



# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DAN DOW  
District Attorney

ERIC J. DOBROTH  
Assistant District Attorney

JERRET C. GRAN  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

SHERYL M. WOLCOTT  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

LISA B. MUSCARI  
Chief Deputy District Attorney

TERRY O' FARRELL  
Chief, Bureau of Investigation

December 19, 2023

Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
1303 10th St., Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Inmate Royce Elliott Casey, CDCR# K78120  
Parole Granted: October 11, 2023

Dear Governor Newsom,

This letter is written regarding the grant of parole on October 11, 2023 to the above inmate, who was convicted in 1997 of the 1995 murder of 15-year-old Elyse Pahler of Arroyo Grande, California. We ask that you exercise your authority pursuant to Penal Code Section 3041.1 and reverse the grant of parole to inmate Casey, as he remains unsuitable.

## **Murder of Elyse Pahler**

Elyse Pahler, age 15, was sadistically murdered in July 1995 by inmate Casey and two crime partners who remain imprisoned. Casey was 17, and his crime partners Jacob Delashmutt and Joseph Fiorella were 16 and 15 years old. The murder was accomplished by first luring the girl to a remote area, then strangling her, stabbing her multiple times, and finally by stomping on her head and neck. She bled to death. Her body was hidden in brush and not found until inmate Casey, feeling guilty, came forward 8 months later and confessed. He implicated the other two. All three entered pleas to first degree murder and were sentenced to 25 years to life. Special circumstances of torture and rape were dismissed.

The motive was that the perpetrators, who had a heavy metal rock band called "Hatred", thought by killing a virginal girl and sacrificing her to Satan, that their music would be enhanced. As outlandish as this sounds, it is what they told law enforcement authorities and have admitted to over the years. There was also a sexual motive to the killing as they discussed killing a virgin. However, there was insufficient proof that she was raped during her murder, mostly because her mummified remains could not yield forensic evidence.

## **Post Conviction**

Inmate Casey has been relatively well behaved in prison and has done some programming in his 27 years of incarceration. He was 17 at the time of the crime, a youthful offender, but it was not an impulsive crime; it was planned and discussed months in advance. In fact, there was a plan by inmate Casey and one of his crime partners in February 1995 to kill Elyse, but it was never carried out.

Inmate Casey was also from a good home with a normal loving family. He has never adequately explained why he participated in such a sadistic and heinous crime. He has stated in prior hearings that while Elyse was on the ground, after being strangled and stabbed, she cried out for her mother and for Jesus; when Royce Casey heard that, he stomped on her neck and head. He also admitted stabbing her four times, after his crime partner strangled her (2023 Transcript, p. 33).

## **October 2023 Grant of Parole**

In 2021, you exercised your authority to reverse the inmate's grant of parole of March 2021. The same concerns you cited then remain probative today. Inmate Casey still has a superficial understanding of the causative factors of this crime.

For example, the October parole panel asked him why he was so violent, and he said that he had experienced sexual, physical, and emotional abuse, and he wanted to get even with people who hurt him (2023 Transcript, p. 22). When prodded as to whether there was violence in his home, he said no, but stated it was in his neighborhood, his bike was stolen, and he was bullied at daycare centers (Tr. P. 23-24). The panel pressed him on how those issues would cause him to be violent, and he explained, "people would always hurt me and I wanted to hurt someone" (Tr. P. 25-27).

He could not give any other reasons for the extreme violence he engaged in. Later, when the panel queried him on how he developed such extremely negative opinions of women and girls, he explained that "having sex with [girls] was the ultimate goal to have myself be a man" (Tr. P. 31-32). This answer does not explain his hatred toward women and girls. His answers are similar to those he gave in March 2021. It does not appear he has gained meaningful insight into the reasons he committed this exceptionally brutal crime.

It is our position that during the October 11 hearing the parole panel gave inadequate weight to the crime this inmate committed and looked primarily at Casey's behavior in prison. Inmate Casey is polite and articulate; but neither of those factors point to suitability. It appears that Mr. Casey still has not developed insight into the grave character defects that allowed him to participate in such a hideous crime, and we ask that you consider established caselaw which holds that the presence or absence of insight is a significant factor in determining whether there is a rational nexus between the inmate's dangerous past behavior and the threat he currently poses to public safety.

We respectfully request that you review this case and use your authority to reverse this incorrect and improvident grant of parole.

---

Sincerely,

Dan Dow  
District Attorney



By: Eric Dobroth  
Assistant District Attorney

Enclosure: Transcript for Parole  
Suitability Hearing on October  
11, 2023

PAROLE SUITABILITY HEARING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS

In the matter of the Parole CDCR Number: **K78120**  
Consideration Hearing of:

**ROYCE CASEY**

VALLEY STATE PRISON

CHOWCHILLA, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 11, 2023

8:31 AM

PANEL PRESENT:

DAVID NDUDIM, Presiding Commissioner

MIRANDA NEAL, Deputy Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT:

ROYCE CASEY, Inmate

LINDA DUNN, Deputy District Attorney

CHARLES CARBONE, Attorney for Inmate

DAVID PAHLER, Victim's Father

JT CAMP, Victim's Father's Representative

UNIDENTIFIED, Correctional Officers

Transcribed by:

FATMA MOHAMED

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## PROCEEDINGS

1  
2       **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       We're on the record.

3       **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Good morning,  
4 everybody. Today's date is October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and the time  
5 now is 8:31 a.m. We are conducting this hearing by Video  
6 Conference. Mr. Royce Casey, can you hear and see me?

7       **INMATE CASEY:**   Yes, I can.

8       **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Excellent. If  
9 anything happens, uh, at anytime, please let us know so we  
10 can pause and make any necessary adjustments. For the  
11 record, I can hear and I can see you. Uh, Commissioner,  
12 can hear and see Mr. Casey?

13       **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Yes, I can. Thank you.

14       **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Thank you. This is  
15 a subsequent parole suitability hearing number three for  
16 inmate Mr. Royce Casey, who is present in the BPH hearing  
17 room. All other participants are participating remotely  
18 and they will identify themselves shortly for the record.  
19 So, sir, our record does reflect that you did commit your  
20 controlling offense while under the age of 26. So, this  
21 Panel will give great weight to youthful offender factors  
22 in deciding your suitability for parole today. Uh, as I  
23 did, uh, mention earlier, this hearing is being audio  
24 recorded. So, for the purposes of voice identification,  
25 I'm going to go across the hearing room and have everybody

1 identify themselves. And when I get to you, uh, give us  
2 your full name, spell your last name. Uh, I'll go first.  
3 My name is David Ndudim. The last name is spelled N-D-U-D-  
4 I-M. I'm a Commissioner with the Board of Parole Hearings,  
5 appearing via Microsoft Teams. Commissioner.

6 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Thank you. Um, Miranda  
7 Neal, N-E-A-L, Deputy Commissioner with the Board of  
8 Parole Hearings on Teams on video.

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** I'm going to go to  
10 the District Attorney's Representative from San Luis  
11 Obispo County.

12 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Good morning.  
13 Linda Dunn, D-U-N-N. Excuse me, San Luis Obispo, District  
14 Attorney's Office. I am appearing by video.

15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you so much.  
16 We'll go to inmate's Counsel.

17 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** Good morning, everyone. Honored  
18 to be before you. And good morning to you, Ms. Dunn and  
19 Mr. Pahler as well. Charles Carbone, C-A-R-B-O-N-E. I'm  
20 the Attorney for Mr. Casey, appearing remotely.

21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you, sir.  
22 So, Mr. Casey, give us your full name, spell your last  
23 name, and also give us your CDCR number.

24 **INMATE CASEY:** Okay. My name's Royce Casey, C-A-S-E-  
25 Y. And my CDCR number is K78120.

1           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Thank you. We do  
2 have victim's next of kin represent -- uh, next of kin,  
3 uh, participating in this hearing. I'm going to go and  
4 have him identify yourself, give us your full name, spell  
5 your last name and your relationship to the victim.

6           **VICTIM'S FATHER PAHLER:**       Yeah, my full name is David,  
7 D-A-V-I-D, Pahler, P-A-H-L-E-R. And I'm the father of  
8 Elyse Pahler.

9           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Thank you, sir. I  
10 -- I have somebody, uh, sitting next to you, if I can have  
11 him, please identify himself.

12           **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:**   Correct, Uh,  
13 JT Camp, C-A-M-P, investigator at the DA's office with Mr.  
14 Pahler.

15           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Thank you, sir.  
16 Um, so, Mr. Casey, were you able to hear everybody that  
17 identified themselves?

18           **INMATE CASEY:**       Yes. There's a little bit of an echo,  
19 but I can still hear everybody.

20           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Yes. Uh, basically  
21 when, uh, while two audios are on and that's why the echo,  
22 uh, I believe the echo has stopped. Are you still getting  
23 that echo?

24           **INMATE CASEY:**       No.

25           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Good. So, we also-



1 -

2 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** Commissioner. I'm sorry--

3 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Do have

4 correctional officers--

5 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** Commissioner, I'm sorry to  
6 interrupt you. I -- I do need to know, however, is the --  
7 the detective with the DA's office, is he registered as a  
8 delegate of the victim?

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** That's -- that's  
10 an interesting question. So, sir, are you a registered,  
11 uh, next of kin or representative?

12 **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** Yes.

13 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Mr. Camp--

14 **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** The answer  
15 here--

16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Mr. Camp--

17 **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** Yes. Mr.  
18 Pahler has requested that I'd be here as a representative  
19 with him, for them.

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Yeah, <inaudible>  
21 with the Board.

22 **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** Um, pardon  
23 me?

24 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You do, uh,  
25 register with the Board?

1           **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** Um, I have  
2 been on prior ones. Um, I'm not sure about this time  
3 whether it got in.

4           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. Uh,  
5 <inaudible>

6           **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Commissioner--

7           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** <Inaudible>--

8           **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Commissioner.

9           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** I'm sorry, Ms.  
10 Dunn.

11          **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** I'm getting an  
12 echo, sir.

13          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** If I can have Mr.  
14 Camp, mute you end, sir. Mute your -- good. Are we good?

15          **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Yeah.

16          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. Excellent.  
17 As I indicated, uh, earlier, Ms. Uh -- Mr. Carbone, uh,  
18 we're going to, uh, proceed forward given representation  
19 by, uh, Mr. Camp. And as I did mention earlier, this  
20 proceeding, uh, is being recorded as mandated under Penal  
21 Code Section 3042 Subsection B, and it will be transcribed  
22 as the official record of this hearing. No other  
23 recordings are authorized, including a recording available  
24 by Video Conference software. Commissioner, do we need to  
25 take a break to check the quality of the recording?

1           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**           No, Commissioner.  
2   Everybody's coming through and, uh, there were some issues  
3   with, um, that feedback, but, um, with the microphones  
4   muted appropriately, we're okay to go forward, I think.

5           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Thank you. So, uh,  
6   Mr. Casey, you've been through this process previously. I  
7   just want to remind you, sir, that we are not here to  
8   reconsider the findings of the court, nor are we here to,  
9   uh, retry your case. This Panel does accept as true the  
10   findings of the court. The purpose of today's hearing,  
11   sir, is to find out who you what today and to see whether  
12   you would oppose an unreasonable risk of danger to  
13   society, in the event that you are released. We are going  
14   to consider several factors in making that determination  
15   this morning. So, I will look at your prior criminal  
16   history. We'll also look at all of the activities that  
17   you've participated in while incarcerated. I'm talking  
18   about your programming, we'll also talking about your  
19   behavior. We'll also, uh, talk to you about the parole  
20   plans that you have submitted for this hearing. We'll also  
21   listen to your testimony before this Panel this morning.  
22   After that, as I said, you've been through this process,  
23   uh, we'll go through, uh, clarifying questions first from  
24   the DA and then to your Attorney, and then we'll then go  
25   to, uh, closing statements, uh, from the DA, to your

1 Attorney to you. And then we'll go to the victim's next of  
2 kin for any impact statement that they may wish to make  
3 before this Panel, prior to our making our decisions. Uh,  
4 do you have any questions, uh, Mr. Casey as to what I've  
5 explained to you so far?

6 **INMATE CASEY:** No, sir.

7 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So - so, sir, our  
8 expectations that is that all of the parties that are  
9 participating in this hearing will treat one another with  
10 dignity and respect. And to you, Mr. Casey, we do  
11 encourage you to be completely honest with this Panel this  
12 morning. I would like to start out by swearing you in. So,  
13 can please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear or  
14 affirm that the testimony that you give at this hearing  
15 will be truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

16 **INMATE CASEY:** I do, sir.

17 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You may lower your  
18 right hand.

19 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you. Sir,  
21 what's your date of birth?

22 **INMATE CASEY:** Uh, 5/19/1978.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How old were you  
24 when you committed this offense?

25 **INMATE CASEY:** I was 17.

1           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       17 years of age.  
2     Before I go any further, sir, let me conduct an Americas  
3     with Disabilities Act review with you. I'm looking at your  
4     form 1073. I do see that you do have a TABE score, a high  
5     TABE score, frankly, of 12.9. Does that sound about right  
6     to you?

7           **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes, sir.

8           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Sir, do you have a  
9     high school diploma or GED?

10          **INMATE CASEY:**    Uh, GED.

11          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       I see you're  
12     wearing your glasses. Do you see well with those?

13          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes.

14          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Excellent. There's  
15     also a magnifying device at the table that you're sitting  
16     at, should you need those, call the attention of the  
17     officer and they will provide that to you. So, Mr. Casey,  
18     have you been a participant in the mental health system at  
19     CDCR, either CCCMS level or EOP?

20          **INMATE CASEY:**    No, I have not.

21          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Do you take any  
22     psychotropic medications?

23          **INMATE CASEY:**    No, I do not.

24          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Sir, do you  
25     believe we have everything that you need in order to

1 effectively communicate with this Panel this morning?

2 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

3 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you. Let me  
4 check in with your Counsel. Counsel, I do not see any  
5 other reasonable accommodation listed--

6 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** I--

7 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** For Mr. Casey--

8 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** I agree.

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Does he require  
10 any other reasonable -- Go ahead.

11 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** I agree, Commissioner Ndudim. I  
12 do -- I do, however, when it's appropriate, I do want to  
13 go back to the issue of the DA's representative, um, and  
14 offer a respectful objection on the record because I have  
15 some concerns about that, Commissioner. So, when -- when  
16 it's reasonable, please, uh, provide me that -- that  
17 opportunity.

18 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. You know  
19 what we're going to do, uh, Commissioner, why don't -- why  
20 don't we just get off the record for one minute.

21 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** We are off the record.

22

23

24

[RECESS]

25

1           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Okay. Back-- we're back  
2 on the record.

3           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Thank you,  
4 Commissioner. Uh, the time is 8:46. We took a brief break  
5 to discuss and issue that just came up. So, uh, Mr.  
6 Carbone, I'm going to have you, uh, make your objections,  
7 sir.

8           **ATTORNEY CARBONE:**       Um, I -- I'll be succinct and  
9 thank you for the opportunity. It is, I want the record to  
10 reflect, it is not that I do not want Mr. Pahler to have  
11 the comfort and kindness of a person that he designates by  
12 his side. It is completely understandable that he would  
13 want that. And I would well imagine that that particular  
14 officer from the District Attorney's office perhaps became  
15 that to Mr. Pahler. And -- and so it is entirely  
16 understandable that he would want somebody to -- to be by  
17 his side. However, when that individual is an investigator  
18 with a District Attorney's office that prosecuted the  
19 case, unfortunately, that puts an entirely different spin  
20 on his presence. And so, unless he has been registered as  
21 a victim's representative with the Board of Parole  
22 Hearings, consequently, I would indeed respectfully object  
23 to his presence and or participation in any manner at  
24 today's hearing.

25           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Thank you, sir.

1 Your objection is duly noted. I'm going to turn to, uh,  
2 the, uh, DA for her, uh, response to the motion to, uh,  
3 objecting to participation of Mr. Camp.

4 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Thank you,  
5 Commissioner. Once again, Linda Dunn from the San Luis  
6 Obispo District Attorney's Office. There's really no basis  
7 for excluding Mr. Camp from the hearing. Mr. Camp has  
8 registered and has appeared at prior hearings for Mr.  
9 Casey. I think this Panel, who has no doubt read the file,  
10 understands that Mr. Pahler, the father of a murdered  
11 girl, would be extremely distraught when he has to relive  
12 that at these hearings. Mr. Pahler has had difficulty from  
13 the first hearing, the second, he will continue to have  
14 difficulty because of the nature of this. Other members of  
15 this family also are distraught and find it difficult to  
16 go through this. Mr. Camp is able to go through this. He  
17 won't be speaking. He's there to support Mr. Pahler. And I  
18 respectfully ask this Panel to overrule Mr. Cardone's  
19 objection. Thank you.

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you. Uh, Ms.  
21 Dunn. So, yes, uh, uh, Commissioner Neal and I, uh,  
22 reviewed the file. Uh, and what we did see is that on the  
23 last full hearing held on this matter on March, 2021, we  
24 did see that, uh, Mr. Camp, uh, appeared, uh, during the  
25 hearing. We see his name, uh, identified as a participant



1 in the hearing. However, uh, we also did review the, uh,  
2 registered representative of victims for this case for  
3 today. And in our review of that list, we did not see, uh,  
4 that Mr. Camp was, uh, registered either as a  
5 representative for Mr. Pahler. Therefore, given, uh, the  
6 fact that, uh, there wasn't any evidence attesting to the  
7 fact that he was, uh, uh, registered to participate as a  
8 representative of uh, Mr. Pahler. So, the decision is, uh,  
9 we're going to proceed -- to exclude him, uh, in  
10 participating as a result of that. So, uh, so, Mr.  
11 Carbone, your objection is going to be sustained. So, Mr.  
12 Camp, uh, I don't know -- uh, basically the fact that we  
13 did not have you registered with the Board for this  
14 particular hearing, uh, leaves us unfortunately, uh, uh,  
15 make a decision to exclude you, uh, from this hearing. So,  
16 uh, we respectfully ask you to exit that room, sir, uh,  
17 it's unfortunate and, uh, we have to follow the rules and,  
18 uh, uh, given, uh, the stated rules that, uh, what we have  
19 to do, sir.

20 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Uh, Commissioner,  
21 this is Linda Dunn. This is completely <inaudible>. It's  
22 <inaudible> and I'm requesting a 10-minute recess so that  
23 we can find somebody else to be with, Mr. Pahler. Can you  
24 please grant us a recess?

25 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** We'll grant you a

1 recess.

2 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Thank you.

3 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** We'll back at --  
4 we'll start at, uh, 9:00 o'clock.

5 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Do I have  
6 something to say?

7 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** We're off the record.

8 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Do I have  
9 something to say?

10 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** We're off--

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**[RECESS]**

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1           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       All right, we are back  
2 on the record.

3           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**    Thank you. Uh,  
4 thank, uh, thank you, Commissioner. The time is 9:01 a.m.  
5 We took a brief break requested by the, uh, District  
6 Attorney's, uh, Representative Ms. Dunn. Uh, before we go  
7 any further, before we go, going back on the record, Mr.  
8 Carbone, you wanted to say something.

9           **ATTORNEY CARBONE:**    I appreciate that. Thank you,  
10 Commissioner Ndudim. I -- I wanted to offer an a perhaps  
11 an olive branch to resolve this little problem this  
12 morning, which is that if the, if Mr. Camp is present  
13 there to offer moral support, emotional support, we have  
14 no objection to that whatsoever. But if Mr. Camp is there  
15 to offer facts into the record, either directly or through  
16 Mr. Pahler about the life crime, because variance and  
17 minimization can be issues at Parole Hearings, to that  
18 extent, I would reasonably object his presence. So, if  
19 there was an agreement on the record that his presence was  
20 for emotional and -- and, uh, support rather than off  
21 proffering facts, either on a notepad or -- or orally on  
22 that basis, I would object and hopefully that -- that  
23 accommodation could still have Mr. Camp present to the  
24 benefit of Mr. Mr. Pahler

25           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**    We'll invite, uh,

1 Ms. Dunn for our response.

2 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Well, we would  
3 like to grab that olive branch because that was all that  
4 Mr. Camp was ever intended to be anyway, Commissioners  
5 just there for Mr. Pahler's support. I cannot be there.  
6 I'm 30 minutes away. So, we would appreciate going forward  
7 on those grounds.

8 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you. So, uh,  
9 given the, uh, uh, it looks like we have a resolution. So,  
10 uh, let me just talk to Mr. Camp. Uh, so, this Panel is  
11 going to allow you to, uh, participate as, uh, an  
12 emotional support for Mr. Pahler. Uh, just to remind you,  
13 sir, that, uh, you are just there to offer emotional  
14 support, okay?

15 **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** Okay.

16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you.

17 **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** A hundred  
18 percent. So, yes, thank you. And, uh, thank you to all the  
19 parties, uh--

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And--

21 **VICTIM'S FATHER'S REPRESENTATIVE CAMP:** For the  
22 <inaudible>.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Again, thank you  
24 Mr. Carbone. And, uh, thank you Ms. Dunn for helping  
25 resolve that issue. So, going forward, uh, Mr. Casey, we

1 have reviewed your entire Central File. We've also  
2 reviewed the Comprehensive Risk Assessment, and sir, we do  
3 encourage you to correct or clarify the record as we go  
4 through this hearing. And also, we did review the  
5 confidential portion of your Central File, and we'll let  
6 you know consistent with Title 15, if we're going to be  
7 using any confidential information in reaching our  
8 decision today. So, sir, you did get a copy of the latest  
9 Comprehensive Risk Assessment prepared by Dr. Armstrong,  
10 right?

11 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, I did.

12 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Good. Uh, let me  
13 just kind of run through with you the chronology of what,  
14 uh, did, uh, or this Panel did see in your record. Uh,  
15 you, your last full appearance before the Board was on  
16 March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, whereby you were -- you did receive a  
17 grant of, uh, parole, right?

18 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, sir.

19 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And then on, uh,  
20 July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Governor did, uh, reverse that grant,  
21 right?

22 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And well, how did  
24 you handle that?

25 **INMATE CASEY:** Um, right in the moment when I got it,

1 I felt sad and disappointed, and I allowed myself to feel  
2 those things and reached out to my support here, in my  
3 family and friends out there. And within a week, being  
4 able to talk to them a few days, really, I refocused my  
5 attention on why we're having these hearings in the first  
6 place. And we wouldn't be here, if I hadn't murdered  
7 Elyse. And the Governor wouldn't have to review a decision  
8 like that, if I hadn't done what I did. So, I refocused on  
9 what he asked me to do and why we're here in the first  
10 place.

11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And I also did see  
12 that you did file a writ, which was granted--

13 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes

14 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** By the, uh,  
15 Superior Court of, uh, San Luis Obispo. And there was a  
16 confusion, frankly, for this Panel's members respected as  
17 to what happened after that. Uh, there was a  
18 clarification, uh, given to us last night about the appeal  
19 of the writ, but let me talk specifically about the issues  
20 raised and identified by -- you did read that, uh,  
21 reversal letter, right?

22 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, I did.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, the Governor  
24 identified some issues. Uh, let's walk through some of  
25 these issues and talk about either what you did or haven't

1 done, uh, since that reversal to address those concerns  
2 raised by the Governor. So, the Governor--

3 **INMATE CASEY:** Okay.

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Talked about your  
5 history of associated with negative peers, that you  
6 indicated that -- that, uh, the history, uh, showed the  
7 propensity by you to be swayed, uh, by violent and  
8 antisocial ideologies, that you also had a fear of being  
9 judged by others. And, uh, you also intertwined with that  
10 it's your desire to try to praise other people. Does that  
11 strike you as what you read in that Governor's letter,  
12 sir?

13 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

14 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay.

15 **INMATE CASEY:** Also, that--

16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So -- go ahead.

17 **INMATE CASEY:** I'm sorry. Oh, I say also that he  
18 wanted me to look into the reasons why on each of those  
19 things.

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Exactly where I'm  
21 going, sir. Okay. So, the question then, have you first of  
22 all looked into the reasons why, and what have you  
23 specifically done either prior to that letter or after  
24 that letter to address those specific concerns that the  
25 Governor had in his letter?

1           **INMATE CASEY:** Okay. So, like what I've done as far  
2 as like what I've discovered about myself?

3           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. Let's go  
4 with the issue with, uh, negative peers, uh--

5           **INMATE CASEY:** Okay.

6           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Associates, I  
7 mean, the association with negative peers. What is it  
8 about you, Mr. Casey, that drew you to negative  
9 association of, with, uh, negative peers?

10          **INMATE CASEY:** So, at the time that I was hanging out  
11 with Jacob and Joe, my co-defendants, I sought Jacob out,  
12 specifically because I believed that he thought the same  
13 way I did. I was attracted to him first because I was  
14 being defiant against my probation officer. And she  
15 specifically told me not to hang out with Jacob, and I had  
16 hung out with him and used drugs with him in the summer  
17 prior to 1995, in 1994. And he was someone that I thought  
18 was a violent person, I thought was someone who didn't  
19 care what other people thought, he was someone who -- I  
20 looked up to those things, even though he was younger--

21          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Hold on -- hold on  
22 -- hold on, before we go there. Let's talk about--

23          **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, sir.

24          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** We are not going  
25 to talk about, uh--



1           **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

2           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Jacob.

3           **INMATE CASEY:** Yeah.

4           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Prior to meeting  
5 him, were you a violent person?

6           **INMATE CASEY:** I was. I wasn't carrying it out as far  
7 as attacking people, but I had the desire to hurt someone  
8 from before I got together with him. That's one of the  
9 things that attracted me, internally with me, because I  
10 thought we shared that.

11           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, what made you  
12 become that person? What is it about your history that  
13 made you become that person?

14           **INMATE CASEY:** So, what happened was when I was  
15 younger and I experienced sexual abuse and physical abuse  
16 and emotional abuse, instead of seeking help and support  
17 from the people that could have supported me, I hung onto  
18 those things. And I don't say that those caused my  
19 behavior later or my desire to hurt people. What caused  
20 that was the way that I thought about those things and the  
21 things I came to believe. So, at first, like my violence  
22 and my callousness started out with thinking that I wanted  
23 to get even with the people who hurt me and other people  
24 didn't care about me. But over time, as I dwelled on those  
25 things and obsessed on what I felt instead of on other

1 people, I came to believe that I could become the person  
2 who was harming someone, and I wouldn't be the person who  
3 was on the receiving end of that stuff, for, I mean, lack  
4 of a better term. So, I came to be the one who wanted to  
5 hurt people instead.

6 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. Okay. So,  
7 you -- you were 17 years of age when you committed this  
8 crime. So--

9 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, sir.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Growing up in your  
11 own home, did you witness, was there a lot of violence in  
12 your home?

13 **INMATE CASEY:** No, not in my home. I experienced all  
14 of those things outside of my home.

15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. So, there  
16 was no violence in your home, uh--

17 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, sir.

18 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Did your parents -  
19 - did you witness any domestic violence that between your  
20 mother and your father?

21 **INMATE CASEY:** Not between my mom and dad, but in the  
22 homes of some of my friends, I did witness that.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. So, when you  
24 say you did not witness or experience any violence growing  
25 up, that you was outside of the home, what are you -- what

1 are you talking about outside of the home?

2 **INMATE CASEY:** So, some of it was in my neighborhood,  
3 with my peers as far as verbal abuse and things being  
4 stolen from me, like being, having my bike stolen multiple  
5 times and things like that. The physical abuse was mostly  
6 between when I was about 10 and probably 13 years old when  
7 I was, my mom worked, went to school, and my dad worked.  
8 So, a lot of the time, I was left in like daycare centers,  
9 like at the YMCA and other places like that. And there  
10 were always older kids. And when I was young, I was pretty  
11 small. So, I got -- I was skinny, I was buck toothed, had  
12 all these things that I guess the kids stood out and I  
13 would get hit, I would get called names, and whenever I  
14 would ask for help from people, I would be told basically,  
15 you're acting like a baby, quit crying. And that added to  
16 it because then I was seen as the person who just told on  
17 them. So, it wasn't out, it wasn't in my home, it was at  
18 those places. And in my neighborhood, I experienced sexual  
19 abuse by an older teenager. And it was partly when I was  
20 going against what my parents wanted me to do. She didn't,  
21 my mom and dad didn't want me around some of my friends  
22 because of what they knew about their homes. And I didn't  
23 understand at that time. But on an occasion where I had  
24 snuck out to try to see my friends, I ended up seeing this  
25 guy who I had met through my friend, my best friend.

1           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Okay.

2           **INMATE CASEY:**    And he--

3           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Stop

4           **INMATE CASEY:**    Invited me in. So, I went through  
5   that.

6           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       So, help me out,  
7   Mr. Casey. So, how--

8           **INMATE CASEY:**    Yeah.

9           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Did those issues  
10   about your bike being stolen, uh, people, uh, calling you  
11   names, how did then that develop into you becoming this  
12   violent?

13          **INMATE CASEY:**    So over years, I came to believe that  
14   everybody thought the same way that -- I basically  
15   believed that those people were hurting me on purpose. And  
16   over years, I hung onto that and found blame and thought,  
17   looked for ways that people were hurting me, and I  
18   generalized it to other people. So over time, I came to  
19   believe that people would always hurt me and I had to look  
20   out for myself. And as I got older, I started acting on  
21   that in ways that were rebellious at first, but they were  
22   defiant against authority because I was trying to find a  
23   place where I could express what I felt and I couldn't  
24   find it. But as I did that, I came to believe that the  
25   people who had hurt me, were stronger than I was.

1           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Okay.

2           **INMATE CASEY:**    So--

3           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       So--

4           **INMATE CASEY:**    I held--

5           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Hang on. How--

6           **INMATE CASEY:**    Onto that.

7           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Does this, hang on

8           a second. How does this also, because those are the issues

9           that the Governor raised, you --

10          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes

11          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       You were trying to

12          associate with people with similar thought process--

13          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes.

14          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       That you have been

15          begun to develop, then--

16          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes.

17          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       It doesn't make

18          sense when you're doing that, you're also trying to place

19          those people?

20          **INMATE CASEY:**    For a while, yes. It was because I

21          believed also that if I did the right things, then people

22          would like me. I didn't -- I had this sense from looking

23          at myself in a way that was dehumanizing. I believed that

24          I wasn't, I had no worth because of the way I was treated.

25          I looked at myself like a victim. It wasn't accurate all

1 the time, but I believed that there was something about me  
2 that was causing people to treat me this way. So, if I  
3 could be different, it would stop. So, if I could be like  
4 the people that I saw not being hurt, then I could protect  
5 myself from that and who I chose to model myself on  
6 instead of someone that was going to school, instead of  
7 someone who was like, I could have avoided it in another  
8 way, I chose kids who were doing antisocial things to  
9 model myself after, and they had--

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Sir--

11 **INMATE CASEY:** No idea internally what I was doing.

12 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Sir, we're going  
13 to have a, you know, just walk with me here. We're going  
14 to have some uh, conversations. So, give -- so the violent  
15 and anti, uh, social ideologies, right?

16 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

17 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Was it your idea  
18 or was it Jacob's idea and Joe's idea?

19 **INMATE CASEY:** Both. I think it's a combination of  
20 the two. Because I wanted to hurt someone, by the time I  
21 was 16 years old, like before I -- I connected back up  
22 with Jacob in about January, but I didn't have real  
23 concrete ideas about how to do it. I was doing it in my  
24 life in ways, like I was stealing from people. I was  
25 starting to be verbally abusive to my parents at home. I

1 would say things to other people that were hurtful. I  
2 would, if someone was hurt that I saw, I wouldn't reach  
3 out to help them. I'd just walk by and sometimes laugh at  
4 them. Like it was -- it was funny to me. But when I  
5 connected with Jacob and we started listening to death  
6 metal music, that music, especially Slayer, was all about  
7 suicide, murder, sacrifice. So, I started learning a more  
8 specific way to express those things and change ideas--

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, hold on. So,  
10 so, prior to you meeting Jacob, you've already--

11 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

12 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Started listening  
13 to all those music?

14 **INMATE CASEY:** Not really. I had heard of them, but I  
15 hadn't really listened to it. I listened to other things  
16 like Metallica, AC/DC, but they're -- they're like rock  
17 and metal, but they don't sing about virgin sacrifice and  
18 murder and things like that. They don't, it's different  
19 tone to that music entirely. And I don't say that it was  
20 the music that caused it. I was attracted to that because  
21 of what I was seeking in my life. That was something that  
22 was attractive to me because it was a way for me to take  
23 out the violence that I wanted to, on somebody.

24 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, let's talk  
25 about that commitment of offense, Mr. Casey. So, prior--

1           **INMATE CASEY:**   Okay.

2           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       To the murder, uh,  
3 did you know, uh, Ms. Pahler--

4           **INMATE CASEY:**   I didn't--

5           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Did you have any  
6 relationship with her?

7           **INMATE CASEY:**   No, I met her that night.

8           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Okay. And you  
9 started talking to Jacob and Joe about the devil worship  
10 and sacrifice prior to murdering her?

11          **INMATE CASEY:**   Yes. I think -- I think Jacob and I.

12          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Mm-hmm.

13          **INMATE CASEY:**   Oh, sorry.

14          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       So, who initiated  
15 the conversation?

16          **INMATE CASEY:**   Jacob, the first time we started  
17 talking about her.

18          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       What was--

19          **INMATE CASEY:**   With was--

20          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Your response to  
21 that conversation?

22          **INMATE CASEY:**   At first, I just listened because it  
23 was new to me. It was also validating to me because I  
24 believed that he saw me as someone, basically that was  
25 worthy to hear this. Because when he talked about it, I



1 looked at him like, kind of like, when he told me about  
2 that, I didn't know. So, it was something like I aspired  
3 to at that time because of the way I thought, because of  
4 what I wanted in my life. So, when I started getting into  
5 the conversations and feeding back into it, I started to  
6 agree with him. But then to add, like, yeah, it would be,  
7 I want to find out what it would be like to murder--

8 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, what--

9 **INMATE CASEY:** Someone.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Is it about you,  
11 sir, that he would feel comfortable talking to you about  
12 that violence and you felt that you, that's what you  
13 wanted to -- to have happened?

14 **INMATE CASEY:** I think because I thought at that time  
15 that I was like able to hide the way I felt and the way I  
16 thought from everybody. But I was a callous person who, I  
17 talked in a way that degraded people. When I expressed  
18 myself, I talked about women and girls as if they were  
19 objects, as if they were someone to use, because I thought  
20 in a way that was dehumanizing to others. Like, I could  
21 just use people for what I wanted. And I'm -- this is my  
22 guess about why he would share those things is he most  
23 likely saw those things in me and thought, this guy isn't  
24 someone who's going to tell on me. This isn't someone  
25 who's going go talk to someone about it.

1           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Okay. So--

2           **INMATE CASEY:**    And <inaudible>--

3           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Hang on a second,  
4    you said you talked to him about women and girls. So, how  
5    did you come about have such a negative opinion about  
6    women and girls that you could talk to him freely about  
7    that?

8           **INMATE CASEY:**    First when I was like, are you going  
9    all the way back? Or just in that time period--

10          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Just give us an  
11    idea of how you developed that negative perception about  
12    women--

13          **INMATE CASEY:**    Okay

14          **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       And girls that  
15    you, made you free to talk about that to, uh, what Jacob?

16          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes. So, I had a view of what it meant  
17    to be masculine and what it meant to be male, that to me,  
18    if I -- if I treated a girl or a woman or talked to about  
19    her in a way that degraded her, it made me feel like I was  
20    more masculine. And I developed that with the peers that I  
21    hung out with before Jacob. And actually, in the crowd of  
22    people when I was getting high, he was one of the people  
23    there too. But it was like talking about girls, like they  
24    were sexual conquests, was something that I talked about  
25    with my peers. Just talking about them, like, it was like

1 having sex with them was the ultimate goal to have myself  
2 be a man. And it -- my feeling toward women tied all the  
3 way back to, with my mom when I was younger and holding  
4 onto things that she tried to do to protect me, but me  
5 interpreting as if she were doing something to hurt me.

6 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay.

7 **INMATE CASEY:** So, it's, it was very--

8 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. So, you  
9 spoke to the investigator. You told the investigator this  
10 whole idea was Mr. His name is Travis Williams's idea,  
11 original idea?

12 **INMATE CASEY:** I think that the way I understood it  
13 back then, if I did, I -- I misspoke myself because the  
14 way I understand it--

15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** I -- I read the  
16 probation officer's report and I read your conversation  
17 with investigator and it appeared to me that you, your  
18 response was this whole idea was Mr. Williams' idea. And  
19 the reason why I talked, want to talk to you about that,  
20 because apparently, he backed off, right?

21 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, he did.

22 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. If he backed  
23 off, why didn't you back off -- back off?

24 **INMATE CASEY:** Because when -- when Jacob told me  
25 about Travis backing up, I thought he's a coward and I'm

1 not going to be a coward. I thought I'm going to be the  
2 person who replaces Travis. I'm going to be the one who  
3 takes his spot and does what he couldn't do. Because I  
4 looked at myself, I looked at others the same way I looked  
5 at myself. If I hesitated or if I backed out of something  
6 that I said I was going to do, especially something like  
7 that, it meant that I was a coward. So, we spent a couple  
8 months talking about Travis, as if he were a coward.

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, the question  
10 then becomes, so you were that callous and so invested in  
11 this whole enterprise that seeing Travis back up just made  
12 you want to do it some more?

13 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

14 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How many times did  
15 you stab -- how many times did you stab, uh, uh, Ms.  
16 Pahler?

17 **INMATE CASEY:** I stabbed her four times.

18 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** What did you use  
19 in stabbing her?

20 **INMATE CASEY:** Excuse me. Could you repeat that  
21 please?

22 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** What did you use -  
23 - what did you use to stab her? A knife?

24 **INMATE CASEY:** A knife. Yes.

25 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How did you get

1 that knife?

2 **INMATE CASEY:** Jacob handed it to me after he had  
3 stabbed her.

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Mm-hmm. Were she  
5 sexually assaulted during that, uh, criminal, uh, conduct?

6 **INMATE CASEY:** No, she was not. Jacob began to pull  
7 down her pants after we had stabbed her. And I had stomped  
8 on her. I told him to stop and we, he pulled her pants  
9 back up and we left without anybody having assaulted her.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How did that, was  
11 that you were feeling empathetic towards her at that time?

12 **INMATE CASEY:** No. No, not at all. I was thinking  
13 about myself and I was thinking about getting away from  
14 there before we got caught. I was trying to get away with  
15 what I had just done. I didn't have any empathy for her at  
16 all. <inaudible>--

17 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Because I'm trying  
18 to understand if you -- if you had the courage to tell him  
19 to stop, why didn't you do it prior to stabbing her?

20 **INMATE CASEY:** That's something that I've asked  
21 myself for the entire time I've been in prison. I was--

22 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** That's what we  
23 want to know, sir. What is it about you that you can sum  
24 up the courage to tell him to stop with the sexual  
25 assault, but apparently you didn't have that courage to

1 not tell, have, tell all your co-defendants to stop this  
2 murder.

3 **INMATE CASEY:** Yeah, you're right. I was cowardly and  
4 I was callous and I wanted to hurt her. I wish that I had  
5 had that courage at that time, but the way I looked at it  
6 was the exact, exactly backward, it was twisted. I looked  
7 at chickening out as being cowardly, instead of stepping  
8 up and telling them, let's not do this. That would've been  
9 the courageous thing, instead of what I thought was  
10 courageous and powerful was to murder her. But when I told  
11 him to stop, it wasn't out of courage. It wasn't out of  
12 any kind of empathy for her. It was out of self-  
13 preservation and wanting to get away from there before we  
14 got caught.

15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. So, Mr.  
16 Casey, after I read through all of this and your  
17 participation in it, I get the feeling from reading the  
18 probation officer's report, that this was all Jacob's and  
19 Joe's idea that you came in and, you know, were swayed by  
20 their persuasive powers, and you just went along, you  
21 know, because you were starting to develop violent ideas  
22 and, uh, met people that, uh, agreed with those ideas. So,  
23 what was your role in this whole murder?

24 **INMATE CASEY:** So, I would say that I wasn't just a  
25 passive passenger, like riding along. I did first start

1 thinking about these things with Joe and Jacob, but it  
2 wasn't like they were pulling me along and making me do  
3 it. I was, I embraced those things and I discussed  
4 murdering her. I discussed the things that are also in the  
5 record. I discussed with him, or discussed with them  
6 sexually abusing her, even like cutting off parts of her  
7 and saving them for later. So, it wasn't like they were  
8 solely influencing me. I was the oldest one there. So  
9 truthfully, this is something that Ms. Dunn has talked  
10 about before. I could have stopped it and she's right, I  
11 was the one who, the way he responded when I said, "No,  
12 let's get out of here," tells me from now looking back, if  
13 I'd have done that before the crime, I could have had an  
14 influence there. And instead, me participating, encouraged  
15 it and I fed into it. I didn't just passively coast along  
16 and allow them to tell me what I was going to do. I  
17 discussed it with them. Yes.

18 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How old -- how old  
19 were Jacob and Joe?

20 **INMATE CASEY:** Jacob was 16 and Joe was 15.

21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And you were 17?

22 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, I was the oldest one.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Did they look up  
24 to you?

25 **INMATE CASEY:** I think so. Well, the reason I say

1 that is because with Travis, I think Travis was Jacob's  
2 age, I'm not sure because I didn't know him very well. The  
3 reason I say is because with Travis, none of them followed  
4 through on what they were going to do. With me there, Joe  
5 and Jacob both followed through. So, my influence, I think  
6 my presence there changed the outcome because they didn't  
7 follow through on it when Travis was there, but they felt  
8 followed through on what they talked about when I was  
9 there. So, I think I did have a big influence on that.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Yeah, that would--

11 **INMATE CASEY:** I have the option--

12 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Yeah, that would  
13 lead anybody, if you actually, if you had that much  
14 influence, that would lead anybody to think that this  
15 whole enterprise was frankly your enterprise, you know,  
16 instead of you following along that, you know, you -- you  
17 -- you are basically the one ahead of it. I mean, correct--  
18 -

19 **INMATE CASEY:** I could see--

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Me, if I'm wrong.

21 **INMATE CASEY:** No, I could see that because the way  
22 that they looked at me, I have, I've never got to talk to  
23 them about that. So, I've never got to ask them like, what  
24 was your feeling and your view toward me. But if my view  
25 toward them was that I felt validated and I felt accepted.



1 Actually, I felt unique and like we were superior to  
2 others because others weren't down in the vocabulary we  
3 used back then, for what we talked about, I wonder if they  
4 felt the same way toward me and I haven't been able to ask  
5 them. But my guess would be that I had just as much  
6 influence on them, if not more than they had on me because  
7 I was older. Even though the ideas initially came from  
8 them, that doesn't change my responsibility or my  
9 influence.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, are you, were  
11 you under the influence of any substances that day?

12 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, I was smoking marijuana.

13 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** What role did that  
14 use as uh -- what role did it play in you committing this  
15 crime, sir?

16 **INMATE CASEY:** Well, it didn't cause it, what caused  
17 it was my thinking, my beliefs, what I wanted at that  
18 time. What it did was it changed the way I made decisions.  
19 I was more likely to act on what I felt and I was less  
20 likely to think about consequences of what I was doing  
21 when I was using marijuana. And it numbed my emotions,  
22 even though I was fueling what I was doing purposely with  
23 the, with feelings of anger and rage, I used that as a way  
24 to justify and rationalize, like the way the Governor put  
25 it, was something that I learned from. I was rationalizing

1 my conduct by using things like that. It wasn't a cause,  
2 but marijuana also, because Elyse was smoking it with us,  
3 it was a way of manipulating her. I wasn't aware--

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So--

5 **INMATE CASEY:** At that time, but--

6 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, were you angry  
7 with the victim, uh, Ms. Pahler?

8 **INMATE CASEY:** Not directly, but I was taking it--

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** What do you mean  
10 not directly?

11 **INMATE CASEY:** She had never done anything to me to  
12 warrant me being angry, angry at her. She had never hurt  
13 me in any way. She had never done anything. I still  
14 directed the anger that I had toward her because it made  
15 me feel powerful and it made me feel dominant over her.  
16 And I saw things in her that I hated about myself. She was  
17 friendly, she was nice. Those were things that I thought  
18 were weak when I was younger, because I thought they had  
19 led me to be hurt. So, the thing that I--

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** This is--

21 **INMATE CASEY:** Hated about myself--

22 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** This is -- this is  
23 somebody you met, you only met once, right?

24 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

25 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. So, what is

1 it that she had that you felt you didn't have and all of a  
2 sudden, you're directing your anger towards her?

3 **INMATE CASEY:** She was vulnerable. And--

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How did you make  
5 that assessment for somebody you just met one day?

6 **INMATE CASEY:** Just on the basis that she didn't know  
7 what we were planning. It was like I had the upper hand  
8 right from the beginning and we had the upper hand because  
9 we knew what we were planning to do, but she didn't. So,  
10 the manipulation in that was that she was unaware. She was  
11 completely innocent. But the vulnerability in her in that  
12 sense is something that I absolutely hated. I have this,  
13 it was something I identified in this last couple of years  
14 after the Governor's action, that I had a deep hatred for  
15 others, for God, that I was willing to take out on her,  
16 even though she had nothing to do with what that came  
17 from.

18 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, you had a deep  
19 hatred for others and for God. So, what would--

20 **INMATE CASEY:** Yeah.

21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Have led you to  
22 that level of hatred for some - let's, we'll talk about  
23 God. What is it about God that you hated?

24 **INMATE CASEY:** That most of my life, and this is  
25 going back to like with the anger and with the ideas about

1 callousness that I'd hold onto for years, I believed that  
2 he was able to help me at any time he wanted, but he  
3 didn't. So, every single time I experienced something that  
4 I saw as hurt, I started to blame him because I believed  
5 he could help me at any point. And over years, by the time  
6 of the crime, I had decided to go a different way because  
7 I concluded that no matter what I did, he was never going  
8 to help me <inaudible> against him in any way I could. So,  
9 any value I identified as coming from anything righteous  
10 or <inaudible>--

11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** <Inaudible>

12 violence, if the victim wasn't a female?

13 **INMATE CASEY:** No.

14 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, what did she  
15 represent to you that you collect that -- that level of  
16 violence towards her? What is it about a female that will  
17 make you do that?

18 **INMATE CASEY:** In the moment, I think that she -- she  
19 represented the most vulnerable person that I could  
20 attack--

21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Not person--

22 **INMATE CASEY:** So--

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** We'll focused on  
24 the agenda now. Okay. What--

25 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

1           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Is it about your  
2 level of hatred or anger, because I just asked you a  
3 question. If your--

4           **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes.

5           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Victim was a male,  
6 were you like exactly the same level of violence you just  
7 told us no, what is it about her being a female that you  
8 felt comfortable, exactly that level of rage and anger?

9           **INMATE CASEY:**    I thought that females were weak and  
10 weakness was something that I wanted to attack. From  
11 earlier in my life, I also believed that a lot of the  
12 anger and the justifications, the rationalizations for  
13 what I was doing were because girls had hurt me or women  
14 had hurt me. And I blamed all of them for what I felt,  
15 even though it wasn't their fault. When I felt less than,  
16 when I felt like I couldn't be masculine because I  
17 couldn't achieve sexually with them, when I blamed my mom  
18 for things that I viewed as her, but that she didn't, it  
19 built for years until I thought that girls are, and  
20 females are weak. And weakness was something that I hated.  
21 So, I was willing--

22           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       I want to discuss  
23 on that, Mr. Casey, what is in your history, talk to us  
24 about your experience, either in a relationship that you  
25 may have had leading up to the commitment offense that

1 built up to the level that you have this rage against  
2 females that will allow you to do that. Talk to us about  
3 one or two examples either with you, because when I look  
4 at, I was reading your childhood development, your--

5 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

6 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You didn't have  
7 any negative encounter with your mother, correct me if I'm  
8 wrong. I didn't see any relationship in, again, just going  
9 by what I've read, in your development, in your  
10 relationship with any female that, uh, would then lead up  
11 to, you know, uh, this level of anger and hatred towards a  
12 female. So, talk to us a little bit about that.

13 **INMATE CASEY:** Okay. So, the way that it developed  
14 was that at the times when I was hurt, like in my  
15 neighborhood with the verbal abuse, the theft, with the  
16 sexual abuse in the -- I believed that my, it's the same  
17 as with God, later, I believed that my mom should have  
18 been able to protect me. And it wasn't rational because I  
19 didn't even tell her about most of those things. But the  
20 hurt I felt, I thought she should have been able to  
21 protect me from those. And later, when I was in the  
22 daycares where I was physically abused, most of the time,  
23 the caregiver there was a woman and I thought the same  
24 thing. I wanted them to protect me. And I thought they  
25 could, but instead they didn't. And that was where it

1 started. There was never relationships where, or any abuse  
2 outside of those where girls treated me bad or women  
3 treated me badly, but I hung onto those. And later as I  
4 started objectifying girls and talking about them as if  
5 they were sexual conquests, I wasn't successful in being  
6 sexually promiscuous. So, I blamed girls for that. And as  
7 I, as my anger and my hatred grew, it got directed toward  
8 them because they were an easy target for me, because they  
9 were weaker than me.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** One minute. So,  
11 let's talk about that attempted sexual assault, was that a  
12 female that tried to, uh, uh, sexual assault you?

13 **INMATE CASEY:** No, it was a male--

14 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay.

15 **INMATE CASEY:** A teenage boy.

16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. And then I  
17 see here that you told the, uh, clinician that you were  
18 bullied by other children to--

19 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** To your "bulk  
21 teethed," right?

22 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Were these all  
24 females that were bullying you?

25 **INMATE CASEY:** Some of them, but mostly they were

1 males. Some of the other kids in the daycares were  
2 females, most of them were males.

3 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. So, the--

4 **INMATE CASEY:** <Inaudible>--

5 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Question then  
6 becomes, Mr. Casey, so, if all of these negative  
7 experiences, physical abuse, physical abuse, frankly,  
8 verbal abuse that you were experiencing were more on the  
9 male side, right?

10 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Why, why weren't  
12 you exhibiting your violence towards a male victim?

13 **INMATE CASEY:** Because I believed that they were  
14 stronger. I believed that they would've been able to  
15 protect their self. And the anger I had toward the people  
16 who didn't protect me from hurt also framed the way I  
17 thought about it, because those were mostly women. But I  
18 didn't attack a male, partly because I viewed males as  
19 strong. I viewed females as weak. So, attacking a female  
20 allowed me to attack someone weaker than me.

21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Given that belief  
22 of yours, you've been in prison, right, surrounded by  
23 males, and frankly, your institutional behavior has been  
24 devoid of any, uh, misconduct. Someone -- someone can  
25 surmise because you are around males, right, that's why



1 you have an exhibited any of those violence. So, how do  
2 you assure this Panel that given what you've told us this  
3 morning, that part of the reason is because, uh, you have  
4 developed or you did develop the violence was what you  
5 perceive to be lesser, uh, people who are weaker. Um--

6 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

7 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How -- how do you  
8 assure this Panel that you have addressed, specifically  
9 that issue with female, that you had your history of, from  
10 what you're telling us, you viewed as being weaker?

11 **INMATE CASEY:** Um, can you ask that last part of the  
12 question again? Your video froze up a little bit--

13 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay.

14 **INMATE CASEY:** While you were talking.

15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay.

16 **INMATE CASEY:** I'm sorry.

17 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, the question  
18 Mr. Mr. Casey is this, you -- you described your history  
19 has been affecting people that you feel as weaker, right?

20 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And in your view,  
22 males are able to defend themselves from your violence,  
23 right?

24 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

25 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And that's why you

1 tend to direct your violence towards women who you view as  
2 being weaker, right?

3 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And then you've  
5 been in prison since your incarceration, and frankly, your  
6 record reflects the fact that you haven't gotten involved  
7 in any violent behavior. Would that be as a result of you  
8 being surrounded by males that you view as being stronger?

9 **INMATE CASEY:** Maybe at the very beginning of my  
10 term, but as time's gone on, I've learned to identify the  
11 defects that in my character that I had that led me to  
12 want to be violent in the first place. And I'll say that  
13 if I'd have found males when I wanted to be extremely  
14 violent in that way, I think I could have attacked them.  
15 It wouldn't have been like you asked before, it wouldn't  
16 have been the same level of violence as against her. So, I  
17 don't think male people would've been any safer than  
18 females, if I thought I were more powerful than them. So,  
19 I've been able to change those defects in my character and  
20 learn where they are so that I can replace them with  
21 things like instead of being callous, being sensitive to  
22 people, instead of lacking empathy, having empathy,  
23 instead of being violent, I'm committed to non-violence.  
24 Instead of being selfish, I try to be unselfish and giving  
25 to people. So, being able to work through some of the, the

1 programs and the processes with people that I have, I've  
2 been able to see the things in my character that fueled my  
3 violence so that whoever it is, I look at people as  
4 people, whether they're male or female, instead of looking  
5 at them as an object or someone weak or strong, they may  
6 be strong in that they have character, in that they can  
7 express themselves. My view of strength is different, that  
8 people have worth for being people. So, whether it's a  
9 male or a female, I look at people as human, as deserving  
10 of dignity and respect and honor and protection, safety. I  
11 didn't have those views back then. I -- I looked at people  
12 as someone to hurt. Women were, and Elyse was who I took  
13 that out on because she was weaker. But if I was left to  
14 my devices then I probably would've attacked more people.

15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, sir, we've,  
16 uh, gone through those issues with defect of character  
17 that we've touched on those, uh, during this, uh,  
18 discussion. Uh--

19 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You've had a  
21 significant impact on your victim, right?

22 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes.

23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** And you've taken  
24 victim impact program, right?

25 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, sir.

1           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Okay. So, let's  
2 talk about impact you've had on your victim. What impact  
3 do you believe you've had on your victim, sir?

4           **INMATE CASEY:** I think that Elyse suffered beyond  
5 imagining when I did, when I murdered her. And she doesn't  
6 get to have her life because of me. She doesn't get to hug  
7 her family. She doesn't get to spend time with her dad and  
8 her mom, with her sisters or her brother. She doesn't get  
9 to be at holidays with them. She doesn't get, she never  
10 got to graduate from high school. She didn't -- at the  
11 last hearing, it was the first time I ever could see what  
12 was on the screen, like what everybody had to show. And  
13 her dad got a picture of her in her soccer uniform. And I  
14 had never considered the things that she loved in her life  
15 when I was doing what I was doing on the street. I didn't  
16 consider how -- what -- what she wanted to be, what she  
17 wanted, what she aspired to. And she doesn't get to have  
18 any of that because of me and her dad even said at the  
19 last hearing something that stuck with me was that he  
20 didn't even want to be involved in these hearings anymore  
21 after this, when they postponed back in January. So, even  
22 that, that short interaction had a, had an effect. And it  
23 just highlighted the ongoing effect of this. He's been to  
24 every one of my hearings and heard about the horrible  
25 things I've done and is, from what I understand, is trying

1 to understand this. And he wouldn't have to do any of  
2 this, if it weren't for me. They wouldn't have had to wait  
3 eight months to find out what happened to her, if it  
4 weren't for me. They would, they would still have her. So,  
5 really the only thing to me that seems like it would be  
6 fair is if she could be back with them. And I know I can  
7 never do that. And I don't think the harm and the impact  
8 from this will ever end. I think it's something that I  
9 truly hope that there can be healing. I truly hope that  
10 there can be peace. And I pray for that. I also think that  
11 there's nothing I can ever do to change what I've done,  
12 and it will always impact somebody.

13 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. So, sir, I  
14 have no further questions. Uh, I'm going to have you, uh,  
15 direct your attention to, uh, Commissioner Neal.  
16 Commissioner.

17 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. Thank you,  
18 Commissioner. Okay. I'm just going to talk a little bit  
19 more about what you've been doing institutionally. Um, so,  
20 you have an AA degree, correct?

21 **INMATE CASEY:** I do. Uh, excuse me, Commissioner, if  
22 I may, your video froze.

23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay.

24 **INMATE CASEY:** I can hear you though.

25 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. You can hear me

1 but not see me. Um, I'd probably have to exit and come  
2 back in. I'm afraid to do that. So, Commissioner, maybe we  
3 should take a quick break.

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. Why don't we  
5 do that? Uh, we can just get off the record.

6 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. We're off the  
7 record.

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**[RECESS]**

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1           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Okay. We're back on the  
2 record.

3           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:**       Uh, we are back on  
4 the record. Time is 9:56. Commissioner, you can proceed.

5           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Okay. Um, looking at  
6 your -- looking at your parole plan, I understand that you  
7 want to continue on with your education and maybe  
8 ultimately get a master's degree, um, in, uh, social work.  
9 Is that--

10          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes, ma'am.

11          **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Is that the goal?

12          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yes, ma'am.

13          **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       And, uh, you wrote  
14 about wanting to go, after transitional housing, um, go to  
15 a place called the John Irwin house, a sober living home,  
16 um, in Fullerton and go to school at -- at -- at, um,  
17 Fullerton through Project Rebound.

18          **INMATE CASEY:**    Yeah.

19          **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Is that a pretty solid  
20 plan, do you think?

21          **INMATE CASEY:**    I think so. That's like one, I guess I  
22 would say one option. That's the -- the one that I hope to  
23 be able to pursue. So transitional housing, I'll have at  
24 least six months and I should be able to get through some  
25 of the courses I'm taking now. If I'm accepted into

1 Fullerton, I'm not sure if that would be directly after  
2 transitional housing if I had -- because if I finish on  
3 the course I'm on, I'll finish through like online with my  
4 bachelor's and then apply at Fullerton for my master's.

5 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Mm-hmm.

6 **INMATE CASEY:** So, if I'm accepted there, depending  
7 on the timeline for that. But what one of my friends has  
8 told me about that house is, it's not only like a sober  
9 living, but because it's tied to Project Rebound and  
10 school, it's pretty safe with regard to drugs and criminal  
11 activity because if you bring any of that into that house,  
12 you are, from what I understand, you're not only kicked  
13 out of the house, you're expelled from school because it's  
14 an agreement that people won't do that. So, from what I  
15 understand, it will support my sobriety and my recovery as  
16 well as my education. I'll be around people who are on the  
17 same path as me.

18 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay.

19 **INMATE CASEY:** So, hopefully that's achievable.

20 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** And, uh, just going  
21 through, um, your, um, you know, your assignments and your  
22 vocational work, you have done a lot of work in the OMCP,  
23 um, correctional counselor work and, um, you've had a  
24 number of laudatory chronos for your work in that area.  
25 You've, um, undergone, um, a lot of training and, um, over



1 255 hours of supervised practicum training. And um-- is  
2 that right? Where are you with the OMCP?

3 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes. So, I was just certified, fully  
4 certified in March of this year. So, we did the practicum  
5 that made us eligible to take the test and I passed the  
6 national test, which was accepted, it's accepted in  
7 California. Then we had to do 2080 hours of internship.  
8 So, I just completed those hours in March and was fully  
9 certified. So, the next step would be to do continuing  
10 education, which should be coming up probably in the next  
11 few months or so. But we have to do, I believe 40 hours  
12 every two years to maintain the certification.

13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. And what is your  
14 current, um, day-to-day work in that area, uh, if you're  
15 counseling anybody?

16 **INMATE CASEY:** So right now, like the groups that I  
17 am in, the ISUDT, it's the, uh, Integrated Substance Use  
18 Disorder Treatment program. It runs on Monday, Wednesday,  
19 and Friday. I'm assigned from 7:30 to 3:30. So, there's  
20 three, what are called blocks. They're in two-hour blocks.  
21 So, each group is two hours. In that period, I currently  
22 work in two, I've worked in up to three, but it's on our  
23 program director, um, Mr. Yoland to assign us two groups.  
24 He's the Amity program director. So, currently I'm  
25 assigned to one on first block, which is 7:45 to 9:45. And

1 then third block, which is both 45 to 2:45 or -- Yeah. So,  
2 those groups, when I'm in there, I am the co, I'm not the  
3 lead in there. There's Amity staff who is the, what they  
4 call demonstrator, like the counselor in the group. But I  
5 have the skills that I've been trained with, but I am the  
6 co, I'm there to support them. So, in the room, they're  
7 the one with the authority. But the groups I'm in are  
8 currently facilitating, we're going through a -- a  
9 curriculum called Living in Balance that goes through like  
10 the substance use disorder aspect of it, all the way  
11 through things like co-occurring disorders with mental  
12 health, what addiction is, relapse prevention, risk  
13 awareness and management, things like that. So--

14 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay, so--

15 **INMATE CASEY:** You get to do that, I think it's  
16 <inaudible>.

17 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** So, you do work one-on-  
18 one with people that are, um, going through those  
19 programs?

20 **INMATE CASEY:** No, not at this point. So, here all of  
21 our interaction is in group.

22 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay.

23 **INMATE CASEY:** We don't do any one-on-ones. The  
24 counselors used to, but we, ours is all group work.

25 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** All right.

1           **INMATE CASEY:** Groups of up to 12 guys.

2           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Okay. Well, you've  
3 received a lot of laudatory chronos for your work there.  
4 You also received laudatory chronos from the past when you  
5 were a clerk and um, also for your vocational training, a  
6 number of laudatory chronos for your work, uh, including  
7 in PIA optical and in, um, when you were in the  
8 maintenance and repair, uh, assignment--

9           **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

10          **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Where you did get a lot  
11 of certificates as well. And, um, when you were in the  
12 shoe factory, you also got, um, great reviews, uh, that  
13 you have, um, an attention to detail, great analytical  
14 capabilities. And even back then in 2015, 16, a very, very  
15 committed to rehabilitation, polite, considerate. And, um,  
16 you had a, uh, a certificate in electronics technician  
17 work and, um -- so, you've always been able to, it seems  
18 to me that you've always been able to do well in your work  
19 in vocational assignments, um, getting along with others,  
20 it -- it sort of makes me wonder how you, you know, how  
21 you can get along with people. And when you started to  
22 lose that resentment toward, you know, toward the world in  
23 a sense, how did that work for you through the vocational,  
24 educational and work assignments?

25          **INMATE CASEY:** Well, the general, I guess, like view

1 toward people started changing when I became a Christian.  
2 So, I wasn't aware of these underlying issues, like what  
3 we had talked about, the defects until much later on. But  
4 wanting to commit my life to God, I started learning about  
5 values like love, faithfulness, kindness, being humble,  
6 being meek, and treating people with respect. So, I wanted  
7 to do those. By the time I got in that job, like those  
8 jobs in, I really started recovery. I went to a few groups  
9 in like 2011, 2012, but I really started my recovery, like  
10 listening in group and paying attention probably 2014 or  
11 15. And it didn't really go to a deeper level until after  
12 my first hearing on specifically, like understanding  
13 myself, but being relate, being able to relate to other  
14 people, I decided I didn't want to hurt anybody again soon  
15 after I came in here. I just didn't start learning why I  
16 was doing it till later. But getting along with people at  
17 work, I tried to be respectful and tried to be kind to  
18 people and tried to, especially respect the people that  
19 were in authority over me instead of rebelling and being  
20 defiant against them. So, there's a chapter in Romans that  
21 says that like, the authorities are there because they're  
22 placed there by God. It's not by chance that people are in  
23 my life who can guide me. And a lot of my supervisors  
24 helped me to gain those skills. So, I have a lot of  
25 gratitude for what they were able to help me with. But

1 being able to be kind to people and gentle and things like  
2 that, I think are really important to me today.

3 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay.

4 **INMATE CASEY:** The <inaudible> opposite of who I was.

5 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** All right. And along  
6 the way, you have gotten some employability skills and  
7 possibly a career to boot going forward. Um, let's talk  
8 more about your self-help and rehabilitation. Uh, you did  
9 start back around 2011 with victim impact and DV and  
10 child--

11 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

12 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Abuse, and then you did  
13 a nurturing parenting program way back when. And it looks  
14 like you started lifer groups and CGA and AA back in 2013  
15 and, uh, you've just continued to move forward through  
16 there with consistent work in, um, substance abuse. How  
17 long have you been in -- in substance abuse recovery?

18 **INMATE CASEY:** In recovery? I would say since 2013,  
19 14, where I was actively trying to find out about myself  
20 and why I was using. As far as abstinence, since about a  
21 month before my arrest. I haven't used any drugs since  
22 February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1996. But I look at recovery as different  
23 than abstinence today, like actively working to maintain  
24 sobriety, which is different than abstinence, is how I  
25 look at recovery. So, that's more recent than my

1 abstinence.

2 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. Yet it's still  
3 for a very long time. So, what are your -- what are your  
4 primary coping skills, um, for maintaining your recovery  
5 in substances and alcohol?

6 **INMATE CASEY:** The main ones, they carried over for a  
7 lot of my plans, but I'd say my top 10 are being aware of  
8 my emotions and being able to regulate and express them  
9 appropriately. And being able to talk about them, being  
10 able to regulate and be aware of stress and manage it, to  
11 be able to challenge negative thinking and be able to  
12 recognize it for what it is. Um, being able to use, it's -  
13 - it's a tool I use called decision point management. Like  
14 anytime I have to make a decision, there's multiple areas  
15 where I can look at options. I don't have to go to the  
16 very first one that seems like it's the -- the one I want  
17 to do in the moment. I can take a step back and look at  
18 options. I can look at how it might impact someone. Then  
19 using self-control skills, like taking timeouts, being  
20 able to use deep breathing, things like that. And then  
21 using mindfulness, which I love, I use a version that's  
22 from a dialectical behavioral therapy. It's really cool.  
23 The lady that developed it, she describes it in a way  
24 that's really awesome, but I can go more into that, if  
25 you'd like. But also nurturing my relationship with Jesus

1 and my -- my faith is important to me. Being able to  
2 communicate in a healthy way, in a way that's not like  
3 power over somebody, but power with, where it's like an  
4 equal communication and dynamic there. Being able to reach  
5 out for support and seek help from my peers and be able to  
6 utilize like the programs that are available, be able to  
7 reach out and know when I need to ask for help.

8 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. Um--

9 **INMATE CASEY:** There's quite a few.

10 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Well, I -- I -- I did  
11 see your relapse prevention plan. You wrote one for  
12 substance abuse, um, violence crime, anger management,  
13 stress management, and, um, you've written, um, about your  
14 support networks and your, uh, relationship plan. Um, so,  
15 I do see that you have a very analytical approach. You  
16 wrote a chart for flexibility and coping with three  
17 sections, planning, action and feedback. Uh, I -- I noted  
18 that--

19 **INMATE CASEY:** Yeah, that's new.

20 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Um, when was the last  
21 time you felt that you needed to use your coping skills,  
22 where some kind of situation was happening where you felt  
23 like you weren't in control or you were -- you were  
24 starting to be triggered for something? Give us an example  
25 of how you work it.

1           **INMATE CASEY:** Well, thankfully, like since I've  
2 learned about like being able to step back from a  
3 situation emotionally and mentally and look at it before I  
4 react, I haven't felt a time where I really felt out of  
5 control with it. But I'd say for, would you like an  
6 example for substance use or a specific area? Or does it  
7 matter?

8           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**        You can use, uh,  
9 substance abuse as we were talking about that. That's  
10 fine. Let's go with that.

11          **INMATE CASEY:** Yeah. Okay. I think the -- the last  
12 time, this was probably around the time of the last  
13 hearing, maybe a little bit before that in 2021 where it's  
14 been something blatant where, like me and a couple of the  
15 guys from our program, we usually go to canteen at, like,  
16 whenever the guy calls our -- our boss and tells us, go  
17 ahead and send a couple guys, and we're waiting in front  
18 of canteen on the grass and we smelled, I smelled  
19 marijuana. And one of the guys also said, Hey, and these  
20 guys are all my in support network, one of them is my  
21 bunkie now, another one, they're all coworkers. So, one of  
22 them goes, "Hey, you smell that?" and it's hard to tell  
23 where it's coming from on the yard within like maybe five  
24 minutes, the officers had found where it was coming from,  
25 they went right there. But in that moment, we're standing



1 in a circle on the grass. So, it's like there's a cue  
2 there from my past. That was one of the situations like  
3 that physical setup, how I was when I was using sometimes.  
4 So, the memories come up with that. So, for me, triggers  
5 are tied to memory and we talked about it right there. So,  
6 the coping skill, we kind of used as a little group like,  
7 "Hey, you guys, what are you thinking about right now?" I  
8 said, "I just remembered when I was doing this before,  
9 like years and years ago," and one of them said, "what are  
10 you feeling?" They go, "I remember the memory, but I  
11 noticed it's one of the times that the craving didn't come  
12 up. There wasn't a desire to want to use. But I realized  
13 the risk in thinking back to the times when I was using,  
14 because if I start to let myself go down that path, it  
15 could turn into nostalgia, which could turn into an  
16 emotional connection." So, being able to recognize that I  
17 cut it off right there, recognize it for what it was like,  
18 no, that's not a positive thought. And we talked about  
19 like, that's crazy. There's people that are still doing  
20 that and some of them are like, those are the people, not  
21 those specific ones, because we didn't know who it was  
22 then. But those are the guys in our program. They still  
23 haven't learned how to refuse that stuff. They still  
24 haven't learned why they do it. They're still in it. But  
25 being able to realize, I don't have to do that. I want

1 something different. We're in this program, my life is  
2 positive now, the consequences of that were way too heavy.  
3 And being able to recognize for what it was, we had a  
4 conversation about the risk instead of like going into  
5 warped stories like we might've done when we were younger.

6 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. So--

7 **INMATE CASEY:** So, change the narrative about it.

8 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** That -- that was  
9 actually a good example of a safe situation to have a  
10 trigger when you had people around you that you could talk  
11 with.

12 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Um, what about if  
14 you're all alone and something's gone wrong and you're  
15 feeling kind of low, um, and you're starting to get  
16 feelings of, I mean, you talked about these feelings from  
17 the past--

18 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

19 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** That, "People are  
20 always going to hurt me." And, um, when was the last time  
21 you had to deal with something like that? And how have you  
22 dealt with that?

23 **INMATE CASEY:** I think with the, like what we had  
24 talked about with the Commissioner at the beginning, with  
25 the Governor's reversal and with the -- the, like the

1 court decision recently, there's a temptation there to  
2 stay like I allowed myself to feel disappointed because I  
3 know better than to stuff my emotions today. Also, there's  
4 a temptation to get stuck there and feel self-pity and  
5 decide I'm going to stay in this and wallow around in it.  
6 And that's not healthy either. So instead, like in that  
7 situation, I had the -- the option of just withdrawing and  
8 staying in my room, but instead, I reached out to people.  
9 We have these tablets in our rooms now from GTL, where it,  
10 we're able to make, send messages and we're able to make  
11 calls from the tablet. So, I was able, even without going  
12 out, I can reach out to my family and friends out there  
13 who are in recovery, even just to send a text, say, "Hey,  
14 I'm feeling kind of lonely right now." Instead of allowing  
15 that loneliness to build to blame or to resentment when in  
16 reality, the reason the Governor took action he did is  
17 because he wants to make sure I'm safe to go home. He  
18 doesn't want -- he wants to make sure that I've examined  
19 this stuff and reexamined it. And honestly, it's something  
20 that's not going to stop. I'm going to continue learning  
21 because I think once that question was asked for me, I  
22 want to know more. I want to understand.

23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay.

24 **INMATE CASEY:** And people will always ask that. So, I  
25 -- I had the option of going in the corner and I didn't.

1           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Okay. So, that's  
2 another one I wanted to talk with you about was, um, your,  
3 what programming has helped you the most deal with, you  
4 know, your distorted thinking about women, um, and -- and  
5 how have you worked on that while you've been in prison? I  
6 know you wrote something about healthy relationships, but  
7 what programming has helped you on that? And what is your  
8 plan to avoid any kind of that negative masculinity  
9 approaching any of your maybe future relationships?

10           **INMATE CASEY:**   Mm-hmm. So, I think there's three that  
11 have helped the most in that area. The first one was when  
12 I was down at Donovan. It was, uh, with the chief  
13 clinician down there, uh, Mr. Luis. It was called the Mask  
14 You Live in. And it was about like the boy code, like  
15 toxic masculinity. It was the first time I'd ever heard  
16 that term. And in that group, I was able to identify for  
17 the first time, that's what it was, I didn't sync for  
18 quite a while like I wasn't able to internalize that or  
19 discuss it for quite a while because it was new and at  
20 first, I was pretty resistant to it. Like I don't, I -- I  
21 don't have that, but I did. And so, toxic masculinity is  
22 about, I learned and decided to pursue ideas that meant  
23 that if I the degraded women, it made me more masculine,  
24 which is the furthest from the truth. Like being  
25 supportive, being kind, being able to communicate those

1 things make someone masculine to me, not power over  
2 someone. So, being able to find out what it was. And then  
3 after I got to this prison, I got to go through a group  
4 called Realize. And one of their core messages in that  
5 group is a relationship dynamic where instead of power  
6 over, it's power with, like power comes from both people  
7 in the relationships. It's not about dominance or one  
8 person being in control of the situation, the other person  
9 just being like the passive. So, it's about fostering  
10 conversations, I was able to have some of those  
11 conversations and write, we have exercises in that -- in  
12 that, uh, group where we write about things that happened  
13 in the past where we've done things that were power and  
14 control, like in real life. And even about things that  
15 happened to us. So, I was able to explore with other  
16 people and hear their stories. And survivors even come in  
17 from outside and share sometimes what they experienced.  
18 So, I was able to see how that toxic masculinity and power  
19 over showed up in my past of really how I was able to  
20 start identifying that I was not just acting out of my  
21 hurt from when I was a kid. That was years before I  
22 started doing this behavior. That was the roots of it. But  
23 I had made a lot of decisions to look at people as less  
24 than myself before I committed the crime that I did. I  
25 start -- I was able to explore some of that in that group.

1 And I -- I made a lot of decisions to be the person who  
2 wanted to be in power, to have control over someone, to  
3 dominate someone. So, it didn't just come out of the hurt,  
4 it came out of the decisions I made, the way I tried to  
5 get away from that, instead of making more positive  
6 choices. And then the third one that has helped is the  
7 Domestic Violence Prevention group. And it explicitly goes  
8 through the power wheel from, I think it's a Duluth  
9 Department of Corrections. I don't remember where exactly,  
10 but they have that power and control wheel that has power  
11 and control in the middle and physical violence and sexual  
12 abuse around the outside, like the Tire. And then the  
13 spokes inside have like verbal abuse, all the different  
14 forms it can take, intimidation, threats, like using  
15 financial abuse, emotional abuse, psychological abuse, all  
16 the stuff inside the wheel. And I was able to identify  
17 that even though I didn't see domestic violence in my home  
18 from my parents toward me, I did, I verbally abused my  
19 parents and emotionally abused my parents by calling them  
20 names, by staying out and not telling them where I was and  
21 letting them worry about me and actually thinking like,  
22 oh, too bad, they -- they should like, that's too bad for  
23 them. Like this callous attitude. So, I was really doing  
24 that with them and I wasn't aware of that before. So, the  
25 way I was treating them too--

1           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Okay.

2           **INMATE CASEY:**   Was not healthy. So, being able to  
3 identify those -- I think you'd also ask like, how do I  
4 use that going forward?

5           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Well, let me--

6           **INMATE CASEY:**   To -- Is that?

7           **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:**       Let me break it down.  
8 Let me -- let me ask another question because they asked a  
9 very long question and a compound question. So, um, have -  
10 -- take -- seen as you've taken these classes, and I've  
11 noted that you've taken Realize a number of times and you  
12 know, you did take the domestic violence, um, and the mask  
13 class. Um, did that improve your relationships with women  
14 that you encounter within the prison, um, you know,  
15 officers, support people, staff, non, all those people  
16 does, has -- have you noticed a change in how you handle  
17 a, uh, relationships toward women?

18           **INMATE CASEY:**   Yeah, I -- before, in most of the  
19 relationships I had, even with friends, I thought that it  
20 was more important for me to be able to talk and more  
21 important for me to get my view across. So, one way that I  
22 show up differently is I try to listen, I try to pay  
23 attention and validate what another person's saying. So,  
24 learning in those groups, one thing that's carried over  
25 into my life is viewing people as like, everyone has a

1 need to be heard. Everyone has a need to be validated.  
2 Everyone has a need to be treated with respect. So, not  
3 treating anybody differently and understanding, like, I --  
4 I don't have to be the one in control. I don't have to be  
5 the one like running it. And actually, if someone decides  
6 to talk to me, they're sharing a part of their self with  
7 me. So, being able to honor that and be there with them, I  
8 think, being able to treat someone kindly, not just as a  
9 mask to try to get someone, but I genuinely treat people  
10 with kindness. So, if I interact with, like, I've had  
11 supervisors who are women, and currently I work with --  
12 with female staff, sometimes in group, they have the  
13 ability to think and reason and feel and everything that I  
14 do, so that it's not like there's not even a real basis  
15 for a power over dynamic. But being able to apply that in  
16 relationships, I think the biggest thing is how I view  
17 people and how I treat people. Like everyone has value and  
18 worth. Everyone has equal standing, has the right to be  
19 treated fairly and kindly.

20 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. And, uh, so, you  
21 do have that relationship plan. Um, you have those relapse  
22 prevention plans, you've listed causative factors,  
23 aggravating factors, coping skills. You've written about  
24 your support network, book reports are there, um,  
25 motivation, um, biological, psychological and



1 environmental, um, deals with--

2 **INMATE CASEY:** Yeah, that's the book that I  
3 <inaudible> you.

4 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** The stress and -- and  
5 stressors. Um, the three-phase process that you use. Um,  
6 so, what do you think will be the top three stressors, um,  
7 if you're out in the community that could make you--

8 **INMATE CASEY:** The top three--

9 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** That could make you  
10 come back to prison, that could lead you down that path?

11 **INMATE CASEY:** Okay. I think the top three are like  
12 my -- my responses to how people react to my crime, like  
13 the responses in the community of my crime, not  
14 specifically those, but how I respond if someone rejects  
15 me because of my crime. I think the next one would be like  
16 the pace of life and how fast things come out there,  
17 because I've never lived as an adult on my own in the  
18 community before. And being able to maintain sobriety in  
19 the middle of all of that is going to be important. And I  
20 include with sobriety, not just not using substances, but  
21 also not committing crimes or violence. And then the third  
22 one I would say is reestablishing my relationships and  
23 establishing new relationships that are healthy and that  
24 honor people and that don't harm anybody. And also, that  
25 support -- support my sobriety because I haven't done that

1 out there yet.

2 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Okay. You do have some  
3 support. Um, you have some support letters from family,  
4 um, your mother and father, your brother, a cousin, um,  
5 and you have some letters from other people in the  
6 community, um, from Project Rebound from Bethany Jones, a  
7 TV producer who's, I guess a friend, um, who wants--

8 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

9 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** To back you up. You  
10 have an Amity Foundation support letter and, um, you've  
11 looked into resources through the five keys, the ARC and  
12 love lifted me. Um, and obviously you've looked into  
13 transitional housing. You also have a lot of letters from  
14 fellow incarcerated people or people that have been  
15 paroled that you knew that are also willing to--

16 **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm.

17 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Basically, support you.  
18 There are opposition letters from the Sheriff's office of  
19 San Luis Obispo County, the DA, um, of San Luis Obispo,  
20 Luis Obispo County. Um, as far as, um, asking you  
21 question. I think I've covered what I -- what I wanted to  
22 ask and I'm going to turn it back over to the  
23 Commissioner.

24 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you. Thank  
25 you, Commissioner. So, Mr. Casey, one of the issues that

1 percolating in your case, sir, is, uh, the issue of  
2 violence and anger. And when we look at your recent  
3 behavior in, uh, while being incarcerated, we -- it  
4 appears that that issue, uh, hasn't, uh, manifested  
5 itself. So, the question I ask Mr. Casey is what is it  
6 that you can point to directly to give this Panel  
7 confidence that, uh, that particular issue is, uh, has  
8 been adequately addressed?

9 **INMATE CASEY:** I think the -- the number one thing  
10 for me is remaining aware of the risk of going back into  
11 that, if I don't continue to manage the thinking that led  
12 me down that path in the first place because all of the  
13 behaviors I was doing, stemmed out of my thinking and my  
14 beliefs and the way I made decisions based on those. So, I  
15 think being my -- the fact that I'm aware today that those  
16 were entirely on me, what I experienced as a kid didn't  
17 determine what I did at that time. Those were my choices.  
18 So, being aware that, I get to control what I'm thinking  
19 and being aware all the time that I cannot view other  
20 people as objects. I've, I always view people as people,  
21 as having value, so I don't want to hurt anyone. So, being  
22 like the specific thoughts and beliefs I've changed, I  
23 think are the biggest thing I can--

24 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** What about the  
25 issue of, frankly, peer association?

1           **INMATE CASEY:** Yeah.

2           **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** How do you plan on  
3 promise to go insights for you that if you do get found  
4 suitable and you find yourself gravitating one more time,  
5 being towards negative peers, how are you going to, what  
6 tools do you believe that you've acquired to mitigate that  
7 particular issue?

8           **INMATE CASEY:** So, the very first thing I need to do  
9 is reach out and talk to someone that can help get me off  
10 of that path. Because like, an example is when I got in  
11 the fight in here in 2001, I gravitated toward negative  
12 peers and I still wanted them to see me as having heart.  
13 So, if, and I had the option of going to staff, I had the  
14 option of going to someone that could have supported me.  
15 Had I taken that option, there could have been a different  
16 outcome. So, I think any indication of me thinking that I  
17 don't need to watch myself, that I don't need to stay  
18 vigilant about what kind of thoughts I have, about who I  
19 allow myself to be around, I need to stay vigilant of that  
20 and keep relationships, like nurture relationships where  
21 people will tell me, if they see that type of behavior  
22 again, something I've learned from one of my coworkers  
23 actually now who is a former life who went home and came  
24 back to work, he said, "what's the difference between a  
25 watch your back friend and a watch your front friend," the

1 watch your back friend is the guy that if I tell him, Hey,  
2 I want to go get in a fight with this guy because I'm  
3 feeling mad, he's going to go, all right, I got your back,  
4 let's go. The watch my front friend's going to say, no,  
5 that's a stupid idea. That's not what you're about. Come  
6 on, let's go walk a lab. I'm not saying that that's a  
7 situation I put myself in, but the people that I have in  
8 my life today, that I can reach out to, if they hear a bad  
9 idea from me, they're going to say, Hey, what the hell?  
10 That's not appropriate. You can't do that--

11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** That--

12 **INMATE CASEY:** <Inaudible>--

13 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** That's actually, I  
14 was going there, Mr. Casey, association and relationship,  
15 there's nothing bad in that. The question, given your  
16 history, sir, is how do you -- how do you discern when  
17 those associations are bad for you and, uh, leading you to  
18 negative thoughts, uh, knowing the negative thoughts, then  
19 you manifest those thoughts. How do you discern that?

20 **INMATE CASEY:** By -- by paying attention to what I'm  
21 thinking. If I start considering even thinking about a  
22 behavior that's against the law, if I even start thinking  
23 about like, the option of doing a behavior that is related  
24 to using drugs or like putting someone down, dehumanizing  
25 someone, it's a huge red flag to me. So, one of the ways I

1 choose peers now, and I guess it's kind of an odd thing  
2 because back then, I chose peers based on my values, but  
3 they were warped values. Today, I choose peers based on my  
4 values that we shared, but it's values of concern for  
5 other people. Values of wanting to be part of society,  
6 wanting to uphold values that are pro-social instead of  
7 anti-social. So, I purposely create relationships where  
8 we, we're on the same path, but also when there's someone  
9 in my life that doesn't want to stay on this path, I may  
10 need to make the decision to distance myself from. And if  
11 it's -- if it's something that's antisocial, I'm going to,  
12 and I can't control them, but I can control myself, I can  
13 say I -- I can't be in this situation anymore.

14 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, sir, what if  
15 there's a concern by an independent party looking at you,  
16 sir, and said all of this stuff, talk to us about  
17 association, you know, understanding about health  
18 relationship and all of those has not been tested, you  
19 know, in a free community, that there's a tendency that,  
20 uh, you, those tools that you have talked to us about  
21 acquiring that, uh, it hasn't been seriously tested. What  
22 assurance would you give or what would you point that  
23 person to, to give them that confidence that, uh, when  
24 tested, that those are going to, you're going to apply  
25 what you've learned?

1           **INMATE CASEY:** Mm-hmm. I think part of it is that  
2 I've already established relationships out there that are  
3 pro-social that I maintain today. And it's something I'll  
4 have to navigate. It's one of the things I've learned from  
5 the domestic violence class that I talked about with the  
6 Deputy Commissioner is that I'm going to have to adjust to  
7 their lives because they've been out there living and I'm  
8 the one coming in, but I already have people that are pro-  
9 social that I can, that I'm going to be in relationships  
10 with. And I am well aware of my own risks and what could  
11 happen, if I allow myself to associate with negative peers  
12 again. Because if I pretend those risks aren't there, like  
13 they couldn't happen, then I'm walking blind. So, like  
14 today in here, I know the areas of the yard where people  
15 hang out that I don't want to be around. There's gangs in  
16 prison, there's people that like when they bring some guys  
17 off the bus, this is one example I guess. There's some  
18 people that don't want to be at this prison and they will  
19 do something violent to someone to leave. There's guys on  
20 the yard that'll wait for them to come just so they can  
21 attack them when they come through because they want to be  
22 whatever it is that they want to do in that behavior. But  
23 I know where that's happening. So, when those guys come, I  
24 get on the other side of the yard. And actually some, if  
25 there's some guys that are unaware, I say, "Hey, you knew

1 they're bringing a bus today, you might not want to be on  
2 this end of the yard, in case something happens." But  
3 being aware there's places and people I can't be around is  
4 going to be a big--

5 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay.

6 **INMATE CASEY:** Determined for me.

7 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** So, sir, we did,  
8 uh, take a look at the confidential portion of your  
9 Central File. Uh, we did not see any recent confidential  
10 memorandum, uh, will give, uh, raise any concerns to this  
11 Panel. We also did take a review of the Comprehensive Risk  
12 Assessment. The Doctor did diagnose you with, uh,  
13 substance use disorder, uh, did not diagnose with any  
14 major mental disorder. And in addition, sir, uh, did not  
15 diagnose you with any, uh, personality disorder and the  
16 Doctor, as we did, uh, talk earlier, you do qualify as a  
17 youth offender. Some of the salient issues that the Doctor  
18 identified in the Comprehensive Risk Assessment, I -- I  
19 believe we've gone over that this morning, which is your  
20 history of violence, your, uh, history of, uh, alcohol and  
21 drug abuse, uh, the history of, uh, negative peer  
22 association. And, uh, overall, the, the Doctor did find  
23 you to be a low risk for future violence. And I would like  
24 to point out that this is the, uh, third Risk Assessment  
25 that have, uh, determined you to be a low-risk



1 <inaudible>. The one on July, 2016 determined you to be a  
2 low risk. The one on, uh, May, 2019 also, it determined  
3 you to be a low risk. So, at this time, we are going to  
4 invite the, uh, Deputy District Attorney from San Luis  
5 Obispo County for any clarifying questions to you, sir.  
6 You've been through this process previously; Ms. Dunn is  
7 going to ask the Panel clarifying questions and then we'll  
8 let you know when to respond. Ms. Dunn.

9 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Thank you,  
10 Commissioner. Uh, can every -- can everybody see and hear  
11 me?

12 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** We can now, we can  
13 see and hear you now.

14 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Okay. Thank you.  
15 All right. Uh, yes, I wanted to ask Mr. Casey, speaking of  
16 the CRA, I saw on -- on page three of the CRA written by  
17 Dr. Armstrong under intimate relationships that Mr. Casey  
18 has denied any kind of aggression, uh, or domestic  
19 violence toward females. And I just would -- would like to  
20 ask him, um, if that's -- if that's true now or was it  
21 true at the time? I just want to clarify that.

22 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You may answer  
23 that question, sir.

24 **INMATE CASEY:** Okay. I would say it's true now. At  
25 the time, I wasn't physically or verbally aggressive in my

1 relationships, like the only intimate relationship I had  
2 was with one girlfriend after the crime had happened. And  
3 I wasn't physically or verbally aggressive toward her. I  
4 spent more time with drugs than I did with her, which is  
5 why she broke up with me. But I wasn't verbally or  
6 physically assaultive toward her in any way.

7 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You may continue.

8 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Thank you,  
9 Commissioner. My next question is when Mr. Casey was being  
10 asked, uh, how many times he stabbed Elyse Pahler, he  
11 said, "I stabbed her four times," but he did not tell the  
12 Panel what else he did. Can he please tell us what else he  
13 did contributing to her murder besides stabbing her four  
14 times?

15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You may answer  
16 that question, sir.

17 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, ma'am. Um, I -- I held her hands  
18 behind her back while she was being strangled and stabbed.  
19 I stabbed her four times. I stomped on the back of her  
20 head and neck, while she was laying on the ground and I  
21 had moved her to the place where we left her and covered  
22 her up with branches and leaves and things before we left  
23 her there.

24 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You may continue.

25 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** I apologize for my

1 dog barking to everyone. Um, I would like to ask Mr.  
2 Casey, when he stomped on Elyse Pahler, was Elyse Pahler  
3 moaning and could he hear what she was saying?

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Answer that  
5 question, sir.

6 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes, I could hear her. And she called  
7 for her mom and for Jesus to help her.

8 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** You may continue.

9 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** This is really my  
10 last area. Um, what exact amends has Mr. Casey made to  
11 Elyse's family?

12 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Great question.  
13 Yeah. You can answer that question.

14 **INMATE CASEY:** So, I know, like we had talked about  
15 at the last hearing, I do continue to pay restitution and  
16 I understand that that is something that happens outside  
17 my control. It's automatic. I do want to pay that for what  
18 that's worth. I've also written apology letters and there  
19 are two new ones, one to Mr. Pahler and one to Mrs. Pahler  
20 that through a program that I did that if they get  
21 approved, they'll be at the Office of Victims and  
22 Survivors Rights and Services. I think they'll be sent  
23 there, but it's up to them whether it goes into a file.  
24 And I think if -- if they are, they'll make them  
25 available. And one way that I don't know how much of an

1 effect it has, but I try to be honest for the reason that  
2 I don't want to do any more harm. And I don't know if that  
3 means anything, but I'll always maintain that.

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Okay. Thank you.  
5 Any more questions?

6 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** No, sir. Thank  
7 you.

8 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you. So,  
9 we're going to go to your Counsel, uh, Mr. Carbone, uh,  
10 you can respond to him directly.

11 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** I appreciate the opportunity.  
12 Strangely, all of the questions that I had, and I was  
13 listening quite attentively, have been asked. And so, in a  
14 -- in a rare display of a lawyer, uh, curtailing their own  
15 words, I have no questions.

16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** That is a rare  
17 display coming from you, sir. Okay. We're going to go to,  
18 uh, closing statement, we'll invite Ms. Dunn for her  
19 closing statement.

20 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY DUNN:** Thank you,  
21 Commissioners. I respectfully request that Mr. Casey be  
22 denied parole. I understand that he's been well-behaved in  
23 prison, but I would like to point out something that's  
24 fairly obvious to everybody who's spent any time with his  
25 case. Unlike 90 percent of the prisoners that we see, Mr.

1 Casey, he's not from a bad background. He's not an  
2 underprivileged kid. He didn't come from a barrio or a  
3 ghetto or a foster home. He came from a nice family. He  
4 came from a religious family. He came from a family, the  
5 worst thing they did was take him to the YMCA for daycare.  
6 Well, then he's pretty lucky because see, Mr. Casey, Mr.  
7 Casey had everything that he needed to be a solid citizen,  
8 yet he decided to engage himself in a crime that everyone  
9 who's been involved with has called horrific, heinous,  
10 aggravated. There aren't enough words to describe the kind  
11 of crime that Mr. Casey was involved with. Now, at the  
12 beginning, he was asked a lot of questions about the other  
13 participants, which is -- which is important. He was the  
14 oldest, and it's in records, Travis Williams was 15, the  
15 same age as Joe Fiorella. Travis Williams was interviewed,  
16 and it was clear that Travis Williams backed out of the  
17 crime, attempt to murder Elyse in February, 1995. The --  
18 then that was several months before they actually went  
19 back with Fiorella, who was 15 and the last month, who was  
20 16 and Mr. Casey, who was 17 and did murder Elyse Pahler  
21 by luring her out of her house. So, since it was basically  
22 alluring, it was a kidnapping. And had these people been  
23 older, they would've been given a sentence of life without  
24 parole. But because they were so young, that could not  
25 happen. But let me turn to what really did happen.

1 Everyone has probably read the facts. Please, feel free to  
2 look at the pictures. I have sent them to the Panel over  
3 and over because you can see a beautiful young girl,  
4 smiley into the camera, 15 years old. And then you can see  
5 how she looked eight months later when her mummified,  
6 decomposed, skeletonized body was found. We all know that  
7 Mr. Casey is the one that came forward, yes, eight months  
8 later. But in that eight-month period, David Pahler and  
9 his wife Lisanne Pahler and his other children did not  
10 know where Elyse was. David Pahler and his wife, no doubt,  
11 couldn't sleep, couldn't eat. They spent all their money  
12 looking and searching in vain to find their daughter. And  
13 it wasn't until Mr. Casey got eaten up, that he came  
14 forward and talked to his clergyman, who thank God, had  
15 the sense to not keep that to himself and called a lawyer.  
16 And that's how her body was found. Otherwise, the  
17 nightmare would've gone on. But let's think Travis  
18 Williams backed down, but Royce Casey didn't back down.  
19 What was it about Royce Casey that made him so agreeable,  
20 basically to committing a horrific crime, to stabbing a,  
21 first of all, the holding her so that Jacob Delashmutt  
22 could strangle her, and then to stab her himself four  
23 times and then as she's dying and she lies on the ground  
24 moaning, he stomps on her. She's calling out to God and  
25 calling to her mother. If the Panel has time, I request

1 that you please look at Mr. Casey's writings that were  
2 found by the police after he was arrested. They are  
3 horrific. They're so vulgar and so profane. I thought  
4 about reading them during my closing, but he used the F  
5 word in every single sentence, and it would, I don't want  
6 that profanity to be in the record. He talked about raping  
7 his girlfriend and a teacher, he called homosexuals  
8 faggots. He called Mexicans wetbacks. He called the black  
9 sheriff the N word. He was a very vulgar, profane and  
10 disturbed person. And that's why when the Governor  
11 reversed, the Governor knew that there was a superficial  
12 response by Mr. Casey to the causative factors. The  
13 Governor recognized the superficial understanding of the,  
14 of the coping skills and causative factors. And once  
15 again, when he filed a habeas corpus, it was reversed. The  
16 court of appeal also recognized the same superficiality.  
17 Why is it that a person from this background, with good  
18 parents who cared about him, could do something, could  
19 want to sacrifice a virgin to Satan? It's a kind of an  
20 evil that most of us cannot even contemplate. That's why  
21 we are here today. So, there's just a few things I would  
22 like to say. It's not like Lawrence if -- if Counsel  
23 argues Lawrence, it's not just an immutable factor because  
24 as you know, if you've read the Lawrence Case, that was a  
25 woman caught up in a love triangle, who in an impulsive

1 horrible crime killed her of romantic rival, that's  
2 nothing like this case. It's more like Shaputis, where  
3 there was a lack of insight. And here's -- here's one of  
4 the problems for Mr. Casey. The youthful offenders  
5 normally would apply strongly, but this crime was planned.  
6 This crime was planned. In fact, there was the attempt  
7 made in February, which Mr. Casey was part of, but then  
8 the plan was carried out in July, 1995. It wasn't just a  
9 youthful, impulsive lark that went horribly wrong. It was  
10 a planned operation to kill a virgin. And if you look at  
11 the things that he wrote, the terrible profane, vulgar,  
12 frightening words that he wrote about sacrificing a virgin  
13 on the altar to Satan, you can't even wrap your head  
14 around why he went into a place so dark, so black and so  
15 evil. And that's what the Court of Appeal recognized when  
16 they reversed because the Governor did have a reason for  
17 his reversal. The Governor did have a reason to find that  
18 Mr. Casey's case is not like the 90 percent of other cases  
19 that I know these Commissioners see every day, we see gang  
20 members shooting their rivals, bad, against the law, but  
21 it's not like this. We see domestic violence, impulsively  
22 killing their lovers, bad, against the law, but nothing  
23 like this. This isn't a class in its own, of its own. Mr.  
24 Casey has to come up with a whole lot more than what he's  
25 come up with to tell us what caused him to be that person



1 that did this hideous thing, that will go down in the  
2 annals of one of the most gruesome, cruel, unnecessary  
3 crimes that's ever happened in California or anywhere  
4 really. And from a man who had every chance, every chance  
5 that money could buy and yet did it anyway. Even Travis  
6 Williams backed out two years younger. I know it's hard.  
7 The Panel has a, I respect the Panel's decision and the  
8 job is hard, but we are asking that you find Mr. Casey  
9 unsuitable. Thank you.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you so much.  
11 We'll go to inmate's Counsel.

12 **ATTORNEY CARBONE:** Thank you for the opportunity.  
13 I'll time myself, Commissioners and -- and in fact, I'll -  
14 - I'll try to be brief. Um, bluntly, this is a very  
15 painful case to -- to participate in. Um, and -- and for  
16 many of the reasons that the DA, um, offered regarding the  
17 one area of agreement, which is the absolute  
18 unquestionable heinousness of the crime. Um, the court in  
19 a -- in a legal manner called it an aggravated crime. Um,  
20 they -- they didn't call it as the DA called it the, the  
21 worst crime in the annal of California history, but it --  
22 it -- it is unmistakably a heinous and gruesome crime. And  
23 so, that has been, is -- is painful for all involved,  
24 especially the victim's family. And even just an  
25 observation of Mr. Pahler's participation, um, it's

1 obvious that the -- the impact here has been unfathomable  
2 to him and the rest of his family. So, I would just offer  
3 my -- my personal sympathies having participated in these  
4 hearings, Mr. Casey's been a client of mine for, I don't  
5 even know, almost a decade or something. So, I have a lot  
6 to say and I could say a lot because it's not a client I  
7 just picked up. Um, I will respectfully push back a bit on  
8 Ms. Dunn's, um, argument in -- in three, um, discrete  
9 areas. Number one is that, um, Mr. Casey and or any other  
10 youth offender doesn't, um, stop enjoying the benefits of  
11 being a youth offender simply because there was planning  
12 involved in the crime. There's no legal authority for  
13 that, and I don't necessarily understand that perfectly.  
14 Uh, but -- but suffice to say there's no legal authority  
15 for that. Number two is that Ms. Dunn has talked about how  
16 the Court of Appeals found that Mr. Casey's insight was  
17 superficial. That's actually not correct, and it's not an  
18 accurate reading of the record. What the Court of Appeals  
19 found was that there was some evidence that the Governor  
20 could rely upon based upon that deferential standard, that  
21 Mr. Casey needed more work in that area. So, that's  
22 mightily different than a finding of fact that he was  
23 superficial. Um, and then last but not least, the Board  
24 knows that very heinous crimes can be committed across all  
25 socioeconomic spectrums. I've represented, you know, tax

1 accountants, who've committed murder, et cetera, et  
2 cetera. The list is long. So, violent crime is not unique  
3 to kids in the ghetto. And to presuppose then that anybody  
4 who is not from the ghetto, and I'm speaking very plainly  
5 now, then has to come up with extra reasons for committing  
6 their crimes, just defies the understanding, uh, that, uh,  
7 uh, and the occurrences of crime in the state of  
8 California and a very lengthy history of those crimes  
9 cutting across socioeconomic spectrums. So, I would  
10 respectfully push back against that issue as well. Now,  
11 let me try to be concise, because in my mind there is a  
12 singular issue that is the subject, that will be the  
13 subject understandably, of your deliberation. And whether  
14 or not, excuse you will decide whether or not he's  
15 suitable for parole. Obviously that issue is, does he have  
16 sufficient insight into the causative factors? We do know  
17 that the county of commitment, which no longer has  
18 controlling legal authority, granted its persuasive  
19 authority, but we know that the county of commitment who  
20 issued a very lengthy decision in this case by Judge Van  
21 Royan, who's the presiding judge in that county. He's been  
22 on the bench since 2016. He's a former District Attorney  
23 in San Luis Obispo County, former DA. He offered a very  
24 well-reasoned decision that, uh, admittedly was overturned  
25 by one judge on the court of appeals decision. So, there's

1 both a -- a -- a denial and a dissent in that court of  
2 appeals decision because it was a two one decision. That  
3 dissent, I would submit points out several things that are  
4 salient for your consideration today. Number one, it was  
5 the previous 46-page statement that Mr. Casey offered,  
6 identifying the causative factors for the crime, excuse  
7 me, 46. Yeah, 46-page statements, 10 of which were  
8 specific to the causative factors. Same decision, also  
9 referenced the CRAs that have talked in -- in -- in as a  
10 consensus now about the discernible insight that Mr. Casey  
11 has. And then lastly, that decision pointed out the lack  
12 of a causal connection between any alleged deficient  
13 material insight and Mr. Casey posing a risk to the  
14 public. So, here's what we learned today, and I noted 11  
15 things. I hope this aids your -- your decision, and I'll  
16 be, I'll be brief. Number one, he identified his negative  
17 appear associations, essentially birds of feather flocking  
18 together. Number two, he talked about his attraction to  
19 violence and the underpinnings of it, including what I  
20 would term as a persecutory complex that he developed. And  
21 he talked about it without invoking that term. Number  
22 three, he spoke about being a broken person who was  
23 compensating and overcompensating by embracing a modeling  
24 and modeling his behavior on -- on negative, uh,  
25 archetypes. Number four, he talked about being callous and

1 being degrading and transactional in his affairs, with  
2 respect to that callousness. Number five, he talked about  
3 his objectification and anger towards women in particular  
4 and seeing themselves, seeing those, uh, women as, uh,  
5 uniquely vulnerable victims. Number six, he talked about -  
6 - he talked about why he did not extricate himself, but  
7 instead emboldened himself by replacing Travis. Number  
8 seven, he talked about a total and complete lack of  
9 empathy. Number eight, he spoke to his presence as an  
10 influence posed both by his age and his support of the  
11 ideas coming from his crime partners. Number nine, he --  
12 he spoke of the relevance or -- or, uh, significance of  
13 the substances and substance abuse as a whole. Number 10,  
14 he talked about misplaced anger generally, and then we  
15 took a mini dive on even the spiritual quality of his  
16 anger directed towards God. And then 11, we talked  
17 extensively about his resentments, uh, and negative  
18 impressions, uh, against women and the sources of that, as  
19 well as the programs that directly addressed those topics.  
20 Those were the 11 things that I think we learned that may  
21 have been better fleshed out in this hearing as opposed to  
22 previous hearings. You take that, uh, uh, evidence of  
23 insight against the backdrop of number one, no evidence of  
24 violence or signs of violence in decades now. No evidence  
25 of rules violations in 23 years, multiple decades of

1 sobriety, no mental health issues whatsoever,  
2 disassociation from negative peer groups, decades of self-  
3 help, really kicking off in 2011. Um, and exceptional work  
4 record with real skills attached to it, having completed  
5 the OMCP. Upgrading educationally, very detailed relapse  
6 prevention plans. Three low findings and this is of note,  
7 the Armstrong CRA is a 2022. It's after the Governor's  
8 reversal. So, there was a wonderful opportunity for an  
9 evidentiary record to be developed as to his ongoing, uh,  
10 work on the topic of insight. And there, the psychologist  
11 said, there's two things, one for reference in the record,  
12 it's page 12 of 15 of that report that details out the  
13 affirmative insight that Mr. Casey had. And then  
14 encapsulated in the psychologist statement quote, Mr.  
15 Casey conveyed an understanding of the personal  
16 interpersonal and contextual factors that contributed to  
17 his antisocial and violent behavior. We've all read that  
18 language before in multiple reports because psychologists  
19 only invoke that verbiage to signify that a prisoner, like  
20 Mr. Casey, has sufficient and or adequate insight, which  
21 is what is required by law. You marry all of that to his  
22 realistic parole plans and his three now findings of a low  
23 risk, there's no mistaking that Mr. Casey is suitable for  
24 parole. Ask your, in closing, ask yourself this  
25 fundamental question in your deliberation, Commissioners

1 from 17 to 44, is Mr. Casey a fundamentally different  
2 person today? And I think squarely that is answered in the  
3 affirmative. Thank you for your time and consideration,  
4 and I'll turn it over to you, Commissioner.

5 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you so much.  
6 Uh, so, Mr. Casey, you do have an opportunity to address  
7 the Panel with your closing statement. If you wish to do  
8 so, you may proceed.

9 **INMATE CASEY:** Yes. Thank you. Um, I'd like to start  
10 by saying I apologize to everybody involved today for  
11 having to hear this, because I do understand how horrible  
12 this is and how atrocious what I did was. And I also want  
13 to recognize the fact that I am responsible for murdering  
14 Elyse. And I can't even begin to imagine how much she  
15 suffered and how much she lost as a result of what I did.  
16 And the ongoing hurt that her family have expressed  
17 feeling and that Ms. Dunn have expressed feeling over time  
18 has highlighted for me how ongoing the effects of what I  
19 did are, and that the impact of this still goes on today.  
20 And I'd like to say that it's been partly as a result of  
21 hearing these things about hearing about how much they  
22 love Elyse, still, that's helped me to commit to never  
23 committing any harm like this again, because I wasn't able  
24 to see what I had done to other people as in depth as they  
25 can share it, because I can only try to imagine it. They

1 experience it and their willingness to come here and say  
2 it has helped me gain an understanding of why I don't want  
3 to do this ever again. And I am committed to the worth and  
4 humanity of every person. I view that as like central to  
5 being human is seeing other people in that light as  
6 someone who's worthy of love no matter who it is. And I  
7 wanted to just say thank you for the opportunity to  
8 present myself today and to be able to answer for what I  
9 did. And I'm truly sorry and apologetic for the harm that  
10 I've caused to so many people on this. Thank you.

11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you. We do  
12 have a victim next of kin that is participating this  
13 hearing. We have, uh, want to give, uh, Mr. Pahler an  
14 opportunity to address this Panel with, uh, his, uh,  
15 impact statement, if you wish to do so. So, sir, just, uh,  
16 reintroduce yourself, your -- tell us your relationship  
17 and you may proceed.

18 **VICTIM'S FATHER PAHLER:** I'm up? Okay. Well, thank  
19 you, Commissioner David and Commissioner, um, um, Miranda,  
20 I want to thank both of you for, uh, a very thorough, very  
21 good hearing. I've been to nine hearings now, nine  
22 hearings, and this may very well be my last. Uh, I'd like  
23 to start off by saying that, um, my wife Lianne, um, has  
24 been hospitalized on a 5150, uh, 17 times since Elyse's  
25 death. Um, she reacted, uh, a few weeks ago in a very



1 negative way about what's going to happen. And she's  
2 currently being evaluated right now as I speak on 5150 for  
3 hospitalization at Vista Del Mar, um, for the 18<sup>th</sup> time.  
4 When I get home, she -- she -- she may not be there. Um,  
5 and then I would like also like to say here that, um, Mr.  
6 Casey, um, promised to tell the truth and the whole truth.  
7 I beg to differ. Uh, I have found in his, um, answers to  
8 questions a lie. And I'll get into that, uh, a little  
9 later on. But I want to get right through this. I want  
10 the, I want everybody in the room to know Mr. Carbone uh,  
11 everybody in the room and Mr. Casey, I see him, I have no  
12 animosity towards you, Mr. Casey, none whatsoever. Um, but  
13 I think that there -- there was a lie here and I want to  
14 talk to Mr. Casey about that, but a little further on down  
15 the road here. Um, as previously mentioned, I've been to  
16 nine hearings, one for Joe, one for Jacob, and seven for  
17 Royce Casey. And in the first five hearings, um, we've  
18 talked about remorse. The Commissioners talked about  
19 remorse. I think Mr. Carone had mentioned in one of the  
20 hearings that Mr. Casey has some trouble expressing  
21 emotions, uh, and it might reflect on him worse, and it's  
22 my feeling, at this point in time, um, there's two primary  
23 things that we look at in hearings. Um, one being, um, one  
24 being suitability and that was discussed by Miranda. And  
25 suitability is, you know, a bunch of things that you check

1 off these boxes, accomplishments in prison, your support  
2 systems, all things that are you are willing to do when  
3 you get out there. That's your suitability <inaudible>  
4 tests. All the boxes have been checked. So, I think that  
5 we have a good understanding that Mr. Casey has, uh,  
6 satisfied most of that or all of it. But, um, the only  
7 thing left on the table is remorse and as you can see, I  
8 have tears, I have feelings, I have a soul. I'm a  
9 Christian. I believe in God. I believe there's a Holy  
10 Spirit inside me. And these are called emotions, you know,  
11 and possibly Mr. Casey has a hard time expressing his  
12 emotions. I don't see a lot of emotions. I don't see  
13 tears. I don't see anything that tells me that there's  
14 remorse. And I'm not authority on that subject. But this  
15 is something you need to take a look at. Um, so I said,  
16 you know, in the first five hearings there was a discuss  
17 of remorse and a lack of remorse. The appearance of a lack  
18 of remorse. And it just seems to me that that's, uh, one  
19 of the considerations for parole. If you don't have  
20 remorse, why would you let somebody out? Why would you do  
21 that? And I've done a lot of work on the internet, and I  
22 want to present some things that might, uh, you know,  
23 raise some concerns in this hearing here. Um, first of  
24 all, I want to say that this is of the picture of my  
25 daughter's face. She has a face like everybody else in

1 this room, but I don't see her picture in the room. So, I  
2 brought a picture of her in this room. Her name is Elyse  
3 Pahler, and she has a face, just like everybody else, Mr.  
4 Carbon, you, Mr. Casey, uh, every -- she has a face. Why  
5 isn't her picture in the room? Well, I don't want to get  
6 into that because I've discussed that many -- many other  
7 times and nothing, uh, has been done about it. So, we'll  
8 just set that aside. Oh, I have another one of her. Um,  
9 here's the, uh, next thing on my list here. Um, um,  
10 hearing number five, that's a critical hearing, that's Mr.  
11 Carbone had made some very interesting observations. As a  
12 matter of fact, uh, I, he, I caught this, uh, and this is  
13 very good on his part. Uh, there was a strong possibility  
14 of a parole, I think in hearing number four, a very --  
15 very strong possibility, uh, um, and Mr. Carone suggested  
16 he stay in prison and that he continued to work on making  
17 progress. And he ought not be paroled, well, he was not  
18 paroled in hearing number four, but in hearing number  
19 five, I believe he was paroled. And that led to the  
20 Governor's decision. Um, and we don't need to go through  
21 that. We already know what the Governor's decision, which  
22 was to reverse the decision of parole of Mr. Casey. Uh,  
23 and then, uh, there was a legal, uh, precedent argued in  
24 court by Mr. Carbone, uh, I believe <inaudible> here in  
25 this courtroom, in this building that I'm in right now,

1 uh, he argued that and the judge, um, uh, reversed the  
2 Governor's, um, decision. And then, uh, it went to an  
3 appeals court, um, and they reversed that decision. And  
4 so, Mr. Carbone is now in a hearing, where the final  
5 decision by these two wonderful Commissioners, of which I  
6 respect and I feel very good about, uh, their decision now  
7 has a huge amount of weight whereas if the decision made  
8 by the -- the appeals court were, uh, to release or  
9 approve parole, uh, then this whole thing would've been  
10 just an exercise because the, that's my understanding  
11 anyway. No disrespect, I don't have any skills in this  
12 area, but I do like to talk a lot. So, uh, I would like to  
13 show the court, uh, a picture, and this is what this boils  
14 down to, here is a Tribune article dated, um, June 20<sup>th</sup>,  
15 2021, which is an important year. And the Tribune is  
16 asking the question, should Satanic killer go free?  
17 There's your -- there that's the Tribune, that's the  
18 question, should Royce Casey, Satanic killer, go free? And  
19 we're talking about Satan here, and just wait until I get  
20 into a little bit more information about that subject.  
21 Okay? I would like to get into that a little bit. Um, but  
22 anyway, we've gone through this timeline. We know what's  
23 happened after, uh, hearing number five, which was in  
24 2021, where he was paroled. Okay? And this is what the  
25 Tribune is asking, should the Satanic killer go free? And

1 that's when it went to the Governor. And now, here we are  
2 back in court again. So, um, what is remorse? Um, I think  
3 that's the main issue here that I want to discuss. What is  
4 remorse? I'm looking at Mr. Casey. Obviously, he's done  
5 some very, very good things in the prison system over the  
6 years. Uh, all those things have to be done, suggested by  
7 previous Commissioners, do this, do this, do this, try  
8 this. He's had a lot of help. And by doing all of this, he  
9 improves his chances of getting out. So, why would you not  
10 do these things? You want to get out of prison. You're  
11 locked up in an eight by 10 cell for 25 years, you want to  
12 get out. So, what do you do? You do everything you're  
13 supposed to do to get out. You have a support system, go  
14 to school, you -- you are good. You do all these wonderful  
15 things. So, it boils down to remorse, is Royce Casey truly  
16 sorry and remorseful for what he did? We understand  
17 suitability and all these wonderful things that he's  
18 doing, and what he says he's going to do after he gets out  
19 of prison. That's all in support of suitability. And those  
20 are the things that needs to -- to say he needs to do in  
21 order to get out of prison. Okay. So, let's take a look at  
22 a couple of things here. I looked up on the internet, what  
23 is remorse? What is remorse? Let's take a look at that.  
24 You have two kinds of remorse. You have true remorse, and  
25 you have fake remorse. Those are the two things, and lots

1 of studies behind those two. Okay. Let's take a look at  
2 something here that I think is important to consider, if I  
3 could get these pages separated here. Now, this is true  
4 remorse. This is off the internet. I'm sure there's all  
5 kinds of definitions and discussions about true remorse.  
6 But let me read this. Does true remorse require emotions?  
7 Not only are the words different, but the emotional  
8 concern in remorse is deeply felt and conveyed with a  
9 focus on making amends. So, where are the emotions? Is  
10 there true remorse here or is it fake remorse? Well, let's  
11 take a look at another thing here. What is true remorse?  
12 This is just the second one that I wanted to read here.  
13 It, it's an understanding and regrets, what they did to  
14 the pain it may have caused someone else, remorse,  
15 emotions, all of that. Do we have true remorse here? Um,  
16 and here's one more that's really important. The internet  
17 provides a meaning of remorseful. What it says that one  
18 filled with sorrys have the remorseful soul, a remorseful  
19 soul, okay? In other words, a remorseful soul is also made  
20 known as a repented soul. When somebody realizes or  
21 repentance that he, she has a guilty feeling that he or  
22 she did something wrong, or that we can say that he or she  
23 is filled with sorrys, and that comes from the soul, come  
24 from inside here, and we all know what that is. We've done  
25 things wrong. We -- we have these sorrys and we cry, and

1 we say we're sorry. And it's very, very evident when you  
2 have a soul and it's full of sorrlys. Okay? So, um, let me  
3 proceed here real quickly and I'll get into the soul and  
4 the sorrlys because it's going to be a very difficult thing  
5 that I have to read. But these are the words of Royce  
6 Casey, <inaudible> his words, and I'm going to conclude  
7 with that. But right now, I would like to say that, you  
8 know, if you have remorse, true remorse, and you're in  
9 prison and you committed this horrible crime, you killed  
10 Elyse, I would think that if you had true remorse, you  
11 would write some letters to the family. You would  
12 communicate and write some letters. The Commissioners, the  
13 previous Commissioners asked that you would write letters  
14 to the family. That was a long time ago. That was in 2013.  
15 2013 or 14. I think everything started in 2014 or 15. The  
16 Commissioner says, "write these letters." This is one of  
17 the, their requests. Other than all the other things  
18 you're going to do, write some letters to the family, we  
19 have never received any letters from the family. Now, I  
20 would also like to say that from 2014 or 2015, when, uh, I  
21 started to write letters to Royce Casey, and I didn't  
22 bring them all with me, but a big file, I wrote letters, I  
23 and Royce Casey wrote me back. And in those letters, I had  
24 questions about, uh, the night of July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1995. He has  
25 what is called specific knowledge. He was there. He knows

1 what happened. I have questions about participants. Number  
2 four, are Mr. Casey participants number four? I had  
3 questions about certain things and no response. He wrote  
4 letters back to me, he said he is sorry, he's got all this  
5 stuff going on, but no answers to specific questions that  
6 he has answers for. Now, if you have remorse, if you're  
7 sorry, you have remorse, why not answer some questions? If  
8 you have remorse, you answer the questions, you try to be  
9 helpful, you try to do the right thing. Where's the  
10 remorse? Where's that remorse? Here's the letter that I  
11 wrote Mr. Casey, with all due respect, uh, this was in  
12 December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013, addressed to Mr. Casey. Um, and this  
13 is when you were in San Diego, "Mr. Casey, Royce Casey,  
14 I'm disappointed that you would not have the time to  
15 respond to my letters asking for help. I -- I need help. I  
16 need answers to some of the questions that have never been  
17 answered. I need help. You have to acknowledge, Mr. Casey,  
18 you can answer my questions very easily, very easily." I  
19 go on to say, "Elyse was 15 years young, not only she was  
20 15 years young, and I still think of her every day.  
21 Possibly you may have a change of heart after the New  
22 Year. Have a great Christmas, Royce. David Pahler." I'm  
23 not a nasty person. I'm not a bad person. I wrote you a  
24 nice letter. I wished you a merry Christmas. I asked for  
25 some answers to some questions. No response. Where's the



1 remorse? I mean, if you have remorse, you respond. You see  
2 Mr. Pahler, the Pahler family, here's some -- here's some  
3 answers to your -- your questions. Here's another one,  
4 certified letter that I wrote. Here are, uh, the -- the I  
5 see everything certified return. Here are the -- the, uh,  
6 this is dated, the, uh, uh, uh, 4/6/22. Here's one dated,  
7 uh, 4/6-- another one of 4/6/22. And then I have wrote two  
8 of them. Here's another one, um, it got torn. So, I don't  
9 know what the date is on that. Here's this one from 2021.  
10 So, I'm -- I'm writing these letters and I'm asking  
11 questions, and I'm not getting a response. I have not  
12 gotten a response. I did call the prison, uh, and I did  
13 talk to somebody and I asked them, uh, evidently, you're  
14 getting the letters. So, the letters are getting to Mr.  
15 Casey, because I have a return, uh, receipt here. Uh, did  
16 you give it to him? She assured me that all these letters  
17 are getting to Mr. Casey. So, where's the response and  
18 where's the answers? Nothing. Absolutely nothing. Okay.  
19 Now, uh, recidivism right here, recidivism, uh, I just  
20 picked that up on the internet, I started exploring, and I  
21 just thought that, uh, we ought to talk about a little,  
22 uh, about recidivism because it was not discussed if Mr.  
23 Royce Casey, or any criminals, uh, of this caliber and  
24 the, and --and the -- the terrible things that they do, I  
25 say they do, including Mr. Casey, uh, uh, the internet

1 simply says the recidivism for rape, we're talking rape  
2 here, and I'm getting into rape a little bit more. Uh, I'm  
3 almost done here. So, just be patient. Uh, the recidivism  
4 for rape is 10 percent, 10 to 15 percent after five years,  
5 20 percent after 10 years, 30 to 40 percent after 20  
6 years. That's recidivism for rape. Now, let's talk about  
7 murder. Recidivism rate for convicted murderers in the  
8 United States is a practically of <inaudible> 75 percent.  
9 Yeah. Now, it's hard to believe that it could be that  
10 high. I was shocked when I saw it. 75 percent were  
11 convicted murderers in the United States, okay? Uh, that,  
12 that's off the internet. I -- I don't know any more about  
13 that. Uh, here's something else. What is the percentage of  
14 criminals who re-offend, now that's connected to  
15 recidivism, if you re-offend, what is the percentage?  
16 Recidivism rates by states vary, but California is among  
17 the highest in the nation, 65 percent. 65 percent. Okay?  
18 We're talking about recidivism. Now, if Royce Casey gets  
19 out, I'm not suggesting that these numbers apply to him.  
20 I'm not doing that. Okay? God bless him, if he has a  
21 wonderful life and he's a changed person. God bless him  
22 for that. But I'm just talking about what I know and  
23 understand about recidivism and being 65 percent for the  
24 state of California, okay? State of California. Now, I  
25 just bring these two things up. I -- I -- I don't know if

1 it's relevant or not, but, uh, this popped up on the  
2 internet. And, uh, we're talking about letting people out  
3 of prison, you know, that do these violent crimes, and --  
4 and they do get out, and they're walking on our streets  
5 and you can see what's going on since 2020, they have  
6 destroyed our economy. They have destroyed our wonderful  
7 country. They have destroyed so many things. Here is a  
8 picture of a Governor, I don't know what Governor, a  
9 democratic Governor that, uh, wants to commute or has  
10 commuted the sentence of every prisoner condemned to die  
11 in her state. Yeah. This is -- this is -- this is what  
12 we're dealing with, you know, letting people out of  
13 prison. This gal wants to commute every prisoner condemned  
14 to die in her state. And, uh, I won't get into this other  
15 one. It's really not important. It's in the news, but, you  
16 know, I'm looking at this guy here, he is from Oregon. Uh,  
17 uh, this guy is, uh, handcuffed. He's surrounded by all  
18 these people. He got caught, you know, and he looks like  
19 he has the devil in his eyes. He is not scared. He could  
20 care less. And I believe he said that he was innocent. And  
21 you are innocent until proven guilty. And that is a very,  
22 very good thing, um, that we have in place right now. If  
23 you're not guilty, it's simply because we say you're  
24 guilty and we have to prove that. Now, uh, let me get into  
25 some, uh, a few very sensitive areas, um, that I would

1 like to discuss, and that is a soul. This is really  
2 important. Very, very important. Um, okay. Here we are.  
3 Um, Royce Casey, I just want you to know, you said, I am  
4 Christian. I believe in our Lord Jesus Christ, who died on  
5 the cross for all of us, for the whole world. I believe  
6 that. Jesus was 33 when he died. He died on the cross for  
7 us. And I know this, I know that there's a God. There's  
8 good and evil. There's a God, because I died when I was  
9 10, Royce. I died. I was 10. I starved to death. I was in  
10 MCC Cottage Hospital on the fifth floor, and I was raped.  
11 I was raped. You said, you were raped. I was raped. I was  
12 <inaudible>. I died when I was 10. And the instructions, I  
13 was given last rights and the instructions to the nurse,  
14 the nursing station on the fifth floor at the cottage  
15 hospital was that David would not live through the night,  
16 his organs were shutting down. I weighed 59 and a half  
17 counts. I had no muscle mass. I was skeleton. I was  
18 skeleton, was skin over my bones. And I've laid there and  
19 I died, 62 days in the hospital, I died, okay? I passed  
20 over to the other side. And I want to tell you Royce, it  
21 was wonderful. And you can look this up on the internet.  
22 There's all kinds of stories about this. I lived it. I  
23 lived it, and there were angels. And it was just  
24 wonderful. And there was a God. And I had a brief  
25 conversation. I heard the voice of God, and I was asked if

1 I wanted to come with them or to go back. I couldn't make  
2 up my mind. I -- I, anyway, I -- I came back and here's  
3 the miracle, Royce. I sat up in bed. I hit that button.  
4 The nurse from the nursing station came in. I'm sitting up  
5 in the bed. I mean, you -- you can't sit up in bed there,  
6 there's no muscles, nothing to move the bones, nothing.  
7 You can't do anything. You just lay there. You're --  
8 you're dead. Okay? I sat up in bed, uh, and Dr. Free was  
9 called to come down that -- that was the orders. "Please  
10 come down. David has died." And here I am sitting up in  
11 the, in this bed and -- and the nurse comes in, she just  
12 screams and leaves. And then this doctor comes in and  
13 says, "David, what can we do for you?" I said, "I'm  
14 hungry." How -- how can you be hungry if your -- if your  
15 stomach is sizable walnut, there's no hunger and there's  
16 no movement of the skeleton. There's no nothing bad. It's  
17 nothing. And that's why there is a God. And that's why  
18 there is life after death. And that's why there is good.  
19 And that's why also there is evil in this world, okay? All  
20 of it. I'm a miracle. And I've experienced since then  
21 other miracles in my lifetime. I am back here for a  
22 purpose. I don't know what my purpose is, but I do know  
23 I'm the father of four wonderful children. I lost one, and  
24 I have three more that are alive and well, and all  
25 successful entrepreneurs, and they're all in their

1 thirties, and they know that this hearing is going on, and  
2 they wish me the best because I'm the one that leads the  
3 way and takes care of things like this. Okay? So, there is  
4 a God, and the Bible is -- is real. I read the Bible every  
5 day. I read it. I asked it for thousands of years and will  
6 be with us until judgment day. And there will be a  
7 judgment day. I want you to understand that judgment day.  
8 And I'm not judging you. I'm not doing any of that. I -- I  
9 am sad that all of this has happened. I'm very, very sad  
10 about it. But the fact is, Elyse <inaudible>. Now, I want  
11 to see a couple other things Royce that I -- I think that  
12 you, you might appreciate, hopefully you will appreciate.  
13 And that is after Elyse was found, was eight and a half  
14 months later, February, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1996 and as we're  
15 working through all of this, she was found, um, she has  
16 appeared four times, four times once to her mother, twice  
17 to her grandfather. They were very, very close. The, uh,  
18 Elyse and her grandfather twice to the grandfather once in  
19 San Anez, he was working in the garage. This <inaudible>  
20 came up his back neck, and he turned around and saw Elyse  
21 with a smile coming across the driveway. And she -- she  
22 disappeared into a bush. Now, you can say whatever you  
23 want about all of this, but the fact is it did happen. And  
24 he doesn't talk about it. He has talked about it a few  
25 times with the family. He also saw her again at the cabin

1 at Pine Mountain. Same thing happened. She was standing in  
2 the doorway and she had a nice smile on her face. It was  
3 wonderful. And she appeared to my -- my daughter, Julie,  
4 because Julie was very, very close to Elyse. She was a  
5 roommate of Elyse for a period of time until she got her  
6 own room. And Elyse told Julie, get on with your life and  
7 be happy. And not Julie talks about this with her mom, it  
8 was wonderful. Now, I have not, Royce. Look at me, Royce  
9 <i>I'm sorry. Look at me. I -- the only time I  
10 saw Elyse was the night she left. Okay? She left, and I  
11 knew that she was leaving. She said she was going to bed,  
12 but I knew she had a private room with an exit door and  
13 home, private bathroom and everything. And she left. And I  
14 had a feeling inside. And what happened that night when  
15 she died, her mother jumped out of bed at the point in  
16 time when she died, she jumped up and said, Elyse is - is  
17 gone. She is gone. And what she meant was that she didn't  
18 leave the house, but she's dead. She is dead. Now, I just  
19 want to say a couple other things here, uh, in conclusion,  
20 okay? I just want to say something to you, Royce, that's  
21 really important, and I'm kind of siring in on why there's  
22 no remorse, true remorse. There is remorse in that, uh,  
23 under fake remorse. Um, you are, you're -- you're -- you  
24 are -- you're saying you're sorry. Okay? I understand that  
25 you're saying you're sorry. Uh, but it is, if -- if I

1 could find it here, it is, uh, um, it's something else,  
2 uh, because it, it's not attached to your soul. You got  
3 caught. You are sorry. Uh, "I want to do all these things,  
4 and I want to get out of prison. I'm sorry. I want to get  
5 out of prison," okay? And if you look at fake remorse, it,  
6 it's there, but it's in my pile here. I -- I can't quite  
7 find it, but I want to, uh, I want to talk about, uh,  
8 something very delicate here, Royce, is it very, very  
9 delicate. I have to say it. I have to do this because for  
10 some reason, you said that you would tell the truth and  
11 the whole truth. And I -- I believe when you said that,  
12 you probably thought that you could or you would, but I  
13 suggested that there -- there was a lie here. And that  
14 lie, I want to talk to you about. Um, Linda Dunn had  
15 referred to this, but did not get into the details of a  
16 February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1997, uh, trial brief, which is basically a  
17 report to the District Attorney's office. And I believe to  
18 the courts that this is what, these are your words. This  
19 is what we have discovered. This is, it is -- it is a  
20 brief, and I want to read some of this. Um, I won't get  
21 into the -- the harmful, uh, words, uh, the bad words. I'm  
22 not trained this way. I don't think anybody wants to get  
23 into that. So, I'm going to skip over that. But we're  
24 talking about, on page one here, it says, at the end of  
25 the preliminary hearing, the people will be requesting not



1 only a holding order on the previously charged defenses,  
2 but also on the crimes of conspiracy to commit rape as to  
3 both defendants. Okay? Now, let's get into the details of  
4 what we're talking about here. And these are your words,  
5 Royce. These are detectives, here's Doug Odom, Chief  
6 Investigator. Um, he has in here, the victim's pants were  
7 located approximately five to eight feet from the body,  
8 okay? From the body. That was after you killed her, and  
9 you buried her. Okay? That's -- that's in there. Um,  
10 under, uh, the category of torture, Dr. Richard Mason will  
11 testify the method -- the method that used to cause death  
12 to Elyse Pahler was significant to cause maximum pain.  
13 Okay? That -- that was it, just what he observed, what he  
14 heard from you. Okay? Let's go down here. I'll skip the  
15 knife, I'll skip all of that. Uh, let's get down to number  
16 seven, right here, right here. Number seven, page four.  
17 Their stated purpose was to rape Elyse after the stabbing.  
18 Okay? Now, the detectives are not making that up. They're  
19 interviewing you, they're talking to you, they're talking  
20 to the other boys. Their stated purpose was to rape police  
21 after the stabbing. Now, she's alive during the stabbing,  
22 okay? She's alive. They intended to cut the victim up and  
23 later eat parts of her body, and or in the alternative, to  
24 complacent her in a drum and boil her in water. Now, these  
25 -- these are words from you, Mr. Casey, okay? From you,

1 okay? And I'm not here to be disrespectful to anybody with  
2 this kind of stuff, it is horrible stuff. But if I don't  
3 talk about it, who's going to talk about it? So, let's go  
4 down a little bit further here and -- and we will get into  
5 the soul, you know, you got to have a soul inside this  
6 body here. You got to have a soul. And that soul is  
7 connected to a conscience, and that conscience is  
8 connected to right and wrong. And you -- you -- you  
9 acquire all of this, you acquire all of this when you're a  
10 child and you're growing up and you learn right from wrong  
11 and parenting and all of those wonderful things. And I  
12 would like to discuss, here's Detective Steve Crawford,  
13 uh, and, uh, it says right here of San Luis Obispo  
14 Sheriff's Department will testify that he received a  
15 notebook identified as a daily classroom journal written  
16 by defendant Royce Casey. Now, let's read a little bit  
17 about what's in that journal, okay? And this is really  
18 important because I'm going to connect the soul that I  
19 have inside me, the soul with what I'm going to discuss  
20 here. And this has not been discussed in any hearing. And  
21 this is really important because do we have remorse? Is  
22 Mr. Royce Casey a changed man? Okay, this is, and then I  
23 have a question for Mr. Casey. And -- and just tell me  
24 what your -- what your response is to this entry of  
25 October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1995, referring to an assessment given by the

1 teacher. I don't want to get into that. Uh, I'm sorry  
2 about that. Uh, we don't want to talk about that. Uh,  
3 <Inaudible> Linda Dun didn't want to talk about that.  
4 We're talking about, uh, some horrible stuff here. Now,  
5 here's the one that I want to focus on, Mr. Casey, and I'm  
6 talking to you, Mr. Casey, and--

7 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** I'm sorry--

8 **VICTIM'S FATHER PAHLER:** I know--

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Mr. Pahler. Hold  
10 on. Hold on, Mr. Pahler. I hate, I really do hate to  
11 interrupt. If you just focus your statement to the Panel  
12 and not directly to Mr. Casey.

13 **VICTIM'S FATHER PAHLER:** Yes. Okay. Okay, I'm sorry.  
14 I'm sorry to, this is to the Panel. This is, uh, entry  
15 October 13<sup>th</sup>, um, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 1995, referring to Satan.  
16 Okay? This is a reference to Satan, and these are quoted  
17 words in the journal by Mr. Casey, taken down by a  
18 stenographer. Obviously, there's a stenographer when all  
19 this is taking place, and you got the detectives  
20 interviewing and talking. These are Mr. Royce Casey's  
21 words. "He," referring to Satan, "has taken my soul and  
22 replaced it with a new one to carry out his work on earth.  
23 Me and Joe, Jacob are three of a kind. There is nobody I  
24 have ever met or talked to that is down for the same shit,  
25 me, Jacob, and Joseph are. Up until the day when we go to

1 be with our Lord Satan and he gives us our own domains and  
2 gives us the souls that we gave as an offering to control,  
3 and in some cases, to torture for all eternity." These --  
4 these are Royce Casey's words, age 18, age 17, but maybe  
5 18 by the time he's being interviewed. And then -- then it  
6 goes on to say, entry on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 95, "Me, Joe, Jacob,  
7 just in to get blank up every Saturday night with Joe and  
8 Jacob. Now, and I have become allied with the darkened  
9 souls. We have the power of evil at our backs. We have  
10 stated the Hatred sign." They had a band called "Hatred,"  
11 okay? They named their band called "Hatred." "And we all  
12 have eternity to carry out on," -- Well, just to, gee, bad  
13 words, I -- I can't use the F word, uh, "to jam and out  
14 <inaudible> souls delivered by us as for all eternity.  
15 Now, my question, uh, can I ask Royce a question?

16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** No, sir.

17 **VICTIM'S FATHER PAHLER:** No. No, sir. Okay. Well, I  
18 won't ask the question, but my question for, the question  
19 I have in the, to the -- to the hearing and to -- to  
20 everybody is if -- if you give up your soul to Satan, how  
21 do you get it back? How do you get it back? I -- I don't  
22 have an answer for that. Once Satan has your soul, he has  
23 what's inside you that, uh, that -- that -- that God has  
24 given you, if you give it up, how do you get that? And  
25 this is my feeling on why Mr. Casey has a difficult time

1 showing remorse. If you have a soul, I read that to you  
2 about a soul, you have, you have, you have remorse, you  
3 have, you have sorrows. You have these sorrows inside of  
4 you. And if you don't have that soul, you don't have  
5 remorse. Okay? Now, the only other thing that I have here  
6 that's worth discussing, this is really important. Uh,  
7 this is in reference to, uh, um, um, um, under rape. Um, I  
8 don't want to discuss that. Um, and I don't want to  
9 discuss this one. This is obviously pretty bad. Um, but  
10 what I actually heard, the -- the -- the lie, um, is, uh,  
11 the lie is that, and it's right here, and I read it, you  
12 had raped Elyse while she was dying, okay? You said that  
13 you didn't, it's not true. You raped her while she was  
14 dying. You raped her after she died. It's right here,  
15 right here, it's in the journal. I read it, okay? I read  
16 it, um, that stuff and maybe it was a mistake. Maybe it  
17 was a mistake, and you know, whatever. But you have to  
18 tell the truth. You have to tell the whole truth. You  
19 raped and other, the other ones raped Elyse, this is  
20 called a satanic ritual. It's all right here in the  
21 paperwork, but I haven't read it all. You raped her is  
22 part of the ritual. You raped her as she was dying, and  
23 you raped her the next day after she was dead, as part of  
24 the sacrifice, as part of that sacrifice. And, uh, I just  
25 want to say, um, there is something on page 12, uh, dated

1 October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1995, previously described reference to being  
2 a lie, aligned, uh, with the dark and souls and that the  
3 collective thoughts of "Hatred," that be your band and  
4 your -- your -- your, uh, your partners in crime, getting  
5 loose in the wrong hands would mean our destruction. And  
6 it goes on to say, and that before we have made the 666<sup>th</sup>  
7 sacrifice, 6, 6, 6, your plans were to kill 666 blue-eyed  
8 virgins, virgins. Elyse was the first. That's, those were  
9 your plans, but you were concerned about not meeting that  
10 goal says so right here, not meeting that goal of Mr.  
11 Casey. Um, and so, I question, um, remorse. That's what  
12 I'm talking about here. I question whether Mr. Casey has  
13 remorse and he, I don't see tears, I don't see any  
14 emotions about, you know, talking about the horrible  
15 things in this thing, these are your words, Mr. Casey,  
16 these are your words. They're not my words. They're not  
17 Mr. Camp's words, not Linda Dunn's words. These are the --  
18 your words. And they're written down, uh, during the  
19 interview, and these are in your journals. And, uh, um, I  
20 don't see any emotions here. I don't see any remorse. And  
21 if you can get out of prison without remorse, then so be  
22 it. You know, I'm not in charge. But it seems to me for  
23 the last, uh, nine hearings, seven hearings with you, they  
24 talk about remorse. They talk about suitability,  
25 suitability, we've covered, all the boxes are checked.

1 Remorse is the only thing that's left on this table right  
2 here, remorse. Where's the remorse? Where are the sorrrys  
3 coming from your soul? How do you get your soul back when  
4 you give it to Satan? So, that's just about all I have to  
5 say. Uh, there's more things that I have on my list, but  
6 there's no point going through all of this. And, uh, I  
7 want to say, uh, uh, all my thanks to Linda Dunn, to Mr.  
8 Camp here, JT Camp. He's been with my family and helped me  
9 and worked with me. I want to thank, uh, uh, you, Royce  
10 Casey for putting up with me. I mean, I have to say what I  
11 have to say. I want to thank the wonderful Commissioners  
12 that David and, um, I can't remember your name right here.  
13 And also Mr. Carbone. I mean, he's doing his job. He did  
14 excellent job and -- and he's doing what he has to do. I  
15 met him in the hallway and he's just doing his job. So,  
16 there's no, uh, there's no, uh, hard feelings on my part.  
17 I'm just emotional about hearings. I'm emotional about  
18 facts. I'm emotional about, uh, uh, uh, um, people saying,  
19 uh, you are, uh, paroled and you're not paroled, and yada-  
20 yada-yada. We're going back and back and forth and where's  
21 the remorse? God bless you all.

22 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you so much,  
23 sir. Uh, at this time, uh, we're going to be taking, uh, a  
24 break, not a brief break to, uh, deliberate on this case.  
25 Uh, why don't we just get off the record first.

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**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** We're off the record.

**[RECESS]**



**CALIFORNIA BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS****DECISION**

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3 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** We're back on the  
4 record.

5 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you,  
6 Commissioner. The time now is 12:18 p.m. and all of the  
7 parties that were previously identified have returned for  
8 the issuance of the decision regarding inmate Mr. Royce  
9 Elliott Casey, CDCR number K as in knowledge, 78120. Um,  
10 I'd like to start off by saying, as a Commissioner, we are  
11 tasked to make difficult decisions and uh, this is one of  
12 those difficult decisions that we have to make. I don't  
13 know, maybe it's because of the circumstances surrounding  
14 this particular crime, as everybody has alluded to,  
15 including the DA and uh, inmate Counsel. However, let me  
16 start out by addressing the family of, uh, Ms. Elyse  
17 Pahler, the victim of this crime. This Panel, we do  
18 acknowledge the deep loss that you have suffered as a  
19 result of the criminal actions of Mr. Casey. Uh, this  
20 parole suitability decision does not in any way shape or  
21 form remarks of forgive that criminal conduct that this  
22 frankly senseless, heinous crime has caused to your  
23 family. This decision is based on the legal standard that  
24 we must supply in assessing the current risk of danger to

25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 1**

1 society and the work and Mr. Casey has done, not only to  
2 transform himself, but to address the relevant risk areas  
3 that we spoke about today. And as a Panel members, that we  
4 obviously saw in the impact statement made to this Panel,  
5 how this crime continues to impact the family of the  
6 deceased. And we did consider the statements that you made  
7 today. So, we do appreciate your impact statement and  
8 recognize how hard it has been and continues to be for you  
9 to make them. We, however, do encourage you to reach out  
10 to the CDCR Office of Victim Survivors Right and Services,  
11 if you have any other questions about the process after  
12 the hearing of if you wanted support services. Therefore,  
13 the applicable legal standard that this Panel must apply  
14 in any parole suitability is that a denial of parole must  
15 be based on findings that the inmate poses a current  
16 danger to society. In addition, the law also does require  
17 us to give great weight to youth factors in determining  
18 your suitability for parole today. Based on the legal  
19 standard and the record that we have reviewed, we find  
20 that you do not currently pose an unreasonable risk to  
21 public safety and are therefore suitable for parole. In  
22 making that decision, we considered the following. We did  
23 review the Central File and everything that's contained in  
24 it. We did review the Comprehensive Risk Assessment. We

25 **ROYCE CASEY    K78120    10/11/2023    DECISION PAGE 2**

1 did review the documents in the 10-day file. Not only  
2 that, sir, we also reviewed the written responses that  
3 were received from the public. We've also listened  
4 carefully today to your testimony and the statements from  
5 the family members of the victim, Mr. Carbone, and also  
6 the information that was provided to this Panel, uh, by  
7 the esteemed Deputy District Attorney from San Luis Obispo  
8 County. We also then reviewed the confidential portion of  
9 the Central File. However, we did not rely on any  
10 confidential information in reaching our decision today.  
11 Our decision, therefore is anchored on the following. In  
12 regards to your criminal and parole history, sir, we do  
13 find it to be neutral because your record does reflect you  
14 didn't have, uh, early onset of criminality, except for  
15 arrested for a vehicle theft, which was sustained. In  
16 addition to that, you talked about all of those misconduct  
17 about drug use, contact with negative peers in the  
18 community. Not only that, sir, the record does reflect  
19 that you were on probation when you committed this crime.  
20 Now, we turn to your offender self-control. We also found  
21 those to be aggravated, sir. It really was clear that you  
22 were out of control like you told us today. You told the  
23 Panel through your recitation of how your association with  
24 those negative peers led you to who you were, and who you  
25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 3**

1 became and during the time of the commitment offense, not  
2 only did you participate, planned to murder this victim,  
3 sir, you participated on the strangulations, stomping on  
4 her, stabbing her, as you said four times. Sir, your  
5 actions was clearly callous. Sir, you did not, you -- you  
6 lacked empathy in your criminal action. You had a criminal  
7 attitude when you committed this crime and you, frankly  
8 your actions did demonstrate that you failed to think  
9 about the consequences when committing your crime.

10 However, in talking about those, those factors that I've  
11 discussed so far are static. What they mean that they do  
12 not change. The California Supreme Court has found after a  
13 long period of time, these unchangeable factors such as  
14 the commitment offense, may no longer indicate a current  
15 risk of danger to society, in light of a lengthy period of  
16 rehabilitative programming. So, we'll talk about all of  
17 those areas where this Panel has determined that you have  
18 demonstrated rehabilitative change. The first will be your  
19 programming. Sir, we find your programming to be

20 mitigating. Any objective observer will already see that  
21 the level and the depth of programming that you have done  
22 to address the risk factors identified in the  
23 Comprehensive Risk Assessment have largely been addressed  
24 through your active participation and completion of those

25 **ROYCE CASEY    K78120    10/11/2023    DECISION PAGE 4**

1 programming to just run the Governor's box, NA, AA, anger  
2 management, life support, conflict resolution, I mean your  
3 record does demonstrate the fact that you have  
4 participated rigorously programming frankly indicates that  
5 you have done the work that's required of you in order to  
6 be found suitable. Not only that, sir, you upgraded  
7 vocationally, you participate in vocation and you've  
8 earned certificate in air conditioning, installation, gas,  
9 I mean, again, your record does demonstrate a lot of  
10 participation in programming. And then we turn our  
11 attention to your institutional behavior. Sir, we'll also  
12 found those to be mitigating. What your record show that  
13 since your incarceration, you only had one serious rules  
14 violation, that's for the mutual combat since 2001. That  
15 demonstrates that since 2001 you've been rule compliant  
16 and it says something about you that you have been able to  
17 demonstrate good behavior that goes above and beyond rule  
18 compliances documented in the numerous laudatory chronos  
19 that we see in your file. Then that takes us to your  
20 offender change. We found those to be mitigating. I'd like  
21 to first start by addressing the issues that every -- what  
22 has talked about today, and that is the issue of insight  
23 and your understanding of insight related to the  
24 commitment offense both in your writing and in your

25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 5**

1 discussion with, and your discussion with the clinician.  
2 And I quote from page 12 of the Comprehensive Risk  
3 Assessment and that's the assessment that Dr. Armstrong  
4 did, the Doctor says, "However most salient was his  
5 readiness to offer a cohesive narrative of how his life  
6 experiences contributed to the life crime. In the opinion  
7 of the understanding." That's the Doctor. "Mr. Casey  
8 appears to have shown growth in this area since he last  
9 participated in CRA. He ran all of the aspects of this  
10 item. The factor related to self-awareness was deemed of  
11 low relevance to Mr. Casey's future risk of violence." I'd  
12 like to point out that the Risk Assessment was conducted  
13 following the reversal of the original 2021 grant by the  
14 Governor. Again, the Panel, in addition to reviewing the  
15 record and Mr. Casey's writing, which is part of the  
16 record, enumerated the causative factors that underline  
17 the life crime and his understanding of the causative  
18 factors among those, I'm going to go through negative  
19 peers, issue of violence, callousness, objectification,  
20 and issues with women, anger and rage, lack of empathy and  
21 resentment. The question is, not only did Mr. Casey  
22 identify all of this causative factors, what has he done  
23 to address all of this deficits and deficiencies? Again,  
24 is speaking with Mr. Casey this morning, we do believe

25 **ROYCE CASEY    K78120    10/11/2023    DECISION PAGE 6**

1 that he -- he has addressed all of those deficits and the  
2 deficiencies that has been, uh, part of and relevant to  
3 his risk areas. Also, I'm going to refer back to Dr.  
4 Armstrong as stated in the Comprehensive Risk Assessment  
5 being contained in page 14, he states, "He was able to  
6 discuss pro-social approaches to problem solving on a  
7 level of fluidity that might suggest internalization. And  
8 notably, classification as a low risk does not mean there  
9 is risk or concern and Mr. Casey may well very well have  
10 the capacity to further improve of his level of self-  
11 awareness that will standard the life crime constituted  
12 Mr. Casey's only known incident of significant violence.  
13 He has generally been compliant with institutional rules  
14 during his incarceration and there has been no indication  
15 of antagonistic attitudes of behavior. Mr. Casey generally  
16 appears to be doing well with increased behavioral  
17 stability and emotional regulation during his  
18 incarceration." So, what this point reviewed on the record  
19 is that the inmate has clearly demonstrated change, growth  
20 and maturity, what we saw today speak anything that the  
21 record as uh, evidence is that he's no longer the violent,  
22 drug user, alcohol user, he does not no longer associate  
23 with negative peers, even when discuss his issues with  
24 women and was able to articulate in all pro- social

25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 7**

1 views and how that has changed. So -- so, those are the  
2 things that -- that made him dangerous and this Panel does  
3 believe he has done the work to change and grow and mature  
4 and internalize what he has learned. Therefore, in  
5 addition to all of these rules abiding behaviors, the  
6 desistance from further substance abuse, his issues with  
7 women, negative peers, what we see, sir, this Panel has  
8 determined that you've engaged in a lengthy period of  
9 positive rehabilitation and therefore do not present an  
10 unreasonable risk to public safety at the current time. In  
11 regards to your release plans, sir, we found those to be  
12 mitigating. We did see and talk to you about the relapse  
13 prevention that you submitted, including for issues such  
14 as stress, substance abuse, anger management,  
15 relationship, we do believe that those are well thought of  
16 and well prepared. We see sir, that you do have letters of  
17 support and not only that, sir, you did send a letter of  
18 apology and also have been accepted into a transitional  
19 housing. Now, we take -- take a look at the Comprehensive  
20 Risk Assessment. The Doctor determined you to be a low  
21 risk of future violence and the issues, the same issues we  
22 talked about today was the issue of violence, the issue of  
23 negative peers, the issue of substance abuse, which this  
24 Panel has determined, has been addressed through your

25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 8**



1 relevant participation, internalization of the programming  
2 that you have taken. Also, I'd like to point out, this is  
3 the third Risk Assessment has been undertaken that have  
4 indicated a lower risk for future violence. Sir, we also  
5 see that you do qualify as a youth offender, at the time  
6 of this crime, parts of your brain were not fully matured,  
7 which resulted in the diminished culpability of your  
8 offenses. So, we do see clearly the harm and features of  
9 youth, the underdeveloped sense of responsibility, frankly  
10 the recklessness of you, sir. However, we do see  
11 subsequent growth through your participation, through your  
12 issues of showing remorse and accepting responsibility and  
13 participating in relevant programing. At this time, let me  
14 pause to see whether Commissioner Neal has any additional  
15 comments to the decision. Commissioner?

16 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Thank you,  
17 Commissioner. This is a joint decision. I agree with the  
18 decision and the decision is read out and all the reasons  
19 therefore, ultimately offender change is demonstrated in  
20 this case. And we -- we look to the psychological report,  
21 we look to our structured decision-making tool and we look  
22 to the presentation in the hearing today and we see a  
23 person that's motivated to change that sees the cost of  
24 the crime and the cost of crime to the community and has

25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 9**

1 made a great effort to succeed, to change and -- and, um,  
2 much improved <inaudible> and problem-solving skills as  
3 well as sobriety. Those are my comments.

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER NDUDIM:** Thank you,  
5 Commissioner. Therefore, based on this finding, we'll  
6 conclude that you do not pose an unreasonable risk of  
7 danger or threat to public safety. Accordingly, this Panel  
8 find you suitable for parole. Sir, I'd like to remind you  
9 and you are well aware of it, this decision is not final.  
10 It will be reviewed by the Board for up to 120 days, which  
11 might be followed by review by the Governor for up to 30  
12 days. You will be notified in writing, if there's any  
13 changes to this decision. Now, when you are released from  
14 prison, sir, you'll be subject to all of the general  
15 conditions of parole that is required under the law as  
16 well as any special conditions of parole imposed on you by  
17 the Division of Adult Parole Operation. In addition, this  
18 Panel is going to order the following special conditions  
19 of Parole. Sir, number one is that you participate in  
20 transitional housing. Sir, that you do not possess or  
21 consume alcohol. Submit to random testing for alcohol. Do  
22 not enter into any establishment where you know or you  
23 reasonably should know that sale of or consumption of  
24 alcohol is that establishment primary source of business.

25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 10**

1 Sir, that you also do not possess or consume control  
2 substances marijuana or THC included, in any form. That  
3 you submit yourself to random antinarcotic testing  
4 including marijuana. Not only that, participate in  
5 substance abuse or alcohol relapse prevention. Finally,  
6 that you do not have any contact with the victim's family.  
7 And on behalf of Commissioner Neal, we want to thank you,  
8 now this has been a difficult hearing, everybody that  
9 participate in this hearing. The time now is 12:34 p.m. We  
10 are off the record. Thank you. Good luck everybody.

11 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER NEAL:** Thank you. Off the  
12 record.

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25 **ROYCE CASEY K78120 10/11/2023 DECISION PAGE 11**

**ADJOURNMENT**

1  
2 THIS TRANSCRIPT CONTAINS THE PROPOSED DECISION OF THE  
3 BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS (BOARD) ANNOUNCED AT YOUR RECENT  
4 BOARD HEARING AND IS PROVIDED TO YOU IN COMPLIANCE WITH  
5 PENAL CODE SECTION 3041.5, SUBDIVISION (A) (4), AND  
6 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 15, SECTION 2254.  
7 THIS PROPOSED DECISION WILL BECOME FINAL WITHIN 120 DAYS  
8 OF THE DATE OF THE HEARING AS REQUIRED BY PENAL CODE  
9 SECTION 3041, SUBDIVISION (B), UNLESS THE BOARD NOTIFIES  
10 YOU IN WRITING BEFORE THEN THAT THE PROPOSED DECISION HAS  
11 BEEN MODIFIED, VACATED OR REFERRED TO THE FULL BOARD,  
12 SITTING EN BANC, DUE TO AN ERROR OF LAW, ERROR OF FACT OR  
13 NEW INFORMATION PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA CODE OF  
14 REGULATIONS, TITLE 15, SECTION 2042. THEREAFTER, THE  
15 GOVERNOR HAS AUTHORITY TO REVIEW THE BOARD'S DECISION AND  
16 AFFIRM, MODIFY, OR REVERSE IT PURSUANT TO PENAL CODE  
17 SECTIONS 3041.1 AND 3041.2.

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25 **ROYCE CASEY    K78120    10/11/2023    DECISION PAGE 12**

**CERTIFICATE AND DECLARATION OF TRANSCRIBER**

I, Fatma Mohamed, am a disinterested party, and have no interest in the outcome of the hearing. Further, I certify this transcript is a true, complete, and accurate record, to the best of my ability, of the recorded material provided for transcription of proceeding for:

In the matter of the Parole CDCR Number: **K78120**  
Consideration Hearing of:

**ROYCE CASEY**

VALLEY STATE PRISON  
CHOWCHILLA, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 11, 2023

8:31 AM

Signed: *Fatma Mohamed*

Transcribed by: Fatma Mohamed

Dictate Express Transcription

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