

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
In The Administrative Law Court
Docket Number 15-ALJ-15-0029

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APPEAL OF FINAL DECISION
Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services

SC Court of Appeals

REGINALD SPELLMAN, #251838 APPELLANT

v.

S.C. DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION, PAROLE AND
PARDON SERVICES, RESPONDENT

RECORD ON APPEAL

Tommy Evans, Jr.
Assistant General Counsel

**South Carolina Department of Probation,
Parole and Pardon Services
P. O. Box 50666
Columbia, South Carolina 29250
(803) 734-9220**

ATTORNEY FOR RESPONDENT

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State of South Carolina
Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services

NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor



JERRY B. ADGER
Director

2221 Devine Street, Suite 600
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Columbia, South Carolina 29250
Telephone: (803) 734-9220
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April 22, 2015

Mr. Reginald Spellman #00251838
Kershaw Correctional Institution
4848 Goldmine Hwy.
Kershaw, SC. 29067

RE: NOTICE OF REJECTION

Dear Mr. Spellman:

It is my responsibility to inform you, on behalf of the South Carolina Parole Board, that the Board has reached a decision regarding your parole hearing. The Board hereby makes the following CONCLUSION OF LAW:

After careful consideration of: (1) the characteristics of your current offense(s), prior offense(s), prior supervision history, prison disciplinary record, and/or prior criminal record, as described in the findings of fact below; (2) the factors published in Department Form 1212 (Criteria for Parole Consideration); and (3) the factors outlined in Section 24-21-640 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, the Parole Board concludes that parole must be denied.

You will be notified 30 days prior to your next scheduled parole consideration date.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Nature And Seriousness Of Current Offense
Prior Criminal Record Indicates Poor Community Adjustment

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Ray Patton, Jr.".

Larry Ray Patton, Jr.
Director of Parole Board Support Services

4/22/2015 A

South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services
 Criteria For Parole Consideration

SC Board of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services
 P. O. Box 50000
 Columbia, SC 29260

Inmate Name Spellman, Reginald	SCDC # 251838
--	-------------------------

Handwritten initials/signature

Criteria For Parole Consideration

The South Carolina parole law creates no right to be released on parole. Parole in South Carolina is strictly a matter of privilege or grace. The South Carolina Board of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services has absolute discretion to grant or deny parole. As such, the publication of these parole criteria in no way creates an expectancy of release; nor does it bind the Parole Board in any way to a favorable parole decision or establish any presumptions of entitlement to parole.

In deciding whether or not to grant parole, the Parole Board considers, among other things, the inmate's record before incarceration as well as during incarceration. The record itself is prepared through investigations conducted for the Parole Board, and it becomes a part of the inmate's parole file. These files are maintained by the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services and are, by the statute, privileged and confidential. The confidentiality of the parole file is far reaching; inmates themselves have no right to inspect the contents of their files. If the inmate thinks his/her file is somehow incomplete or contains some error or other inaccuracy, he/she must notify the Board of the specific error or inaccuracy. The Board will investigate the inquiry and notify the inmate of the action taken.

Inmates do, however, enjoy certain rights in the parole process. The inmate has the right to appear at his parole hearing. If the inmate fails to appear, the Board may decide his/her case in absence. The inmate has the right to be represented by an attorney; however, he/she has no right to have an attorney appointed if he/she cannot afford one. At the hearing, the inmate has the right to present witnesses and evidence on his/her own behalf, but an inmate does not have a right to confront witnesses.

In deciding whether or not an inmate should be granted parole, the Board or Panel of the Board exercises its absolute discretion to the limits allowed by state and federal law. The discretion of the Board or panel aims at protecting the best interest of both society and the inmate being considered for parole. In its concern for the protection of society's and the inmate's best interests, the Board or Panel deliberates upon the "reasonable probability" that an inmate will not again violate the law, if parole is granted. When deliberating upon the reasonable probability that an inmate will not again violate the law, the Board or Panel weighs the factors listed below. The Board or Panel, in its absolute discretion, also considers any other factors not listed below which it considers relevant in a particular case.

1. The risk the inmate poses to the community;
2. The nature and seriousness of the inmate's offense, the circumstances surrounding the offense, and the inmate's attitude toward it;
3. The inmate's prior criminal records and his/her adjustment under any previous programs or supervision;
4. The inmate's attitude toward his/her family, the victim, and authority in general;
5. The inmate's adjustment while in confinement, including his/her progress in counseling, therapy, and other similar programs designed to encourage the inmate to improve himself/herself;
6. The inmate's employment history, including his/her job training and skills and his/her stability in the work place;
7. The inmate's physical, mental and emotional health;
8. The inmate's understanding of the cause of his/her past criminal conduct;
9. The inmate's efforts to solve his/her problems, such as seeking treatment for substance abuse, enrolling in academic and vocational education courses, and in general using whatever resources the Department of Corrections has made available to inmates to help with their problems;
10. The adequacy of the inmate's overall parole plan. This includes inmates living arrangements, where he/she will live and who he will live with; the character of those with whom the inmate plans to associate in both his/her working hours and his/her off-work hours; the inmate's plans for gainful employment;
11. The willingness of the community into which the inmate will be released to receive the inmate;
12. The willingness of the inmate's family to allow him/her to return to the family circle;
13. The attitudes of the sentencing judge, the solicitor, and local law enforcement officers respecting the inmate's parole;
14. The feelings of the victim's family, and any witnesses to the crime about the release of the inmate;
15. Other factors considered relevant in a particular case by the Board.

Reservation of Discretionary Power of the Parole Board

These criteria in no way limit the absolute discretion of the Parole Board or Panel to make parole decisions on a case-by-case basis and to grant or deny parole as it determines to be in the best interest of society and the inmate under review.

In some cases, the Board may decide that an inmate should be granted parole if the inmate completes one or more stated conditions. When this is the case, the Board may grant a parole that becomes effective when the inmate completes one or more stated conditions. Should the inmate disobey any rule or regulation of the South Carolina Department of Corrections before satisfying the stated conditions to make his parole effective, the Board may rescind the inmate's parole and treat the case as though parole had been rejected. In other cases, the Board may feel it needs more time to form its decision. In such cases, the Board may simply take the parole consideration under advisement and reschedule it at a later date. Similarly, the Board may postpone a parole hearing in order to dispose of detainers or pending charges.

If the Board rejects an inmate for parole, the inmate will be given written notice of rejection stating the reasons for rejection. Decisions of the Board have no precedential effect whatever and in no way limit the Board's absolute discretion at later parole hearings.

After rejection for parole, the procedure of scheduling of rehearing is as follows:

1. An individual serving time for a violent offense defined in §16-1-60 of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976 will be reheard for parole two years following the date of parole rejections. Applicable legal exceptions may allow for a one year hearing.
2. An individual serving time for a nonviolent offense defined in §16-1-70 of the South Carolina Code of Laws 1976 will be reheard for parole one year following the date of parole rejections.

I certify that the above material has been explained to me, and I have received a copy.

Inmate's Signature <i>Reginald Spellman</i>	Date 12-16-14	Witness <i>Shelby Burch</i>	Date 12/16/14
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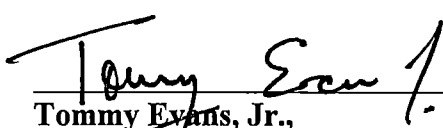
REGINALD SPELLMAN, #251838APPELLANT

v.

S.C. DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION, PAROLE AND
PARDON SERVICES, RESPONDENT

CERTIFICATE OF COUNSEL

The undersigned certifies that this Record on Appeal complies with Rule 61 of the Rules of Procedure for the Administrative Law Court and contains all material proposed to be included in the Record on Appeal by all of the parties and not any other material.



Tommy Evans, Jr.,
Assistant General Counsel

South Carolina Department of
Probation, Parole and Pardon Services
P. O. Box 50666
Columbia, South Carolina 29250
(803) 734-9220

June 10, 2015

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
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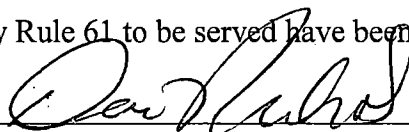
S.C. DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION, PAROLE AND
PARDON SERVICES, RESPONDENT

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Dawn K. Nichols, Executive Administrative Assistant to counsel for Respondent, certify that I have served the within *Record on Appeal*, dated June 10, 2015, on Appellant by depositing a copy of the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, the 10th day of June, 2015, addressed to:

Reginald Spellman, #251383
Kershaw Correctional Institution
4848 Goldmine Highway
Kershaw, South Carolina 29067

I further certify that all parties required by Rule 61 to be served have been served.



Dawn Nichols
Executive Administrative Assistant
South Carolina Department of Probation,
Parole, and Pardon Services
P. O. Box 50666
Columbia, South Carolina 29250

State of South Carolina
Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services

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June 10, 2015

The Honorable Shirley Robinson
Judge, Administrative Law Court
1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 224
Columbia, S.C. 29201

RE: Reginald Spellman, #251838 v. S.C. Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services

Dear Judge Robinson:

Please find enclosed for filing the *Record on Appeal* dated June 10, 2015, along with proof of service in the above referenced case.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tommy Evans, Jr.".

Tommy Evans, Jr.
Assistant General Counsel

TE:dn

Enclosures
cc: Reginald Spellman