the 1950s and 1960s and violated parole before.

"Of course he's going to behave in prison, he's in prison," Brad Grayvold said in astonishment. "He's admitted he is afraid of what life will be like in the outside world. They had to beg him to ask for his release. ... The last time he was let out of prison he committed several crimes, including the ultimate crime. In my mind, he's going to go after somebody."

Grayvold, who spoke against Ferrazza's release at a January 2008 board hearing, criticized Granholm for OK'ing the release as part of her effort to reduce the state Department of Corrections budget.

"This was a political decision that was made before it came to court. It was made over a year ago," he said. Granholm about two years ago established the Executive Clemency Advisory Council as part of her reformation of the state Department of Corrections to "make government more efficient and cost-effective," according to the executive order.

The governor in 2008 approved 40 early releases after approving 18 in her prior five years in office. She approved another one elsewhere in the state Tuesday.

Granholm spokeswoman Liz Boyd said Tuesday the governor and parole board carefully considered the case, noting that despite the increase, commutations remain rare.

"The suggestion that this was a political decision is way out of bounds," Boyd said. "The No. 1 issue the governor and parole board take into consideration is public safety. After thorough and careful review, it has been determined this person is not a threat to public safety."

Candidates must fall into one of three categories -- elderly, frail or nonviolent.

Ferrazza does have some medical conditions but was considered to be too old to be a threat.

His release was supported by lawyer John Lascoe, who as an assistant Macomb prosecutor tried Ferrazza. Lascoe, 71, who practices out of Sterling Heights, says in a letter the rape allegation against Grayvold is "probably true."

But Grayvold said that while the allegation was presented during Ferrazza's trial, it was never substantiated. Even if it was, it shouldn't factor into releasing him.

In allowing the release, Caretti said the prosecution "has not met the burden of a clear abuse of discretion" by the parole board.

Caretti provided a quote by Ferrazza about his misdeed: "It makes me sick what I did."

In a recent interview with The Macomb Daily, Ferrazza said he regrets the incident and inadvertently killed Grayvold.

Ferrazza's plans include residing with his sister and operating a woodshop in her basement. His sister said she plans to get him involved with a senior citizens group, and that he looks forward to cooking.

Grayvold's wife, Gloria Jean, who at the time was pregnant with Brad Grayvold, moved shortly after her husband died to the Upper Peninsula. Her two other sons, John, 44, and Tony, 46, also live in the U.P. She later married William Holmes, and they had a child.

URL: <http://www.macombdaily.com/20090107/judge-affirms-granholm-parole-board-decisions>

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT G

Debra Gindorf

Illinois
Governor Quinn
2009

Chicago Tribune

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OBSERVATIONS, REPORTS, TIPS, REFERRALS AND TIRADES

BY ERIC ZORN | [E-mail](#) | [About](#) | [RSS](#)

Friday, May 01, 2009

Quinn brave where Blago was cowardly -- announces he will release Debra Gindorf

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Gov. Pat Quinn today announced that he will be commuting Debra Gindorf's sentence to time served. Officials expect her to be released from Dwight Correctional Center in mid-May.

Gindorf (*pictured here when she was pregnant in 1983*) was suffering from severe post-partum psychosis in March of 1985 when she gave her 3-month-old son and 23-month-old daughter lethal doses of sleeping medication and then tried to kill herself. (An through narrative of the case is contained in [her most recent appeal](#) to the Illinois Prisoner Review Board.

She was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole in 1986. But that sentence was a miscarriage of justice that needed a humanitarian touch to correct given the justice system's poor understanding of post-partum illness at that time.

Said who? Dr. Ronald Baron, the Highland Park psychiatrist who testified against Gindorf at her trial but later weighed in on her behalf.

The Lake County state's attorney's office that prosecuted Gindorf offered no objection to Gindorf's release back in 2003, when she had a hearing in front of a plainly sympathetic Illinois Prisoner Review Board.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich's failure to act on Gindorf's petition one way or the other for six years was, to my mind, disgraceful and craven.

Quinn, whose office had no comment on the case Friday afternoon, will no doubt have some difficult explaining to do to people who don't understand that post-partum psychosis is very real and both explains and excuses dreadful acts.

In this, he proved as brave as his predecessor was cowardly.

Below is an archive of my coverage of the case:

Slain kids' mom has 2nd chance to get clemency

February 18, 2003

In an unusual and timely move, the chairman of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board has waived a one-year waiting requirement and invited Debra Gindorf to reapply immediately for executive clemency.

Gindorf, 38, has been behind bars since she was 20 and killed her two children--a 23-month-old daughter and 3-month-old son--in their apartment in suburban Zion. She fed them sleeping medication as part of a suicide attempt that marked the hideous depths of a post-partum mental disturbance.

At the time, as I wrote in a column on Gindorf last month, the gravity of post-partum depression and psychosis were poorly understood by the medical and legal communities. In 1986, Gindorf received a sentence of life in prison without parole, though women in similar distress who've killed their children in recent years have received at most 2 years in prison.

It's hard to find anyone who thinks Gindorf should still be locked up. The Lake County state's attorney's office did not send a representative or write a letter to object when Gindorf made an uncontested application for mercy to the Prisoner Review Board last April. In fact, one of Gindorf's strongest advocates was the Highland Park psychiatrist who testified for the prosecution at her trial.

Gindorf's life sentence "was a miscarriage of justice," wrote Dr. Ronald Baron in a letter to then-Gov. George Ryan. "This is a special situation, which needs your humanitarian touch to correct."

Ryan didn't think so. In the flurry of Death Row pardons and commutations at the end of his term, he declined to release Gindorf. Any idea that Ryan was simply too busy addressing condemned prisoners to deal with lesser cases was belied when we learned at the end of January of more 150 other pardons and commutations Ryan signed on his way out the door.

What did the Prisoner Review Board recommend in Gindorf's case? Its findings are confidential, but board Chair-man Craig Findley recently all but gave the answer when he asked Gindorf to file a new petition right away.

Findley, a former Republican state representative, was emphatic during our conversation that Gindorf "has a case that deserves to be reheard."

Under normal circumstances, petitioners who are denied by the governor must wait one year from the date of denial to refile. In Gindorf's case, this would have meant next January.

The chairman customarily waives that waiting period only when there is a "substantial change of circumstance," said board attorney Ken Tupy, such as when new evidence surfaces or a prisoner is diagnosed with a rapidly progressing fatal illness.

This waiver for Gindorf is unusual if not unprecedented because the only change of circumstance for her is the name of the man in the governor's mansion.

And the waiver is timely, Findley said, "because of our heightened awareness of post-partum psychosis," an awareness Findley noted was raised further by Tribune reporter Louise Klerman's two-part series Sunday and Monday "that put a human face on how awful this disorder is."

Klerman chronicled in searing detail the rampaging mental disorders of Jennifer Mudd Houghtaling and Melanie Stokes. Both women were healthy when they gave birth for the first time in mid-2000; then, despite the best efforts of their husbands, families and doctors to treat the subsequent neurological imbalances, both women committed suicide.

Gindorf, in contrast, had no psychiatrist in 1985, no job, no car and no phone, and was living with two children under age 2 in a tiny apartment in Zion. She was also estranged from her family and her physically abusive, alcoholic live-in.

Now we know why and how the dark storm overtook her. Now we know that it's time to understand and forgive.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich can wake Gindorf and a few more months at Dwight Correctional Center so the lawyers and the Prisoner Review Board can go through the formalities of holding another hearing in early April and generate another official recommendation.

Or he can ask the board members for their opinion--they're his confidential advisers, after all--and act to free her today.

Such bold acts of justice are rare early in a governor's term. But one unusual and timely move deserves another.

Mom punished long enough for her illness

May 1, 2003

DATELINE: DWIGHT, Ill.—Debra Gindorf is a confident woman, chatty and direct, with no reluctance to look a visitor in the eye and talk about her dreadful past.

She refers to the events of March 29, 1985, as "the accident." On that day, she fed her 3-month-old son, Jason, and 23-month-old daughter, Christina, lethal doses of sleeping medication in their suburban Zion apartment and attempted to take her own life in what experts later testified was a profound episode of postpartum mental illness.

"I don't ever say 'when I killed my kids,'" she said during a long conversation in a meeting room at Dwight Correctional Center 90 miles southwest of Chicago, where she has spent 17 years. "Even though it happened with my own hands. It wasn't me who killed them. It was the illness."

You might expect or even hope to find her a shattered soul, a grayer version of the trembling, withdrawn 21-year-old who cowered in a Lake County courtroom during her murder trial. But she emerged long ago from the depths of her grief, she said, and won't play the haunted penitent for anyone.

"I should apologize for having an illness," she said. "Excuse me, but I didn't ask for this. I loved my kids."

Postpartum depression and postpartum psychosis are brought on by massive changes in brain chemistry that can mimic insanity. In recent years, courts have shown leniency to women who have killed their children in this mad state, but the condition was not well understood in 1986 when Gindorf was convicted and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

When she first came to Dwight, she said, she imagined hearing Jason and Christina crying out to her and could barely look at children in the visiting area. "It was part of the grieving process," she said. "But I'm way past that now." She posts up pictures of her children in the room she shares with another inmate in a minimum-security area of the prison. "They're always with me," she said, "but it would be too hard to see their pictures every day."

Three times, a governor of Illinois has turned down her request for a pardon or sentence commutation. In January, former Gov. George Ryan disregarded a plea that included a request from the state's psychiatrist at trial that Ryan consider the "unscarriage of justice" that keeps Gindorf behind bars. Immediately after Ryan left office, the chairman of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board told Gindorf's attorney, Assistant State Appellate Defender Kathleen Hamill, to submit a new petition because he was waiving the customary one-year waiting period.

Prisoner Review Board recommendations are confidential, but the highly unusual waiver along with the friendly tone of the questioning at Gindorf's April 16 clemency hearing in the Thompson Center leave little doubt that the board hopes Gov. Rod Blagojevich will act as what Ryan did not.

"However horrific her actions were, the evidence is overwhelming that she didn't act with malice," as Hamill told the board.

No one recognized Gindorf's condition in 1985 and no one offered her any treatment or help as she reeled in a sun-ecial fog and ultimately hatched a plan to escape to heaven with her children.

"Anyone who doubts [postpartum mental illness] is real, I want to say to them, 'Look at me!'" said Gindorf. "How much more proof do you need?"

The Lake County state's attorney's office, which prosecuted Gindorf, did not contest her petition. It was not an oversight, said State's Atty. Michael Waller.

"I looked at the case thoroughly with three of my top supervisors," Waller said. "In the end, I decided not to object to the governor granting relief to Debra Gindorf."

The recommendation of the Prisoner Review Board should be in the governor's hands by Thursday, which, fittingly, is the first day of Postpartum Depression Awareness Month as designated recently by Blagojevich himself.

In the formal proclamation, Blagojevich asked "all citizens to recognize the serious and debilitating disorder that affects childbearing women and their families."

It's an excellent and important directive. It might have saved Jason and Christina Gindorf, who would be young adults today.

And it compels us to show mercy to their poor mother.

Prove you mean it, governor. Free Debra Gindorf.

Post-partum response good, but not enough

May 11, 2004

A chance meeting last month between one of the most powerful women in Illinois and a 3-year-old girl has resulted in the most significant statewide effort yet in battling the scourge of post-partum mental illness.

The woman was House Assistant Majority Leader Lorraine "Lori" Jones (D-Chicago).

The girl was Summer Stokes, whose mother, Melanie Blocker Stokes, jumped to her death from the 12th-story window of a hotel in June 2001, while in the grips of a temporary neurological imbalance that can mimic insanity.

Summer was having lunch at a Hyde Park restaurant with her grandmother, Carol Blocker, when Blocker saw Jones and took Summer over to say hello. Ever since her daughter's death, Blocker has been tirelessly attempting to raise awareness of post-partum depression and its vicious cousin, post-partum psychosis. She introduces Summer as one of its victims.

"I had a hard time sleeping that night," Jones said later. "I couldn't get that little girl out of my mind."

The next morning she called Blocker and said, "I'm going to do something about this."

Jones brought the issue to the bipartisan Council of Women Legislators, which in turn announced it as a priority in a meeting with Gov. Rod Blagojevich.

The governor had nodded to this medical problem in the past. He declared May 2003 "Post-Partum Depression Month," then, several months ago, made a similar proclamation for this May. But advocates said it all amounted to nothing but a lot of "whereas ..."

But now, Blagojevich appointed his deputy chief for social services, Louanner Peters, to coordinate for COWL a large, inter-agency task force to help implement real change.

"It's very exciting," said Robin Gabel, executive director of the Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition and a task force consultant. "They're going to make things happen."

Among the projected reforms will be the creation of a consultation network for health-care professionals and well-staffed help and referral numbers for the public.

Gabel said the team is also working on ways to ease access to post-partum mental health services and to educate the public about the potentially devastating consequences of the hormonal storm that disrupts the lives of up to 1 in 5 new mothers.

But all these actions will be empty if Blagojevich doesn't summon the courage and compassion to free Debra Gindorf.

Gindorf, 40, was a 20-year-old unemployed single parent when she fed lethal doses of sleeping medication to her two children—a 23-month-old daughter and a 3-month-old son—in their apartment in suburban Zion, then tried to take her own life.

In recent years, courts have tended to give probation to women who killed their children in this mad state, but post-partum illness was poorly understood in 1986 when Gindorf was convicted and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Now, the psychiatrist who testified against her at her murder trial says the sentence "was a miscarriage of justice" that needs a "humanitarian touch to correct."

Lake County State's Atty. Mike Waller, whose office prosecuted the case, has not opposed Gindorf's appeal for clemency. Indeed, 13 months ago, when a clearly sympathetic Illinois Prisoner Review Board granted Gindorf an expedited rehearing after former Gov. George Ryan ignored her case in his rush to empty Death Row, Waller plainly stated that he did not "object to the governor granting relief" to Gindorf.

Jones says she and several of her legislative colleagues intend to visit Gindorf and other women incarcerated at Dwight Correctional Center for killing their own children while in the grips of post-partum psychosis.

She, Blocker and others say they'll push Blagojevich to act on Gindorf's petition, which has now been on his desk for a year, even though he professes to understand the darkness that can accompany this illness.

What's the holdup? His general counsel, Susan Lichtenstein, wouldn't talk to me about it Monday, though I suspect the holdup has been Blagojevich's nearly reflexive invertebracy when it comes to any issue where he fears that the ethically correct stance may not poll well with the public.

But he's in luck. The meeting of the little girl and the big shot has put a bloom onto his flowery proclamations.

The public will get it, guy. Will you?

If governor gets it, he'll free Gindorf

July 18, 2006

The numbingly sad retrial of Andrea Yates is coming to a close in Texas this week, providing an opportunity to check in again on a similarly sad story out of Illinois.

In June 2001, Yates, then 36 and living in suburban Houston, killed her five children, ages 6 months to 7 years. She said she did it because the children weren't "righteous" and were bound for hell unless she killed them while they were still innocent.

She was delusional. Nutso. Psychotic. Out of her mind. Crazy. But she was not legally insane, a jury found in 2002.

Jurors back then went along with the prosecution theory that Yates knew right from wrong because, for example, she identified Satan as the source of her murderous impulses. And Satan, as we all know, is wicked.

An appellate court overturned the verdict. Not because it was an affront to common sense and decency to put Yates in prison instead of a mental hospital, but because a prosecution psychiatrist botched a key fact.

Expect a new verdict next week.

But don't expect a decision anytime soon from Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich on the Debra Gindorf case.

Gindorf, like Yates, killed her children while in the throes of post-partum psychosis, doctors say.

It happened in 1985, when Gindorf was an unemployed 20-year-old single mother living in suburban Zion, estranged from her family and her physically abusive, alcoholic husband.

She fed 3-month-old Jason and 23-month-old Christina overdoses of sleeping medication before attempting to kill herself in what she said was a plan for the three of them to escape to heaven.

As medical understanding has grown of the massive changes in brain chemistry that afflict a very small percentage of new mothers, the courts have tended to show leniency and compassion to women who have killed their children while suffering that particular madness.

In recent years, women who kill their children while in the grip of post-partum psychosis tend to receive at most 2 years in prison.

But in 1986, Gindorf was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

That sentence was "was a miscarriage of justice" that needs a "humanitarian touch to correct." Who says so? Dr. Ronald Baron, the Highland Park psychiatrist who testified against Gindorf at her trial but has since weighed in on her behalf.

The Lake County state's attorney's office prosecuted Gindorf, but current State's Atty. Mike Waller has said that he does "not object to the governor granting relief" to Gindorf, now 42 and an inmate at Dwight Correctional Center, about 80 miles southwest of Chicago.

What does the Illinois Prisoner Review Board say?

Its recommendations are confidential, but after Gov. George Ryan ignored Gindorf's case in his rush to empty Death Row as he scurried from office in 2003, the chairman of the review board waived the customary one-year waiting period for Gindorf to refile. This was widely seen as a signal that the panel felt that her appeal had merit and that Blagojevich would show the good judgment that Ryan did not.

Oh, well.

As of Tuesday it will have been 1,188 days without a decision from the governor since Gindorf's April 2003 clemency hearing in the Thompson Center. Blagojevich has ruled on some 700 other such petitions while in office, but he won't touch this one for reasons his spokesmen won't divulge.

My guess? He's afraid. He knows any decision he makes will require lots of explaining and make some people mad. He knows it's easier to let Gindorf rot in limbo than risk dropping a penny of political capital on a pathetic and remorse-ful woman.

Just about every year Blagojevich declares an "awareness month" for post-partum disease and signs an earnest, cheap little proclamation to suggest that he "gets it."

If he does, he'll free Debra Gindorf. But if he doesn't, well, he ought to have the courage after all this time to tell her "no," he believes justice demands she die in prison for what she did.

When people ask me why I'm so cynical about Blagojevich's character and courage, I simply tell them the story of how he ducks and dithers on Gindorf.

There is never a follow-up question.

Gutlessness leaves governor open to scorn

December 23, 2007 Sunday

When people ask me why I have such a cranky attitude about Gov. Rod Blagojevich, I'm happy to tell them the story of Debra Gindorf.

Gindorf had a hearing in front of the Illinois Prisoner Review Board in early 2003. The board was clearly sympathetic to her lawyers' contention that she was in the grips of post-partum psychosis in 1985 when she killed her 3-month-old baby and 23-month-old toddler before trying to kill herself and that she was sentenced to life in prison before this condition was properly understood.

Not even the Lake County state's attorney's office, which prosecuted Gindorf, objected to her release. That was more than 1,700 days ago. Gindorf, 43, is still at Dwight Correctional Center with a bum heart and a broken spirit, according to her assistant state appellate defender Kathleen Hamill.

Not only has Blagojevich not had the guts to release this poor woman and explain to skeptics why it's the right and compassionate thing to do, he hasn't even had the guts NOT to release her -- to deny her petition for commutation.

Instead, it sits somewhere in the stack of 1,445 other pending parole and pardon requests on the desk of our state's invertebrate hockey-fan-in-chief.

Remember that next time you hear him preen about women's health issues, about his courage and about how other lawmakers need to buckle down and get to work.

BLOG COVERAGE

2-21-2007 -- [Update: Debra Gindorf, 1,710 days later...](#)

July 18, 2006 -- [Yates trial in Texas brings old Illinois case back to life](#)

February 13, 2009 -- [Quinn's chance to erase Blago's unpardonable inaction](#)

10/6/2004 "Change of Subject" posting: 546 DAYS AND COUNTING

House Assistant Majority Leader Lovana "Lou" Jones (D-Chicago) and Rep. Connie Howard (D-Chicago) held an emotional meeting in a downstate prison Wednesday with a group of women incarcerated for killing their own children.

Jones, who has been leading the legislative effort to call attention to the issues of post-partum depression and post-partum psychosis, said she "wanted to make sure that these women weren't just murderers, but that (at the time of their crimes) they had been suffering from a serious mental problem."

Prisoners at the meeting included Paula Sims, Tammy Eveys, and Calandra Hulitt.

But the major purpose of the lawmakers' visit was to meet with prisoner Debra Gindorf, 40, who was a 20-year-old unemployed single parent when she fed lethal doses of sleeping medication to her two children--a 23-month-old daughter and a 3-month-old son--in their apartment in suburban Zion, then tried to take her own life.

Gindorf has been at the Dwight Correctional Center since her conviction in 1986, but her advocates have made a powerful case that she should be released in light of our era's greater understanding of the mental storms that can beset women after giving birth--chemical imbalances that can mimic insanity.

The psychiatrist who testified against her at her murder trial now says the sentence "was a miscarriage of justice" that needs a "humanitarian touch to correct."

Lake County State's Atty. Mike Waller, whose office prosecuted the case, has not opposed Gindorf's appeal for clemency.

Indeed, in early 2003, when a clearly sympathetic Illinois Prisoner Review Board granted Gindorf an expedited rehearing after former Gov. George Ryan ignored her case in his rush to empty Death Row, Waller plainly stated that he did not "object to the governor granting relief" to Gindorf.

In recent years, courts have tended to give probation to women who killed their children in this mad state.

"Why has Gindorf's petition (for clemency) been lying on the governor's desk for so long?" Jones asked rhetorically in an interview Wednesday afternoon, referring to the 546 days it's been since Gindorf's attorneys presented their case to the clearly supportive Illinois Prisoner Review Board. "I'm going to ask him personally. I am. I am. I don't understand why he doesn't say yes or no."

As I've written before, I suspect the holdup has been Blagojevich's nearly reflexive invertebracy when it comes to issues where he fears that the ethically correct stance may not poll well with the public.

His lawyers and spokesmen have no-commented me several times in the past year and a half on the Gindorf appeal, but because I never mind whacking my head against the wall if it serves my readers, I put the question to them again Wednesday afternoon.

Their response:

"The request is still under review," said Blagojevich's Cheryl Jackson. "These are very difficult issues and our staff continues to review the request in all its complexities."

Actually, the issues aren't particularly difficult and I don't believe for a second that the "staff" is actually reviewing anything, as no one has come forward to dispute Gindorf's claims.

Now that the criminal justice system knows so much more about post partum illness than it did in the 1980s, women who commit such crimes almost always are sentenced to parole and receive intensive treatment.

What's difficult is doing the right thing and then explaining it to people who don't understand.

Five hundred and forty six days. It's infamous and cowardly of Blagojevich not even to have made a decision by now...

Posted at 07:15:05 PM

RECOMMENDED FOR YOU

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FROM AROUND THE WEB

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Comments

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While I think a step in the right direction why is a pardon not on the table? Is it but not yet? There seems to be little serious disagreement as to the facts and when filtered through current understanding the verdict and sentence seems unjust at this point.

And Blago's claims of caring for the "people" of Illinois appears to of not applied here?

Posted by: A2 | [Friday, May 01, 2009 at 07:33 PM](#)

This comes down to, how can a mother kill her own children? Most male politicians cannot excuse this behavior based on the belief that mothers should always be nurturing and not destructive to their children. If a child's father reacted in a psychotic manner towards his child, or even his wife, would the courts cut him some slack? In a heartbeat! It's just another double standard.

Posted by: Wendy C | [Friday, May 01, 2009 at 08:06 PM](#)

Well, she's been in jail for 18 years, which is actually a pretty long time for a murderer. Of course, she killed two people- but they were pretty darn young so, it's almost like an abortion.

Posted by: Sturgis Dram | [Friday, May 01, 2009 at 08:40 PM](#)

She killed her children. She KILLED her children! I suppose liberals such as yourself, who have no problem with murdering unborn children, just look at this as a tad more complicated- yet still a mother's right. Particularly when even more educated liberals like Dr. Baron from Highland Park vouch for her, as "a miscarriage of justice that needs a humanitarian touch?" Gimme a break! You and all liberals don't respect life Zorn. Dwight is keeping this woman safe and warm while her children lay in their graves. If she gets out and has another baby, this wouldn't concern you? What am I saying? Of course it wouldn't concern you! If she killed another child it would be the fault of the state for "not providing the adequate social programs in which she needed to control her problem"...Why didn't you report about the father's feelings regarding this horrific crime? You libs only support children when you want to raise taxes...

Posted by: Kerry | [Friday, May 01, 2009 at 08:55 PM](#)

"Gindorf, in contrast, had no psychiatrists in 1985, no job, no car and no phone, and was living with two children under age 2 in a tiny apartment in Zion. She was also estranged from her family and her physically abusive, alcoholic husband.

Women know why and how the dark storm overtook her. Now we know that it's time to understand and forgive."

So was it "massive changes in brain chemistry" or was it depression over the crappy life she felt she was living?

Posted by: Brian | Friday, May 01, 2009 at 06:30 PM

Eric,

Thanks so much for your commentary on this piece. I was a little surprised by the Tribune's headline of the story, "Quinn Cuts Time for Woman Who Killed Her Kids." Maybe it is complicated or tricky to create headlines but the headline just didn't capture the real story to me... at all. Anyway, happy to read your piece.

Posted by: Julie Oberweis | Friday, May 01, 2009 at 10:41 PM

Stupid Brian, Kerry, James Keyes, Brian:

Before you put the electronic version of crayon to paper, did you look into post-partum psychosis at all? Your arguments--if you can classify those rants as such--suggest you didn't. Eric Zorn has carefully and thoroughly laid out the case for why he, and just about everyone else associated with this case, believe that justice has now been done. How about voicing your opposition in kind instead of via semi-coherent rants and aside remarks?

Posted by: Larry | Friday, May 01, 2009 at 10:46 PM

I can't understand why women that kill their children should be treated as if they are the victims? Is she is indeed a (watch I am not quite sure I believe or not), isn't it her responsibility to get help? This woman obviously made a series of very, very poor choices. The thought of this woman and of prison and possibly able to hear another child is really very horrifying.

Posted by: Rebecca | Friday, May 01, 2009 at 11:17 PM

"Before you put the electronic version of crayon to paper, did you look into post-partum psychosis at all? Your arguments--if you can classify those rants as such--suggest you didn't. Eric Zorn has carefully and thoroughly laid out the case for why he, and just about everyone else associated with this case, believe that justice has now been done."

Larry,

My point was that Eric's inclusion of external factors -- no job, tiny apartment, etc. -- seems to minimize the "disease." Why mention those things? To elicit sympathy for her? Thousands or millions of women have similar problems and don't kill their kids. So the question becomes how to quantify those changes in brain chemistry that produce such tragic actions. I'm not saying PP doesn't exist, but how does a doctor determine that a woman who just killed her kids did so because of a "change in brain chemistry" and not due to just being mentally weak or overwhelmed?

Posted by: Brian | Friday, May 01, 2009 at 11:21 PM

>>This comes down to, how can a mother kill her own children? Most male politicians cannot excuse this behavior based on the belief that mothers should always be nurturing and not destructive to their children. If a child's father reacted in a psychotic manner towards his child, or even his wife, would the courts cut him some slack? In a heartbeat! It's just another double standard.

Posted by: Wendy C | May 1, 2009 at 11:24 PM

Not strawman there, Wendy.

So I guess you feel because of the double standard, dammit, a mother has every right to kill her children and get the life treatment because that's how society would prosecute a man who did the same thing. And as long as years later a bunch of liberal doctors invent a syndrome for it and remove the blame from her, it's OK.

Because that's what liberals do best, delegate blame and create sympathetic figures. If she gets out and kills again, will the doctor accept full responsibility? Except there'll already be one more dead child.

Posted by: Phil the K | Friday, May 01, 2009 at 11:25 PM

ZORN COMMENT-- Yeah, we call all we just the kind of ignorance that Blago was afraid of on full display here. Look, the psychiatrist for the prosecution now concedes that she was a very sick Post-partum psychosis creates a form of madness -- do some reading before you bring your venal old indignation here.

Phil, you in particular are handsomely more thoughtful than this. "Liberal doctors..." Wow.

Posted by: Eric Zorn | Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 01:27 AM

If Democrats love criminals as one poster noted why don't we feel love for the war criminals Cheney and Bush?

Posted by: Oak Lawn Bill | Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 05:11 AM

@Phil

I feel, because of the double standard, a women gets locked up for almost 23 years, while violent men walk around free with mere restraining orders in their back pockets. How many women and children have been killed by these men, that the law turns those with this simple warning? Of course, the lawyers for these men instantly plead a mental condition, that's OK? Why don't you check yourself in at the nearest conservative medical facility and challenge the doctors there to find your brain.

Posted by: Wendy C | Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 07:40 AM

PP (psychosis is not just unhappiness or depression or not being able to cope. Psychosis means that you have delusions or hallucinations and are not in control of your thoughts and actions.

If you are having delusions that God is telling you to bring your children to heaven because they will suffer greatly and be killed by Satan on earth, then this is the classic definition of temporary insanity. A person should never be convicted for an act they had no control over. PP Psychosis DOES NOT persist for a lifetime or even years. Within a year, the pregnant hormones that tipped the scales and put the person into a psychosis are gone and the person returns to a normal mental state.

Society is in NO DANGER from a woman who committed a violent act while in a state of PP psychosis after the pregnancy hormones are gone. In Europe, Debra would have been examined by a psychiatrist, committed to a mental hospital for a year or two at the most and then released, with good universal health care so if she got pregnant again, then she would get proper mental health care to prevent the psychosis from returning.

Debra is not of an age when she can have any more children. So there is NO DANGER of her psychosis, caused only by pregnancy, returning.

Posted by: Linda | Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 07:41 AM

>>Phil, you in particular are usually more thoughtful than this. "Liberal doctors..." Wow..

Jim, K, our nation's colleges and universities are loaded with liberal doctors of psychology and psychiatry whose life's work is the "rehabilitation" of criminals who don't belong in society. They feel the need for this course of study because one characteristic of most liberals is trying to understand what goes on in a criminal/insane person's mind, why did they commit such a crime, and can they be fixed? It wasn't too long ago when doctors were removing the brains of criminals to see if there was a difference with those of "normal" people. Much of this "research" is funded by government grants, of course, and should the doctors ever admit a certain strategy doesn't work, the grant money dries up. Which never happens. Go figure.

@Wendy C: I guess you don't understand the term "strawman". You make some sweeping generalizations, with no proof to back them up, and then argue them. And now you've resorted to the cheap, unimpressive trick -- like Patrick -- of a personal attack on me with your "brain comment". Which is funny, but doesn't win the argument because it is as daggone stupid. Good luck with your "All Men Are Bad Because They're Men" crusade. You'd probably agree with me if I had used the name "Thyllie".

Posted by: Phil the K | Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 08:26 AM

I have no problem with this although if she has more children, I would want to see the children's welfare court and a psychiatrist involved in supervising her children's care.

It's nice that Quinn is doing some pardons but one does have to wonder about his priorities, given that his solution to the budget crisis is to impose a highly regressive middle class tax increase and to raid the employed pension fund (again). Shouldn't he be spending his time looking at ways to streamline state government and reduce its cost. Apparently, he doesn't think he'll have to bother...soon he'll be awash in money from Illinois' ever generous taxpayers. He's even keeping on some of the most egregious Blago hacks--hundreds of them.

Posted by: blanche | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 08:40 AM](#)
@Phyllis

And I see you have resorted to the cheap, amateurish trick of ignoring my argument, instead labeling it "All Men Are Bad Because They're Men". Who's the strawman?

You questioned my use of the double standard. I answered. Now your trying to make this out to be some kind of sexist position. At least you got the joke.

Posted by: Wendy C | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 08:56 AM](#)

It is true that many criminals and their attorneys try to use insanity or temporary incapacity as a defense. Most of the time it doesn't succeed; however, that does NOT mean that genuine cases of temporary insanity or psychosis don't exist.

If the jury or judge in her case didn't want to declare her not guilty by reason of insanity, why didn't they find her "guilty but mentally ill"?

If this is indeed a genuine case of extreme postpartum psychosis, and she's already done 23 years in prison, there is no harm in letting her go.

If you do the math (she was 26 years old in 1985) that means she's 44 years old now, so the chances of her ever getting pregnant again are pretty slim. If by some chance she did get pregnant, I would think she or her family would go out of their way to make sure she had proper treatment, therapy and supervision so that this didn't happen again.

Posted by: Elaine | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:02 AM](#)

The treatment of mental health diseases is improving all the time. People can recover if they cooperate. No more need to lock the door and throw away the key.

Posted by: Steve Bonomo | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:06 AM](#)

At least she had a good excuse for murdering her kids. Now how about some mercy for those who beat their kids to death because they won't stop crying?

Posted by: James | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:15 AM](#)
@ jamesreyes

Democrats love criminals?

What a truly ignorant statement.

Eighteen years. It's enough.

She made her own prison, and she will never be released from that.

Posted by: thingy | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:44 AM](#)

It's amazing that they didn't arrest Randy Gindorf for beating Debra while she was pregnant with her second child. (Christina first child, unborn child resulted in miscarriage, then the birth of Jason) If Randy beat her and caused a miscarriage during her fifth month, then he is guilty of murder. He brought the fetus to a bar in a bag. Perhaps if he was incarcerated for this crime, Debra wouldn't have killed her children.

Posted by: Andrea | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:47 AM](#)

By the way, to ease you need an example to back up my statements:

<http://www.cliffordlaw.com/news/firm-news/press-conference-today-clifford-law-offices-files-civil-lawsuit-against-waukegan-police-in-stabbing-death-of-mother-outside-of-lincolshire-restaurant>

Posted by: Wendy C | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:56 AM](#)

Linda above says "[a] person should never be convicted for an act they had no control over." So we should send that copper who recently killed two kids on the Dan Ryan while driving drunk not to jail, but instead to a doctor to treat and help him overcome his alcoholism. After all, it's a disease which is recognized by the medical community. Where is the compassion for this sick man? He had no control to stop himself from drinking and getting in his car and killing two kids. When will Quinn be pardoning him?

Posted by: Brian Graham | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 10:08 AM](#)

Thanks Eric for the informative article. So sorry some ppl just don't get it and attack being a liberal as a supporter of criminals. So sad.

Posted by: Kristy | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 10:11 AM](#)

Once again, Illinois goes soft on violent crime.

Posted by: Pete | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 10:19 AM](#)

I've grown up hearing this story, as these people were my next-door neighbors (their family still lives there), and I am really glad to hear that Debra is being pardoned.

The entire story--Randy, Debra, the deaths the rest of their family--is a pretty spectacular display of how we fail, as a society, to show compassion and intelligence with regards to issues of poverty.

Kudos to Eric for trying to give this the light.

Posted by: Louise | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 10:41 PM](#)

I ventured to read zorn's column to see what critical thinking, if any, he applied to his proclamation of quinn as brave. I was very dissappointed by zorn's assessment and by zorn's comments in defense of his position to readers.

In his most long-winded and tedious vein, eric zorn insults his own and intelligence and the intelligence of every reader of the chicago tribune, fortunately on the latter he hasn't insulted the intelligent of that many because we all know that tribune readership is down---way down; zorn's pendantic rants may have something to do with that.

if mr. zorn were really looking out for the public's interest, he would have first asked himself what is mr. quinn's political angle here. not having much of a track record when it comes to women's issues, is it possible that quinn is using this issue to launch an appeal to women voters in 2010? anyone with half a brain and half an understanding of politics should answer yes. when did/has mr. quinn ever express an interest in this woman's case over the last 18 years, prior to becoming governor? never.

there are plenty of things that mr. quinn can do to appeal to women voters, but pardoning debra gindorf was not one of them. her actions serve as an insult to motherhood plain and simple, there is strong evidence that PPD exists, yet no all who suffer from are driven to kill their children, as many others have correctly pointed out. in one highly publicized PPD Chicago area case a several years ago, the mother killed herself--not her children. granted PPD will affect women differently,. But, this is not a policy issue, it is a medical issue and should be addressed by the medical community through consensus.

mr. quinn was one among many pushing for blago's ouster in december. since assuming the governor's office, mr. quinn has come up short on several big occasions (e.g., the budget).

that blago failed to act in the way that commentators on the gindorf matter suggests to me that blago rightly concluded that this issue was not he believed his office needed to be involved in, but was perhaps better left to the medical community to address.

pardons are political tools—that's just the bottom line. Blago doesn't use the pardon in this instance for political reasons and zero and others recall up in arms questioning the pardon in this instance for political reasons and zero and some applaud him.

I feel sorry for the zero and people of Illinois for allowing themselves to be duped into believing that this pardon was done in the interest of "justice." I feel even sorer for the few remaining readers of the Chicago Tribune who read my zero's diatribe in defense of governor quinn. mr. zero represents in some ways what went wrong with print media.

for far too long white males have held the power over the editorial boards and running of newspapers. for far too long white males have run amok in thinking that they know everything, and as smart, surely do white males want to think outside of the box, hence they and their way of thinking are becoming discredited and irrelevant more and more.

Susan Jordan

Posted by: Susan | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:14 PM](#)

Wendy should do a little reading here if she's like's order the misapprehension that our criminal justice system goes easier on female than male criminals. When a woman commits a heinous crime, we instinctively look for some excuse, such as PMS, an abusive boyfriend or stepfather, or post-partum depression.

By contrast, there is precious little sympathy for male murderers, regardless of their horrendous upbringing. Society says they should be executed or sentenced to life.

Males are punished more harshly than females here in Ilarcy. Mothers pick up crying baby girls quicker than crying baby boys. Parents comfort little girls who hurt themselves while crying. Little boys to "be a man" and stop crying. Boys are subject to far more corporal punishment than girls.

Even though women commit at least 17% of murders, they receive fewer than one percent of the death penalties. Remember Gwen Garcia, whose sentence Gov. Edgar commuted? Not because she was innocent of the two murders, or because she had p-p depression, but because she had a sad childhood.

Posted by: rebecca | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:15 PM](#)

I think anyone who kills anyone is sick. It is just not natural to go around killing people. Look at the woman who killed her preacher husband, claimed spousal abuse and only spent a few months in jail and is now on the way to getting custody of her kids back. Anyone can claim spousal abuse, but it shouldn't be a defense for killing someone. In my opinion there is no excuse for killing anyone except in an extreme case of self defense. There are always places to go for help. Do I think the mother who killed her kids should spend life in prison? No, but I believe she deserved the time she did spend in prison and I hope that when/if she gets out, that she is monitored to make sure her mental capacity is ok and if she should ever get pregnant again, I sure hope she is not left alone with her baby.

Posted by: Becca | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:15 PM](#)

Kerry, take your Blood Pressure Pill & hold on! Our whole Criminal Justice System is set up to Rehabilitate Evil so then the person can be re-introduced back into society. The Woman has served her time for the State and she now will take this tragedy with her to her grave. Libs this, Libs that, throw the key away, until it is YOU or your little Johnny, and then "WHY NOT?" In short, usually pompous gods like you see things differently when you are at the other end.

Posted by: Johnny Ray | [Sunday, May 03, 2009 at 09:17 PM](#)

Well, it seems I'm the only one (or here and I'm also the only commenter who doesn't have an opinion about this case. I don't know why everyone feels that they can evaluate the validity/invalidity of this woman's diagnosis based on the information presented here. I guess ignorance is no problem when you have certainty on your side.

In any case, it isn't a diagnosis that is at stake in a so-called insanity case; what matters is whether the person could distinguish right from wrong at the time of the crime and/or whether they had the ability to control their impulses. The problem is that these are clear-cut, binary legal constructs that don't reflect psychological reality. Answering these questions is difficult and we don't know from this post how Dr. Barron concluded his assessment or how the meaning of the data changed in his mind. This isn't a criticism of Dr. Barron, I just don't have that information to pass judgment on his work.

Also, Phil's claim that "colleges and universities are loaded with liberal doctors of psychology and psychiatry whose life's work is the 'rehabilitation' of criminals" is utter nonsense.

Posted by: Marty | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:17 PM](#)

First Degree murder of your defenseless children does not require that you serve your sentence...as long as you can claim post partum psychosis. In fact, the life sentence for first degree murder of two defenseless children was a miscarriage of justice' - as reported in this column.

If post partum depression wasn't clearly understood in 1986 (it wasn't offered as a defense at the trial), then how is it known that she was suffering from it? Were samples kept of her brain chemistry (as sometimes happens with DNA) and current testing shows she was suffering from post partum depression?

All women suffering from post partum depression don't murder their children, so what special 'brain chemistry' did this women possess that caused her to murder her children? None is identified.

What we are asked to believe is that this woman was pregnant when she murdered her children and, therefore, a psychosis must have made her do it. There is no evidence in support this....just hindsight speculation. No matter how misguided, the parole board and the governor saw fit to commute the sentence to time served. Appropriately, the two murder-convictions still stand.

Posted by: John | [Sunday, May 03, 2009 at 09:17 PM](#)

Johnny Boy.....Since you have such interesting internal parts are you going to give Debra a job watching your kids in family when she is released? Or is she just going to get right back on the dole?

Posted by: Andrew | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:18 PM](#)

@Wendell

For supporting facts you cite a press release issued by a law firm involved in filing charges against an allegedly abusive husband? Ho-lee-Ho!

@Marty

Apparently you don't have my perspective, man. College teaching staffs are loaded with liberals and some of them are involved with this type of research. Fact, not utter nonsense.

Posted by: Phil the K | [Sunday, May 03, 2009 at 09:18 PM](#)

@ Phil

"Apparently you don't have my perspective, man. College teaching staffs are loaded with liberals and some of them are involved with this type of research."

There are well over 5,000 clinical psychologists in Illinois. Name five who do "rehabilitation" of criminals. Okay, name two. Or, just name one.

There are maybe 10 clinical training programs for psychologists in Chicago. I don't know one faculty member devoting their life to research on rehabilitation of criminals. I trained in 3 departments of psychology and two departments of psychiatry and I'm on a university faculty. The "tools" of psychologists and psychiatrists devoting their lives to rehabilitation of criminals exist only in your imagination.

I've have known several prison psychologists and psychiatrists. Prison does do evaluations and treatments of psychiatric disorders. Look up forensic psychology on Wikipedia for a quick summary. It consists primarily of evals, treatment, consultation to police, expert testimony for prosecution or defense and expert testimony in child custody cases. Treatment is not for moral or social rehabilitation. Prison does don't treat criminality.

This isn't a difference in perspectives that we have. I'm in the field, and you're not. I know the work my colleagues are doing and you don't.

Posted by: Marty | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:18 PM](#)

@rebecca

I'm "under the impression that our criminal system goes easier on female than male criminals"? I believe I stated the opposite. And how many women are in jail for killing an abusive husband/boyfriend when defending themselves against a mortal attack?

@Susan

And is it better that the mother kills only herself? No, PPD is still a terrible tragedy.

@ Phil/Phyllis

Please disprove any of the facts stated in the press release. BTW- I haven't been called Wendell since my tomboy days as a child, thanks for the memory. You may not like me, but I appreciate your sense of humor.

Posted by: Wendy C | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 09:50 PM](#)

John wrote:

"Were samples kept of her brain chemistry (as sometimes happens with DNA) and current testing shows she was suffering from post partum depression?"

That's not how postpartum depression is diagnosed.

John wrote:

"There is no evidence to support this....just hindsight speculation."

How do you know that? The evidence then and now would be witness testimony, statements made to police, observations of the woman's behavior, clinical forensic interviews and any psychological testing done by the experts for both the defense and prosecution. Because this was a criminal case, I would presume all of the evidence submitted to the court has been preserved and could be re-evaluated based on present day knowledge of postpartum psychosis.

As I said, not knowing the evidence, I don't have an opinion on her condition. That doesn't mean there is no evidence of her condition at the time. As far as I can tell, the only "speculation" on her condition is happening right here in the comments by people who don't know the evidence.

Posted by: Marty | [Saturday, May 02, 2009 at 10:05 PM](#)

Marty:

The jury did see the evidence that was presented at the trial, and convicted her of first degree murder of her children. The evidence was again presented on appeal, and she lost the appeal. There was no other appeal in process. I wonder why? Could it be due to the lack of a compelling 'reading/reinterpretation' of the evidence for the defense...but I speculate.

All you could do then or now is 'speculate' (from the witness testimony) on whether she did or did not have postpartum depression. If you prefer, you can call it evidence based on speculation. Also, postpartum 'brain chemistry' changes is a term used relative to this disorder (and this case)...can you go back in time and determine her brain chemistry...of course not. You can't even specifically define brain chemistry for this condition, because none exists. Again, you could speculate about it, and maybe it would be admitted as 'evidence' in a retrial.

Let's suppose that she did have ppd, then you would have to make a quantum leap of speculation (from the 24 year old witness testimony/evidence, of course) to conclude that this woman's ppd was so unique as to cause her to murder her children. There would be no hard facts to support this....and none have been offered - but you could speculate. And if you speculate long enough (without a retrial), then you may even find a 'brave' governor to grant clemency.

Posted by: John | [Sunday, May 03, 2009 at 01:06 PM](#)

One wonders why the legal system in Illinois (including current attorney general and future governor Lisa Madigan) is ever intervened in this case during its 26 year existence.

Is it the policy of the Illinois legal system to keep people unjustly incarcerated until some governor happens to get around to correcting the injustice?

Why was she not able to get the case re-opened if our understanding of the crime had changed over 26 years? If the punishment didn't fit the crime, shouldn't the system have been able to correct it, half-mary governor consultation notwithstanding?

Where was Lisa Madigan in all of this? Isn't she supposed to be an advocate of the people of Illinois? I can't think of any higher importance to the citizens of Illinois than correcting the injustice of having a woman unfairly incarcerated. Why did she not reopen the case?

Has the Illinois legal system learned nothing from the Rolando Cruz case?

Posted by: Stosh | [Monday, May 04, 2009 at 06:47 AM](#)

Hey, Marty, thanks for some sense.

Posted by: Jack O'B | [Monday, May 04, 2009 at 09:00 AM](#)

John wrote:

"The jury did see the evidence that was presented at the trial, and convicted her of first degree murder of her children. The evidence was again presented on appeal, and she lost the appeal."

Appeals aren't re-presentations of the evidence. They address errors in the application of law.

John wrote:

"All you could do then or now is 'speculate' (from the witness testimony) on whether she did or did not have postpartum depression."

First, the claim is that she had postpartum psychosis, not postpartum depression. The difference is enormous. In the former, reality-testing and judgment are intact. In the latter, reality testing and judgment are severely compromised. Awareness of postpartum psychosis did not exist at the time the evidence was first evaluated.

"All you could do then or now is 'speculate' (from the witness testimony)"

All a layperson can do is "speculate." A clinician gathers observations of others, makes his or her own observations, administers psychological tests that are empirically constructed and examines the evidence in light of an empirically informed clinical understanding of psychiatric conditions. I would add that part of the evidence in these cases is the testimony of the expert witness. There is a reason that me rather than you would be sitting in the witness chair at a trial involving the analysis of data to determine responsibility.

John wrote:

"There would be no hard facts to support this"

Very few criminal cases are decided on so-called 'hard' facts. Even a fingerprint is a statistical analysis of data points with a probability rather than a certainty of accuracy. Psychological testing also provides data points that can be re-analyzed in light of later empirically established norms.

Posted by: Marty | [Monday, May 04, 2009 at 09:10 AM](#)

ZORN NOTE ---

I've added this link to the above post if you're interested in more of the deeper background of this case.... how you can read this and not think she was one sick woman in March, 1983. I don't know:

<http://www.jcfbank.org/FreeDebra/CLEMENCYPET1.htm>

Posted by: Eric Zorn | [Monday, May 04, 2009 at 08:58 PM](#)

@Marty

>>"The "loads" of psychologists and psychiatrists devoting their lives to rehabilitation of criminals exist only in your imagination".<<

Whoops. Go back and read for meaning exactly what I wrote. Instead, you followed your preconceived notions, presented your version of what you thought I wrote, and proceeded to argue it. When it comes to writing and reading for clarity, Marty, I'm in the field, and you're not.

BTW, Wendy C -- THAT is what a "Strawman" is.

Posted by: Phil the K | [Monday, May 04, 2009 at 11:31 PM](#)

@Marty

>>"The "loads" of psychologists and psychiatrists devoting their lives to rehabilitation of criminals exist only in your imagination".<<

Whoops. Go back and read for meaning exactly what I wrote. Instead, you followed your preconceived notions, presented your version of what you thought I wrote, and proceeded to argue it. When it comes to writing and reading for clarity, Marty, I'm in the field, and you're not.

BTW, Wendy C -- THAT is what a "Strawman" is.

Uh, Phil, remember this? I believe it's yours.

"Jeez, EZ, our nation's colleges and universities are loaded with liberal doctors of psychology and psychiatry whose life's work is the "rehabilitation" of criminals who don't belong in society. They feel the need for this course of study because one character trait of most liberals is trying to understand what goes on in a criminal/insane person's mind, why did they commit such a crime, and can they be fixed?"

Whoops. Senior moment, maybe. Strawman, not so much.

Posted by: JK | [Wednesday, May 06, 2009 at 08:19 AM](#)

After reading this blog, I have come to the realization that some of you people need help! I happen to admire the governor for commuting the sentence in this matter after myself reading the information and also knowing Debra personally. For those of you that have never had the opportunity to become familiar with the justice system in Illinois, Debra was not pardoned, her sentence was reduced to 48 years and she has already served 24 years of that sentence. I am happy that she has the chance to move on with her life, but you can believe her past will never be forgotten. I am grateful to the many people that stood by her side and there relentless efforts to pursue her release from prison and I hope you will continue to support her in starting her life over, and I do ask all of you hate mongers out there to just stay away and leave her alone...

Posted by: Keith | [Wednesday, May 06, 2009 at 11:41 AM](#)

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT H

Roosevelt Moore

Michigan
Governor Granholm
2009

Michigan

Gov. Granholm commutes sentence of man convicted in 1970 slaying

By Muskegon Chronicle staff

5/10/2016

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on November 22, 2009 at 11:44 PM, updated November 23, 2009 at 2:22 AM

MUSKEGON COUNTY — Gov. Jennifer Granholm has commuted the life prison sentence of a man convicted of first-degree murder in the 1970 shooting death of a Muskegon Heights liquor store owner.

The commutation mea



Roosevelt Moorens Roosevelt Moore, 62, is likely to be freed soon, according to a Michigan Department of Corrections

spokesman. Moore is currently lodged at the Muskegon Correctional Facility.

Granholm's Oct. 29 action sends Moore's case to the Michigan Parole Board, which will decide whether he is eligible for parole. That decision will probably be made in the next couple of weeks, according to corrections department spokesman John Cordell.

Approval is expected, Cordell said. A corrections department council on commutations and pardons earlier this year reviewed Moore's request for a commutation and recommended its approval by the governor. In such cases, the parole board normally approves release, Cordell said.

Cordell said the commutation was based mainly on the fact that Moore has already served a "significant term" — more than 38 years so far — and is "considered medically fragile by our medical staff ... which means he couldn't pose a physical threat to someone in the community," Cordell said.

"It doesn't appear to me that the commutation was considered because he was innocent," Cordell said.

A commutation reduces a prisoner's sentence to a term that gives the parole board authority to decide whether he is eligible for parole. It does not nullify the underlying conviction, unlike a pardon.

Moore, a former Muskegon Heights resident, was sentenced to life in prison July 8, 1971, after a jury found him guilty of first-degree murder.

Moore was convicted in the Dec. 30, 1970, slaying of 55-year-old Bernard J. Kubacki, owner of a downtown Muskegon Heights liquor store, during a robbery. Kubacki was found by two customers after he had been shot twice in the face with a .22-caliber weapon. Moore later unsuccessfully appealed his conviction.

Jessie Moore Sr. was 40 when he saw his nephew sent off to prison.

"I didn't think I would live to see him be a free man again," said Moore, 78.

After 38 years of visiting, corresponding, and calling, Moore said he and several "very supportive" family members are anxious to see Roosevelt Moore outside of the prison gates.

The family is waiting to get word of when Moore will be released. Moore has three daughters and a son.

"I'm quite ecstatic about it," said Jessie Moore Sr. "The whole time (over 38 years) I have supported him, I went to see him and I sent him money. I never turned my back on him. When he walks out of the gate, I'll know for sure he's home. I just can't wait."

— By John S. Hausman and Teresa Taylor Williams

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT I

Linda Hamilton

Michigan
Governor Granholm
2009

Linda Hamilton, a Bay City, Mich., native, was a military wife living with her husband, John, and three children from her previous marriage in Tacoma, Wash., near the Army base where her husband was stationed. She came home early from shopping one day and walked in on her husband of just over a year raping her 4-year old daughter. That was in 1975. Today, Linda Hamilton sits behind bars, convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy for the 1976 death of her husband by an unknown assailant.

Hamilton did everything she should have. She immediately took her daughter, still bleeding vaginally, to the military hospital. The hospital treated her daughter but did not report the incident to the police. Hamilton filed a report with the military police. The military questioned him and released him.

When she returned home, Hamilton tied her to the bed, beat her and threatened to kill her if she tried to leave. After frightening her with a harrowing, reckless mountain drive to reinforce his threats, he brought her back to the house. He then ripped the phone off the wall and removed the alternator from her car. What followed was a nightmare of threats and terror as he held her and her three children hostage in the home for two weeks, guarded in turn by himself and one of his friends. Finally, his friend replaced the alternator in her car and helped her and her children escape while her husband was at work. That day, she fled Washington and returned to her home state of Michigan.

Hamilton's husband soon followed and began stalking and threatening her. Requests for police assistance were not sufficient to deter him.

On July 3, 1976, Hamilton was found shot to death in his car outside the

Profiles of the Michigan women awaiting a decision on their clemency applications:

• **Renee Adams:** Since 1990, Adams has been serving a sentence of 16 to 30 years for murder II for the murder of her husband. She claims to have been beaten, stabbed and raped repeatedly by him during the course of their marriage and that requests for assistance from police and doctors were ignored. She killed her husband when he came at her with a knife.

• **Barbara Anderson:** Since 1988, Anderson has been serving a life sentence for murder II in connection with the shooting death of her husband. She claims that during the course of the marriage she and her two children were beaten and injured by her husband and that he raped her and held a loaded gun to her head while threatening to kill her. When requests for assistance from the police and social services were ineffective, she turned to a friend. The friend, Steven Lake, shot and killed her husband.

• **Geneva Archie:** Since 1987, Archie has been serving a life sentence for murder II for a murder related to a prostitution deal. She claims to have been beaten by her mother and raped by her mother's boyfriend as a child. At the age of 13 she ran away from home and moved in with a boyfriend who abused her. She left him repeatedly but was forced to return to him in fear when he stalked her and harassed her family. In order to support herself away from him, she turned to prostitution. When she attempted to collect money from a customer, he insisted on sex and threatened her with a shotgun. During the struggle, she stabbed him with a knife and then shot him as he choked her.

• **Melissa Chapman:** Since 1987, Chapman has been serving a life sentence for murder I. She was present when her boyfriend killed a man during a drug deal and helped him to hide the body. She claims to have been beaten, kicked, cut, bitten, burned, spit and urinated upon, locked in closets, handcuffed,

bowling alley where she worked, in Rochester. Hamilton admitted to a plot to hire someone to beat her husband in an attempt to scare him away. She remains steadfast in her assertion that she never hired anyone to kill him. Evidence of the rape of her daughter, the domestic violence the family suffered, and his stalking and threatening her after she left him were not admitted into evidence at her trial.

Hamilton, who is serving a life sentence in the Scott Correctional Facility in Plymouth, is one of 20 women who are waiting for a response to their application for clemency from the governor. Their applications were sponsored by the Michigan Battered Women's Clemency Project.

The Clemency Project, based in Ann Arbor, is a grassroots organization whose main purpose is to identify female prisoners who may be eligible for clemency and assist them in preparing and filing clemency applications. The project was started in 1991 by a former inmate, Susan Fair, and has been sponsored by the Washtenaw County American Civil Liberties Union since 1995. The Michigan Battered Women's Clemency Project is one of 39 clemency projects in the United States. The movement for clemency for victims of domestic abuse who have killed a spouse or partner began in the United States in the 1970s, as domestic violence issues began to gain legislative attention. Since 1978, at least 104 women from 23 states have received clemency. None of them have been in Michigan.

The most celebrated grants of clemency came in Ohio just before Christmas 1990, when Gov. Richard Celeste pardoned 25 women imprisoned for assault or killing men who had battered them. During his two terms in the 1990s, Illinois Gov. James Edgar pardoned seven women,

raped, and threatened by her boyfriend during their relationship.

• **Linda Hamilton:** Since 1976, Hamilton has been serving a life sentence for murder I in connection with the death of her husband. The actual assailant has never been identified. She claims that she caught her husband raping their 4-year-old daughter and that when she caught him he held her and the children hostage for several weeks, threatening to kill them. Following their escape, he continued to stalk and threaten her. Pleas for assistance from police and doctors went unheeded. She claims that she does not know who killed her husband but believes a friend hired someone to do it. At this time, Hamilton suffers from Graves' disease and is legally blind.

• **Barbara Hernandez:** Since 1990, Hernandez has been serving a sentence of four life terms for murder I and weapons charges. She was present when her boyfriend murdered someone. She claims that she and her siblings were the victims of childhood abuse and sexual assault by her abusive mother and others and by the age of 13 she was a virtual slave to her boyfriend, who was abusive and addicted to drugs. Hernandez was 16 years old at the time the murder was committed.

• **Diane Howe:** Since 1987, Howe has been serving a sentence of 7-20 years for murder II for the death of her husband from smoke inhalation from a fire in their home. He had served time in jail for assaulting another woman with an ax and for assaulting her. She has always maintained her innocence and claims that her husband had a history of setting fire to their home. Howe suffers from schizophrenia and requires treatment and compassionate care for her illness.

• **Karen Kantzler:** Since 1988, Kantzler has been serving a life sentence for murder II for the death of her husband. She claims that she was sexually abused as a child and after her marriage her husband beat her, threw her against walls, raped her, threatened to kill her, threatened her with loaded guns and

In 1991 Maryland Gov. William Schaefer pardoned eight women.

Clemency is the legal term that describes the general power of an executive to intervene in the sentence of a criminal defendant to prevent injustice. The Michigan Constitution gives the governor the right to grant three forms of clemency: a pardon, which results in the removal of a criminal conviction; a reprieve, which is the postponement of a sentence; or commutation of a sentence. Commutation is the reduction of an imposed sentence that does not alter the underlying conviction. Most women in the Clemency Project file an application requesting a commutation of their sentence.

An application for clemency is filed with the Michigan Parole Board, which makes a formal recommendation regarding the application to the governor. It is an increasingly rare occurrence in Michigan when an application is granted. In the mid-1960s, Gov. George Romney granted 107 commutations. While in office in the 1980s, Gov. John Blanchard granted only six applications. During Gov. John Engler's 12 years in office, he granted only five.

The members of the Clemency Project are hoping to turn those statistics around, at least enough to make a difference for some of the women, like Hamilt-on, who they believe have already served more time in prison than anyone under the same circumstances would be sentenced to today.

Carol Jacobsen, a Clemency Project coordinator, has been involved with the project since its beginning and is passionately devoted to its cause.

"It's about doing what's right," she said. "The women the Clemency

attempted to drown her. He was killed while they struggled over a gun. The sentencing judge in this case acknowledged that he had not intended for her sentence to be so long and re-sentenced her. The re-sentence was appealed by the prosecuting attorney and was set aside by the appeals court. Kantzier suffers from severe tremors.

• **Delores Kapuscinski:** Since 1987, Kapuscinski has been serving a life sentence for murder I for the shooting death of her husband while he was asleep. She claims that he had abused her for 17 years and that the night she killed him had been a night of sexual assaults, violence and terror.

• **Kim Lundgren:** Since 1993, Lundgren has been serving a life sentence for murder II in connection with the death of her husband. She claims that during their marriage her husband was addicted to drugs and that he repeatedly beat and raped her, including physically assaulting her in the presence of medical staff when she was in labor. Lundgren's friend killed her husband as a way to protect her.

• **Antoinette McKinney:** Kinney has been serving a sentence of 20 to 40 years for murder II since 1992 for the shooting death of her husband. She claims that during their marriage she suffered broken bones, miscarriages, bruises and other injuries as a result of his violence and that she shot him as they struggled over a gun that he was threatening her with.

• **Mary Nemore:** Since 1977, Nemore has been serving a life sentence for murder I for the shooting death of two people. Nemore was first sent to prison in 1957 for the shooting death of her husband as they struggled over a gun. He had already shot their daughter and he had abused her and the children for years. She served 15 years for that offense. In 1977, Nemore became involved in an argument in a bar and shot and killed two people. This is the offense she is serving time for. The application for clemency that has been filed is based on her age, 82, and her mental and physical

Project works with were denied a fair trial because evidence of domestic abuse was not allowed at their trial or the instructions to jurors regarding self-defense and imminent danger were not properly explained. It was not until 1992 that Michigan courts began to allow expert testimony on battered women's syndrome to be presented at trial. Many of these women were sentenced in the 1970s and 1980s when the dynamics of domestic violence were not understood very well. They are the forgotten victims of domestic violence."

In choosing whom to sponsor, the project looks for prisoners who fit the criteria of having been victims of domestic violence, were convicted of murder more than five years ago and who have exhausted all other avenues of appeal.

The project had worked with an original list of 25 women but last year got enough funding to canvas two Michigan prisons for others whose cases might fit their mission. According to Jacobsen, the project received 140 requests for sponsorship. The next step was to research each case through newspaper accounts, police reports and court transcripts. After the initial research, they interviewed only those women who appeared to have cases that the project was likely to sponsor. They then consulted with former guards and former prisoners and got information from confidential sources inside the prisons to attest to the character of the women involved.

From the original 140 requests, the Clemency Project chose to sponsor only seven new cases.

In addition to assisting with applications for clemency, The Clemency Project advocates

incapacitation.

• **Mildred Perry:** Since 1979, Perry has been serving a life sentence for murder II and conspiracy in connection with the death of her husband. Perry claims that her husband physically assaulted her during their marriage and that she attempted to get help from medical doctors and ministers. When she turned to a spiritual counselor for guidance, he hired someone to shoot her husband.

• **Anita Posey:** Since 1997, Posey has been serving a sentence of 17 to 50 years for murder II for the shooting death of her boyfriend. She claims that he was addicted to drugs and that she suffered from black eyes, a fractured nose, a broken tooth and lips, and three cracked ribs as well as many other injuries caused by his violence. She claims she shot him in defense of their baby after he threw the baby at the wall.

• **Pamela Price:** Since 1988, Price has been serving a sentence of life for murder II for the shooting death of her husband. She claims that throughout the marriage he was emotionally and sexually abusive to her and that he had sexually abused their daughter. She claims she shot him in a moment of fear as he moved towards her during an argument.

• **Linda Sanders:** Since 1992, Sanders has been serving a sentence of 17 to 30 years for Murder II for the shooting death of her boyfriend. She claims that he had emotionally and physically abused her during the relationship and that she killed him during a struggle over a gun after he hit her in the face and knocked her down.

• **Mary Suchy:** Since 1982, Suchy has been serving a sentence of 50 to 75 years for murder II and solicitation in connection with the death of her husband. The actual assailant has never been discovered. Suchy had a restraining order against her husband at the time of his death and has maintained that although she agreed with friends that something should be done about him, she did not hire a killer nor was she present when he

individually and publicly for women prisoners involved in the project. They write letters of support, attend court hearings and contact the prison on behalf of women who are ill and believe they are not receiving adequate care. They conduct research on domestic violence related homicides. Through films, lectures and speaking engagements, they provide on-going public education on domestic violence and women prisoners.

To date, the work of the Clemency Project has assisted in releasing two women from prison through Motions for Relief and aided another woman in receiving parole. Several of the women they sponsor suffer from severe, incurable medical conditions, including Hamilton, who is now legally blind due to complications from Graves' disease. One woman, Connie Hanes, who had been sponsored by the Clemency Project since its inception, committed suicide by hanging in her cell in 2001. In a letter to Jacobsen, she wrote, "Never thought I'd resolve myself to dying in here, but I have. Its not even a scary thought anymore. Living too long is the scary part." She concludes the letter with the admonition, "Stay strong, don't give up the struggle and love yourself."

Further information on the Clemency Project can be found [here](#).

was killed. At this time, Suchy has serious, permanent health problems and is in need of medical care.

• **Luanne Szenay:** Since 1990, Luanne Szenay has been serving a life sentence for murder I for the death of her husband. She claims that her husband was addicted to drugs and that she suffered broken bones and other injuries as a result of his beatings and that she lived in constant fear of him. She claims that even though her husband threatened her and destroyed property in front of police officers he was never arrested and prosecuted. An employee who thought he was protecting Luanne killed him. Suchy maintains that she nothing of the killing.

• **Sharleen Wabindato:** Since 1977, Wabindato has been serving a life sentence for murder I in connection with a murder committed by her boyfriend during a robbery. She claims that during their relationship, her boyfriend beat and abused her and that her brothers and father had assisted her in leaving him and that on each occasion she was covered with bruises caused by his beatings.

• **Doreen Washington:** Since 1988, Washington has been serving a life sentence for murder I in connection with the death of her husband, who was shot and killed by her foster son. She claims that during the marriage she had been beaten and set on fire by her husband and that she was repeatedly hospitalized for her injuries. She had gone to the police repeatedly but received no assistance. She claims that her foster son shot her husband in a moment of fear and that he believed he was protecting them from attack. Washington has permanent scars over much of her body and suffers from health problems related to the abuse.

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT J

Joanne Schmid

Michigan
Governor Granholm
2009

Michigan

Parole board to consider releasing Skidway Lake woman convicted of murder, arson in '82



By LaNia Coleman | The Bay City Times

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on August 04, 2009 at 9:05 PM, updated August 05, 2009 at 1:38 PM

A Skidway Lake woman convicted of murder and arson in a case that grabbed headlines for two years in the 1982 could go free.

The state Parole and Commutation Board has scheduled a public hearing to consider commuting the life sentence handed down to JoAnne Schmid in 1984.

A jury convicted Schmid, now 72, of first-degree murder in the death of her husband, Clayton Lyle Schmid, on Feb. 7, 1982.

A pathologist, who was among more than 100 people prosecutors called to the witness stand during the three-week trial, testified that Lyle Schmid, a retired truck driver, died of smoke inhalation and carbon monoxide poisoning, Bay City Times records show.

Prosecutors argued that JoAnne Schmid, then 45, killed her husband in order to collect on a \$56,800 life insurance policy.

Authorities said she set three fires inside the house then went to church to teach Sunday school, Times records show.

Defense attorneys argued that the fire and Lyle Schmid's death were accidental and the evidence against JoAnne Schmid was circumstantial.

Circuit Judge Carl L. Horn, who moved the trial to Gladwin County from Ogemaw County because of pre-trial publicity, also sentenced the defendant to 10 to 20 years for arson.

The jury deliberated for 22 hours over four days before reaching a verdict.

The hearing is to take place at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility in Jackson.

Schmid is in custody at the Women's Huron Valley Facility in Ypsilanti.

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT K

Thomas Cress

Michigan
Governor Granholm
2010

Man convicted in teen's slaying will be released

By Ed White

Associated Press

Published: Dec. 28, 2010 12:00 a.m.

Updated: Dec. 28, 2010 1:33 p.m.

DETROIT — Gov. Jennifer Granholm commuted a life sentence Tuesday, agreeing to release a man who has repeatedly declared his innocence in the 1983 murder of a teen girl near Battle Creek.

Granholm's decision clears the way for Thomas Cress to be granted parole after 25 years in prison for first-degree murder.

In 1985, Cress was convicted of killing Patricia Rosansky, 17, whose body was found in a wooded area in Calhoun County's Bedford Township, 50 miles southwest of Lansing.

The Michigan Supreme Court in 2003 refused to grant a new trial despite no physical evidence against Cress and the subsequent confession of an Arkansas prisoner inmate.

The state Parole and Commutation Board held an hours-long public hearing last March and subsequently recommended that the governor commute Cress' sentence to time served, said Granholm spokeswoman Liz Boyd.

There was a "compelling demonstration that he was wrongly incarcerated, essentially an inmate who has mental disabilities who has served 25 years for a murder he didn't commit," Boyd said.

Cress' plea for mercy had many supporters, including U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., and the Innocence Clinic at the University of Michigan law school.

"This is a brave decision on the part of the governor," clinic co-director Bridget McCormack said. "It's difficult for executives to make clemency decisions in innocence cases but I think she really dug in and did her homework. We are elated."

Cress, now 54, was convicted mostly based on testimony from people who knew him and said he had admitted abducting and killing Rosansky. She had another person's hair in her hand but it was not his.

Evidence in the case was destroyed in 1992 without being tested for DNA.

Calhoun County Prosecutor Susan Mladenoff opposed Cress' release, although she was not in office at the time of trial. She has said the confession of another man had many holes. She did not immediately respond to a request for comment Tuesday.

Jon Sahli, who was prosecutor when evidence was destroyed, said Granholm's decision was "ridiculous." He declined further comment.

The commutation is one of Granholm's final acts as governor as she prepares to leave office Saturday after eight years.

Last week, she similarly commuted the life sentence of a convicted killer in the Detroit area but changed her mind two days later when the victim's relatives said they were never told about the process.

Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT L

Al-Kareem Shadeed

Washington
Governor Gregoire
2011



The Seattle Times

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Local News

Clemency recommended for 3-strikes offenders



Originally published June 12, 2009 at 12:00 am Updated June 11, 2009 at 10:54 pm



1 of 4 Al-Kareem Shadeed

After taking testimony on Thursday, the state's Pardons and Clemency Board agreed to recommend that Gov. Chris Gregoire grant clemency to two three-strikes inmates, Michael Bridges and Al-Kareem Shadeed. Both men are serving life sentences without possibility of parole after being

convicted of second-degree robbery. The third strike for each was an unsuccessful attempt to...

By Sara Jean Green 

Seattle Times staff reporter

OLYMPIA — One spoke simply, the other eloquently, but both delivered the same message: They are different men from the drug-addicted criminals they were 15 years ago, when they were among the state's first three-strikes offenders sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole — each for attempting to steal a wallet.

Speaking by telephone from different prisons miles from a packed hearing room on the state's Capitol Campus, Michael Bridges and later, Al-Kareem Shadeed, spoke of faith, remorse and personal transformation. Their voices filtered through a sound system as they addressed the state's four-member Pardons and Clemency Board.

Thursday morning, board members unanimously agreed to recommend that Gov. Chris Gregoire grant conditional clemency to Bridges. Thursday afternoon, they unanimously agreed to do the same for Shadeed.

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After each vote, the room — filled with the men's family members and friends — erupted into cheers and spontaneous applause.

There is no deadline for Gregoire to complete her review of the two cases and make a decision about clemency. If released, both Bridges and Shadeed would be under community supervision and subject to a variety of conditions.

King County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Satterberg was among the men's strongest supporters Thursday, saying their life sentences were disproportionately harsh, given the nature of the crimes they'd committed and given their model behavior while behind bars.

Neither inmate has been cited for breaking prison rules in years and both have battled their addictions, held down full-time prison jobs and mentored younger inmates.

"It's easy to forget all these men we gave life sentences to, but it's not the right thing to do," Satterberg said. "I think it's in the interest of justice to go back and look at these cases. I think forever is too much" for Bridges and Shadeed.

First to be released

In December, Satterberg testified on behalf of Stevan Dozier, the state's first three-strikes offender to regain his freedom after Gregoire granted him conditional clemency. Dozier was released from the Washington State Reformatory in Monroe last month and is now living with his wife in Seattle.

Like Bridges and Shadeed, Dozier, a former drug addict, spent 15 years in prison after being convicted of his third-strike offense: a second-degree-robbery charge for stealing an elderly woman's purse. None of the three men used weapons or caused serious injury to their victims.

On Thursday, Satterberg said he plans to bring additional three-strikes cases to the board over the next six to eight months — and he has talked to prosecutors in other counties about reviewing their three-strikes cases involving inmates convicted of second-degree robbery, the least serious of all three-strike offenses.

Board Chairwoman Margaret Smith told Satterberg: "It is the right thing to do in the interest of fairness and justice, and I hope your example will influence prosecutors around the state. I think other prosecutors could learn from you."

Under the 1993 Persistent Offender Accountability Act, second-degree robbery is one of many third-strike offenses. Since the mid-1990s, the King County Prosecutor's Office has shifted the way it treats such cases, and prosecutors across the state are increasingly exercising discretion in which crimes they charge as a third strike. In the early days of the law, prosecutors didn't realize how much discretion they had, Satterberg told The Seattle Times last month.

Today, a defendant convicted of second-degree robbery would likely face an average sentence of three years and a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison, according to testimony presented to the board. On average, it costs the state more than \$31,000 a year to house a single inmate.

Undergone treatment

Bridges, now 47, was an alcoholic and cocaine addict in 1994 when he tried, unsuccessfully, to steal a man's wallet that would have netted him \$48, said his attorney, Sheryl Gordon McCloud.

Bridges had been convicted of second-degree robbery in 1987 and 1989. Since being sentenced to life in prison, Bridges has undergone drug and alcohol treatment, become a Christian and worked to be a good father to his now-16-year-old son, she said.

He gained control over his anger and now embodies "a calm, reassuring sense of self." "This ... is what redemption looks like," McCloud said.

If freed, Bridges will live with his parents in Federal Way and he hopes to find construction work with the help of his brother.

"I believe I'm a new man now, not the man I was. I can promise you I won't let you down," he told the board from the state prison in Walla Walla.

Shadeed, now 39, was 24 when he was sentenced to life in prison after trying, and failing, to steal a wallet belonging to Craig MacGowan, a Garfield High School teacher who told Shadeed's trial judge in 1994 that a life sentence was a waste of the young man's life, said Shadeed's attorney, Seattle University law professor Paul Holland.

Shadeed took his victim's words to heart and earned his high-school diploma within his first year behind bars. He took classes in writing and business, "engaged in discussions with spiritual leaders of all faiths," consistently attended Narcotics Anonymous meetings and participated in a series of programs that brings victims and offenders together.


"I am deeply ashamed of all the things I did. ... I am deeply sorry for the fear and insecurity my previous behavior brought to our community," Shadeed told the board from the Washington State Reformatory in Monroe.

"This situation has humbled me and ... I've learned to be grateful for what little I have.

"My life is worth salvaging. I am redeemable."

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Sara Jean Green: 206-515-5654 or sgreen@seattletimes.com; on Twitter: [@SJGTimes](https://twitter.com/SJGTimes).

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http://www.ifiberone.com/news/moses-lake-man-was-granted-clemency-for-life-sentence-now/article_59e7522e-3bcb-11e5-b153-bb57571f7036.html

FEATURED

Moses Lake man was granted clemency for life sentence, now suspected of theft at school

By Joe Utter Aug 5, 2015



Facebook

MOSES LAKE - A Moses Lake School District employee is suspected of stealing at least \$1,000 in tools and electronics from the school district.

Al-Kareem J. Shadeed, a 45-year-old Moses Lake man, was arrested at the school district's administration offices for theft in the second degree.

Shadeed was employed as a substitute custodian. He began working for the school district in April of 2012 and was recently terminated, according to school district Superintendent Michelle Price.



He is suspected of stealing lawn mowers, leaf blowers, miscellaneous tools from the district, as well as iPads from the Columbia Basin Technical Skills Center, according to Moses Lake police Chief Dave Ruffin.

School district staff noticed property missing in the spring of this year and contacted police. Price said staff began reviewing security video, which reportedly shows Shadeed taking the property.

The school district is working with police to recover the stolen property.

In 2011, Shadeed was granted clemency by then Gov. Christine Gregoire after receiving a sentence of life in prison under the state's "three strikes" law.

The sentence stems from a 1994 robbery conviction. He tried to steal a man's wallet in Seattle, according to a journal from the state Senate dated Jan. 12, 2015.

The "three strikes" law was passed in 1993.

Shadeed's first and second strikes under the state law were robbery convictions in 1991 and 1989 in California. He spent about 17 years in prison after the third strike conviction.

When he was released, he was one of only four people in the country granted clemency after a life sentence under a "three strikes" law.

In 2011, Shadeed was placed in community custody for two years, and reportedly violated his conditions of release in 2013 after testing positive for a controlled substance. He served 30 days in prison.

Shadeed was hired by the school district nine months after he was released from prison.

In 2013, Gov. Jay Inslee granted an amended conditional commutation for Shadeed, a form of clemency reducing the punishment of a crime. Shadeed was again placed under community custody through 2014.



Price said the school district conducts criminal background check on all of its employees and evaluates any concerns before a person his hired.

"It's really an unfortunate situation," Price said.

The superintendent said he was a "likeable guy" and worked hard.

The district had concerns with Shadeed's criminal history, including the risk of theft. She said Shadeed remained on substitute status because of the concern.

During the evaluation process before Shadeed was hired, Price said the district felt enough time passed since his third strike conviction, and indications were Shadeed warranted a second chance.

Price said there were no concerns toward the safety of students and staff when Shadeed was hired.



Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT M

Keith O. Smith

Pennsylvania
Governor Rendell
2010

Governor Rendell Announces Commutations

Dec 30, 2010, 16:04 ET from Pennsylvania Office of the Governor

HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 30, 2010 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Governor Edward G. Rendell today announced that he has commuted the life sentences of Tyrone A. Werts, William Fultz and Kevin O. Smith, all of Philadelphia.

The three men were recommended for commutation by 4-0 vote of the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons on Dec. 14. A fifth member was not present.

None of the men was convicted of being the shooter or triggerman in the crimes for which they were sentenced to life imprisonment; they played ancillary roles. In each case, those who played a more significant role received the same or lighter sentences, or ended up serving shorter terms, the Governor noted.

Werts and Smith rejected plea bargains that would have given each a sentence of no more than 10 to 20 years; Fultz rejected a plea bargain with a sentence of 9-1/2 to 23 months.

Werts, 59, was sentenced in 1976 for his role in a 1975 robbery and fatal shooting at a gambling house in Philadelphia. Werts, who was 23 at the time, remained outside in the car while accomplices carried out the crime. They also received life sentences.



Smith, 55, was sentenced in 1975 for serving as a lookout during a 1974 robbery in which a Philadelphia flower shop owner was killed. Smith, age 19 at the time, had no prior criminal record. Smith's co-defendants also received life terms.

Fultz, 58, was sentenced in 1976 for his role in a 1974 killing in Philadelphia. Two other men performed the killing; Fultz disposed of one of the weapons. Fultz, who was 22 when the crime occurred, had no prior adult criminal record. His co-defendants were also sentenced to life in prison.

All three men must now spend one year in a pre-release center before they are eligible for parole consideration. Commutation can be revoked if the men are convicted of future crimes upon a recommendation of the Board of Pardons.

Governor Rendell previously commuted the sentences of two other men, George Orlowski and Michael Anderson, bringing to five the total number of commutations he has granted during his two terms as governor.

Media contact: Gary Tuma, 717-783-1116

Editor's Note: Text of the Dec. 30 commutation warrants follows.

Werts Order

Whereas, In the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Philadelphia held at Philadelphia in said County docketed to number OTN: Z755760-5 a certain Tyrone Werts was convicted of the crimes of Murder II, Robbery, Possession of an Instrument of Crime, Prohibited Offensive Weapons and Criminal Conspiracy and the said Court on the 16th day of June A.D. one



thousand nine hundred and seventy-six thereupon sentenced him to life in prison for Murder II and five (5) to ten (10) years in prison to run consecutive for Criminal Conspiracy and Robbery.

And Whereas, The Board of Pardons, after full hearing, upon due public notice, and In open session, have recommended to me, in writing, with the reasons therefor, the commutation of a life sentence to life on parole and commutation of the consecutive sentences to terms of time served, if any, of the said Tyrone Werts which recommendation and reasons have been filed in the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Therefore, know ye, that in consideration of the premises and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, I have commuted the sentences of the said Tyrone Werts from a term of life imprisonment to a term of twenty-four (24) years to life on parole and the consecutive sentences to terms of time served, if any, upon the following conditions: (1) that Tyrone Werts shall not be released on parole until after he has served at least one (1) year in a prerelease center unless he cannot be appropriately transferred to a prerelease center due to a certified terminal illness; and (2) in the event Tyrone Werts is ever convicted of any criminal offense or has violated the terms and conditions of his parole after the date affixed below, this grant of clemency may be rendered null and void by myself or by my successors in office, upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons, after a public hearing.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the City of Harrisburg, this 30th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten.

By the Governor: (signed) Edward G. Rendell

Smith Order



Whereas, In the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Philadelphia held at Philadelphia in said County docketed to number OTN: Z758072-0 a certain Keith O. Smith was convicted of the crimes of Murder II, Robbery and Criminal Conspiracy and the said Court on the 5th day of May A.D. one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five thereupon sentenced him to life in prison for Murder II and ten (10) to twenty (20) years in prison to run concurrent for Robbery and Criminal Conspiracy.

And Whereas, The Board of Pardons, after full hearing, upon due public notice, and in open session, have recommended to me, in writing, with the reasons therefor, the commutation of life sentence to life on parole of the said Keith O. Smith which recommendation and reasons have been filed in the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Therefore, know ye, that in consideration of the premises and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, I have commuted the sentence of the said Keith O. Smith from a term of life imprisonment to a term of thirty-five (35) years to life on parole upon the following conditions: (1) that Keith O. Smith shall not be released on parole until after he has served at least one (1) year in a prerelease center unless he cannot be appropriately transferred to a prerelease center due to a certified terminal illness; and (2) in the event Keith O. Smith is ever convicted of any criminal offense or has violated the terms and conditions of his parole after the date affixed below, this grant of clemency may be rendered null and void by myself or by my successors in office, upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons, after a public hearing.

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Fultz Order

Whereas, In the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Philadelphia held at Philadelphia in said County docketed to number OTN: Z600744-4 a certain William Fultz was convicted of the crime of Murder I and the said Court on the 26th day of June A.D. one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five thereupon sentenced him to life in prison for Murder I.

And Whereas, The Board of Pardons, after full hearing, upon due public notice, and in open session, have recommended to me, in writing, with the reasons therefor, the commutation of life sentence to life on parole of the said William Fultz which recommendation and reasons have been filed in the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT N

Tyrone Werts

Pennsylvania
Governor Rendell
2010

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Whereas, In the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Philadelphia held at Philadelphia in said County docketed to number OTN: Z600744-4 a certain William Fultz was convicted of the crime of Murder I and the said Court on the 26th day of June A.D. one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five thereupon sentenced him to life in prison for Murder I.

And Whereas, The Board of Pardons, after full hearing, upon due public notice, and in open session, have recommended to me, in writing, with the reasons therefor, the commutation of life sentence to life on parole of the said William Fultz which recommendation and reasons have been filed in the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Therefore, know ye, that in consideration of the premises and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, I have commuted the sentence of the said William Fultz from a term of life imprisonment to a term of thirty-five (35) years to life on parole upon the following conditions: (1) that William Fultz shall not be released on parole until after he has served at least one (1) year in a prerelease center unless he cannot be appropriately transferred to a prerelease center due to a certified terminal illness; and (2) in the event William Fultz is ever convicted of any criminal offense or has violated the terms and conditions of his parole after the date affixed below, this grant of clemency may be rendered null and void by myself or by my successors in office, upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons, after a public hearing.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the City of Harrisburg, this 30th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten.

By the Governor: (signed) Edward G. Rendell



SOURCE Pennsylvania Office of the Governor

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT O

William Fultz

Pennsylvania
Governor Rendell
2010

Governor Rendell Announces Commutations

Dec 30, 2010, 16:04 ET from Pennsylvania Office of the Governor

HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 30, 2010 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Governor Edward G. Rendell today announced that he has commuted the life sentences of Tyrone A. Werts, William Fultz and Kevin O. Smith, all of Philadelphia.

The three men were recommended for commutation by 4-0 vote of the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons on Dec. 14. A fifth member was not present.

None of the men was convicted of being the shooter or triggerman in the crimes for which they were sentenced to life imprisonment; they played ancillary roles. In each case, those who played a more significant role received the same or lighter sentences, or ended up serving shorter terms, the Governor noted.

Werts and Smith rejected plea bargains that would have given each a sentence of no more than 10 to 20 years; Fultz rejected a plea bargain with a sentence of 9-1/2 to 23 months.

Werts, 59, was sentenced in 1976 for his role in a 1975 robbery and fatal shooting at a gambling house in Philadelphia. Werts, who was 23 at the time, remained outside in the car while accomplices carried out the crime. They also received life sentences.



Smith, 55, was sentenced in 1975 for serving as a lookout during a 1974 robbery in which a Philadelphia flower shop owner was killed. Smith, age 19 at the time, had no prior criminal record. Smith's co-defendants also received life terms.

Fultz, 58, was sentenced in 1976 for his role in a 1974 killing in Philadelphia. Two other men performed the killing; Fultz disposed of one of the weapons. Fultz, who was 22 when the crime occurred, had no prior adult criminal record. His co-defendants were also sentenced to life in prison.

All three men must now spend one year in a pre-release center before they are eligible for parole consideration. Commutation can be revoked if the men are convicted of future crimes upon a recommendation of the Board of Pardons.

Governor Rendell previously commuted the sentences of two other men, George Orlowski and Michael Anderson, bringing to five the total number of commutations he has granted during his two terms as governor.

Media contact: Gary Tuma, 717-783-1116

Editor's Note: Text of the Dec. 30 commutation warrants follows.

Werts Order

Whereas, In the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Philadelphia held at Philadelphia in said County docketed to number OTN: Z755760-5 a certain Tyrone Werts was convicted of the crimes of Murder II, Robbery, Possession of an Instrument of Crime, Prohibited Offensive Weapons and Criminal Conspiracy and the said Court on the 16th day of June A.D. one



thousand nine hundred and seventy-six thereupon sentenced him to life in prison for Murder II and five (5) to ten (10) years in prison to run consecutive for Criminal Conspiracy and Robbery.

And Whereas, The Board of Pardons, after full hearing, upon due public notice, and in open session, have recommended to me, in writing, with the reasons therefor, the commutation of a life sentence to life on parole and commutation of the consecutive sentences to terms of time served, if any, of the said Tyrone Werts which recommendation and reasons have been filed in the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Therefore, know ye, that in consideration of the premises and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, I have commuted the sentences of the said Tyrone Werts from a term of life imprisonment to a term of twenty-four (24) years to life on parole and the consecutive sentences to terms of time served, if any, upon the following conditions: (1) that Tyrone Werts shall not be released on parole until after he has served at least one (1) year in a prerelease center unless he cannot be appropriately transferred to a prerelease center due to a certified terminal illness; and (2) in the event Tyrone Werts is ever convicted of any criminal offense or has violated the terms and conditions of his parole after the date affixed below, this grant of clemency may be rendered null and void by myself or by my successors in office, upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons, after a public hearing.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the City of Harrisburg, this 30th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten.

By the Governor: (signed) Edward G. Rendell

Smith Order



Whereas, In the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Philadelphia held at Philadelphia in said County docketed to number OTN: Z758072-0 a certain Keith O. Smith was convicted of the crimes of Murder II, Robbery and Criminal Conspiracy and the said Court on the 5th day of May A.D. one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five thereupon sentenced him to life in prison for Murder II and ten (10) to twenty (20) years in prison to run concurrent for Robbery and Criminal Conspiracy.

And Whereas, The Board of Pardons, after full hearing, upon due public notice, and in open session, have recommended to me, in writing, with the reasons therefor, the commutation of life sentence to life on parole of the said Keith O. Smith which recommendation and reasons have been filed in the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Therefore, know ye, that in consideration of the premises and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, I have commuted the sentence of the said Keith O. Smith from a term of life imprisonment to a term of thirty-five (35) years to life on parole upon the following conditions: (1) that Keith O. Smith shall not be released on parole until after he has served at least one (1) year in a prerelease center unless he cannot be appropriately transferred to a prerelease center due to a certified terminal illness; and (2) in the event Keith O. Smith is ever convicted of any criminal offense or has violated the terms and conditions of his parole after the date affixed below, this grant of clemency may be rendered null and void by myself or by my successors in office, upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons, after a public hearing.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the City of Harrisburg, this 30th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten.

By the Governor: (signed) Edward G. Rendell



Fultz Order

Whereas, In the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Philadelphia held at Philadelphia in said County docketed to number OTN: Z600744-4 a certain William Fultz was convicted of the crime of Murder I and the said Court on the 26th day of June A.D. one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five thereupon sentenced him to life in prison for Murder I.

And Whereas, The Board of Pardons, after full hearing, upon due public notice, and in open session, have recommended to me, in writing, with the reasons therefor, the commutation of life sentence to life on parole of the said William Fultz which recommendation and reasons have been filed in the office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Therefore, know ye, that in consideration of the premises and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, I have commuted the sentence of the said William Fultz from a term of life imprisonment to a term of thirty-five (35) years to life on parole upon the following conditions: (1) that William Fultz shall not be released on parole until after he has served at least one (1) year in a prerelease center unless he cannot be appropriately transferred to a prerelease center due to a certified terminal illness; and (2) in the event William Fultz is ever convicted of any criminal offense or has violated the terms and conditions of his parole after the date affixed below, this grant of clemency may be rendered null and void by myself or by my successors in office, upon recommendation of the Board of Pardons, after a public hearing.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the City of Harrisburg, this 30th day of December in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten.

By the Governor: (signed) Edward G. Rendell



SOURCE Pennsylvania Office of the Governor

RELATED LINKS

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Appendix C: Governors' Recent Life-Without-Parole Commutations

EXHIBIT P

Betty Smithey

Arizona
Governor Brewer
2012

America's longest-serving female inmate, 69, walks free 49 years after strangling 15-month-old baby to death

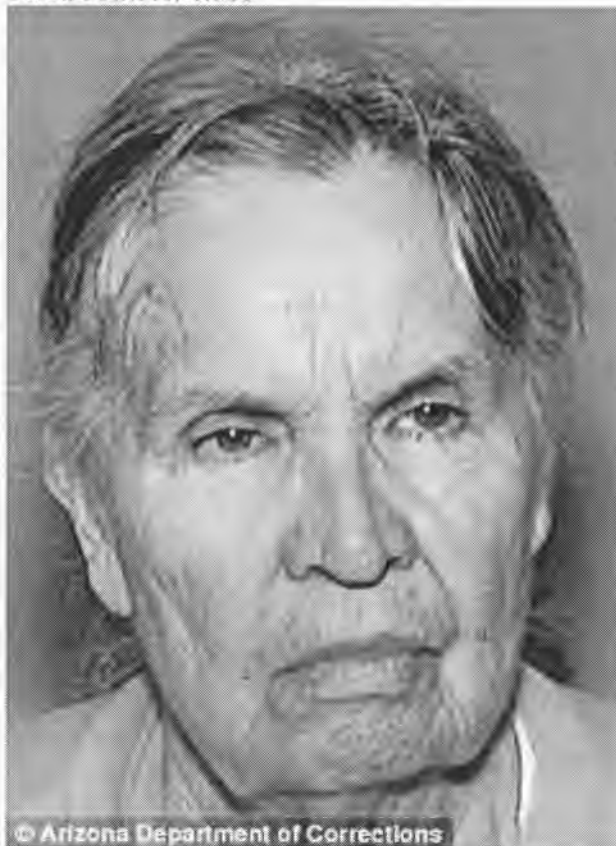
By Daily Mail Reporter

PUBLISHED: 11:24 EDT, 14 August 2012 | **UPDATED:** 15:14 EDT, 14 August 2012

The country's longest-serving female inmate has been freed - 49 years after she was convicted of strangling a 15-month-old baby to death.

Betty Smithey, 69, walked out of the gates of Perryville state prison in Goodyear, Arizona with the help of a cane on Monday afternoon, just hours after she appeared at a parole hearing. She was granted clemency in June by Gov. Jan Brewer and members of Arizona's parole board agreed she was no longer the same woman who murdered baby Sandy Gerberick in 1963. On Monday, the board members voted 4-1 to free her from prison and any community supervision.

Scroll down for video







Free: Betty Smithey, 69, has been freed by a parole board in Arizona. She has been behind bars for 49 years for strangling a 15-month-old baby to death when she worked as a babysitter aged 20, right

'It's wonderful driving down the road and not seeing any barbed wire,' Smithey told the **Arizona Republic** as she travelled to her niece's home, where she will live. 'I am lucky, so very lucky.' As an 'old-code lifer' - given life before 1973 - Smithey needed the governor to grant her a commutation to be eligible for parole. Three such 'lifers' have been granted clemency since 1989.

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Previous **Murderer who kidnapped and killed a police officer**

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In 1994 and 2003, boards recommended clemency for Smithey but Gov. Fife Symington and then Gov. Janet Napolitano refused to approve it.

On Monday, the board questioned Smithey, her lawyers and psychiatrist over whether she posed a threat to society, if she had changed, and whether she could deal with return to the outside world.



Explaining herself: At her parole hearing, Smithey said she was not perfect but had changed a great deal



Off the hook: All bar one member of the parole board voted for her freedom on Monday

A RARE CASE: ARIZONA CLEMENCY

Excluding the cases of inmates nearing the end of a terminal illness, Gov. Jan Brewer is on track to grant the fewest clemency cases in Arizona in more than two decades.

While she has reduced 24 sentences since 2009, she has not granted a single pardon.

Smithey is just one of three 'old-code lifer' inmates, who was sentenced to life before 1973, granted clemency since 1989.

Neither Brewer nor her four predecessors have ever reduced a death sentence.

Gov. Rose Mofford - April 1988 to March 1991: 13 pardons, 2 commutations.

Gov. Fife Symington III - March 1991 to Sept. 1997: 13 pardons, 16 commutations.

Gov. Jane Dee Hull - Sept. 1997 to Jan. 2003: 7 pardons, 28 commutations.

Gov. Janet Napolitano - Jan. 2003 to Jan. 2009: 22 pardons, 34 commutations

Gov. Jan Brewer - since Jan. 2009: 0 pardons, 24 commutations

'I really see no value in keeping you in prison any longer. I really see no value in keeping strings on you any longer,' Parole Board Chairman Jesse Hernandez told Smithey granting her freedom.

Smithey crossed herself and looked down briefly, shocked that she was finally free, the Arizona Republic reported. She then shook the hands of each board member.

It comes nearly 50 years after she was convicted of the 1963 New Year's Day murder of Sandy Gerberick, one of four children she was caring for as a 20-year-old live-in babysitter.

The baby's mother, Erma, was making breakfast when her six-year-old son ran in shouting 'Mama, Sandy's dead!'

Sandy had been strangled and Smithey was arrested the next day, found hitchhiking on a highway.

She allegedly told the patrolman who found her: 'I think I hurt the baby... I may have used a stocking.'

She was booked into a Pima County jail where she unsuccessfully tried to kill herself.

At trial Smithey's lawyer tried to argue that she was mentally ill but on July 10, 1963 she was found guilty of first-degree murder. She was lead from the courtroom shouting: 'I'm not going to prison. I'll kill myself, you watch!'

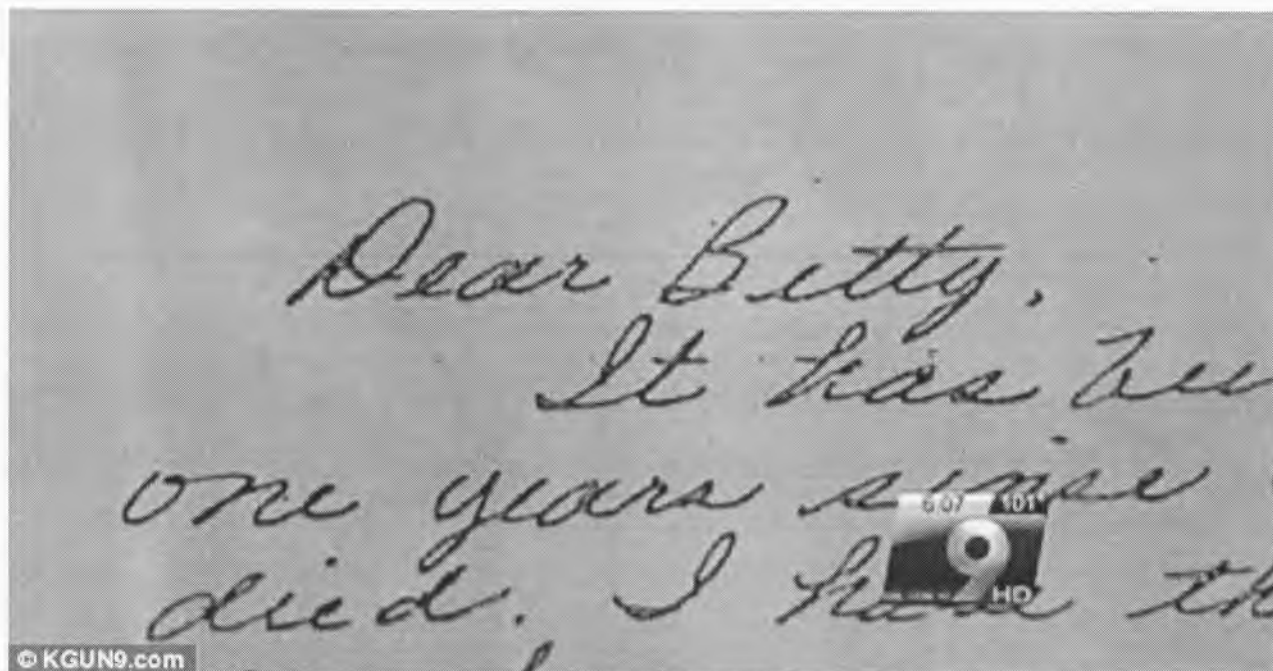
Reflecting on her crime, she has said: 'I am very sorry for what happened. It sounds so bland and flat, everybody says they're sorry.'



Relief: Smithey was hugged by her relatives and lawyers following the decision. Hours later she left the jail



Thankful: After she was granted freedom, she shook the hand of each member of the parole board



Forgiven: Smithey revealed that she realised she could be a better person when she received a letter from her victim's mother saying she had forgiven the killer

'I can't bring back the life that I took. It doesn't alter the fact of what I did. The only thing I can do is try to make myself a better person.'

Smithey herself suffered a turbulent childhood; her father died when she was four and her poverty-stricken mother was declared incapable of caring for her seven daughters by the state.

The girls became wards of the state and were separated, most of them never seeing one another again. When she was eight, she was adopted by a family that physically abused her.

She went on to hop from foster homes and began suffering ill health and psychological trauma.



History of abuse: Smithey in 1959 with Mitchell Johnson, who she kidnapped from an employer four years before murdering another baby. The parole board said she was no longer a threat



Out: Smithey left Perryville state prison in Goodyear on Monday, just hours after her parole meeting

During a previous posting as a baby-sitter Smithey ran away with her employer's 18-month-old son in New Mexico and served four years in a juvenile prison, convicted of kidnapping.

In her early years in prison, Smithey she was rebellious, managing to escape four times from three different prisons between 1974 and 1981.

Smithey said she decided to change in 1983 when she received a letter from Emma Simmons, Sandy Gerberick's mother, saying she had forgiven her for the crime.

'She made me feel that I wasn't a monster,' Smithey said. 'I felt if she could forgive me for taking her child's life, I could forgive myself. It was my responsibility to try to become a better person than I was.'