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NYS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS and COMMUNITY SUPERVISION -1 BOARD OF PAROLE 2 3 4 Parole Board Hearing 5 In the Matter 6 -of-7 8 DIN # 9 NYSID # 10 11 TYPE OF INTERVIEW: REAPPEARANCE 12 SING SING C.F. HELD AT: 13 Video-conferenced to 14 314 West 39th Street 15 New York, New York 16 17 18 FEBRUARY 6, 2013 HELD ON: 19 20 COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ BEFORE: 21 COMMISSIONER THOMPSON COMMISSIONER BROWN 22 23 24 VERBATIM REPORTER: SUSAN FISCHLER 25

DIN# NYSID#(

BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON:

- Q. Good afternoon.
- A. Good afternoon.
- Q. I'm Commissioner Thompson and also on panel with me today are Commissioner Hernandez and Brown.

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Hi.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Good morning.

- Q. You are here today for a reappearance. Crime of conviction Murder 2nd, serving 25-to-life-year sentence and that's by verdict. Is that correct, sir?
- A. Yes.

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- Q. I want to bring to your attention we do have a stenographer present on this end, and what's being said here today is being transcribed into a permanent record that can be used in any future proceeding. With saying that, do you have any outstanding appeals at this time?
- A. No, I do not.
- Q. Okay. All right. Were you offered a plea at all in this case, sir?
- A. Twenty-to-life.
- 21 Q. Were you involved in this crime?
- 22 A. Yes, I was.
 - Q. Why didn't you take the plea?
 - A. Because I never been in jail before and this is my first felony.

Q. All right. The instant offense involve you shooting a police officer?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay, and you were in the train station on

in . You and a friend of yours jumped the turn style, the officers approached, they asked you to either pay or leave the area. As he was escorting you out of the station, you confronted the officer, grabbed his gun and shot the officer, causing his death.

Why, Mr. did you involve yourself in such a serious offense? What was going on in your mind at the time?

- A. I had just came from military, I was in the Army Reserves. I was home about two months and I had a job interview that I forgot about and I was trying to get on the train. I realized I had spent all my money. We never jumped -- well, I never jumped the turn style and I was never accused of no crime inside the train station, either.
- Q. But the whole incident started there?
- A. It started in the subway, but it happened outside. So I never violated no kind of crime inside the train
- station, though.
- Q. All right. In your words, what happened? You were

at the train station. What happened from there? A. We thought about going through the door, but it was two officers there, so we just stayed there. So, Mr. -- well, Officer he was getting ready to come, too, which is the black police officer. The stopped him and he came through and Officer | asked: What are you standing for? I told him: We are waiting to get on the train. He said: Well, pay your money or get the fuck out of here. That's what he said. So, was with me, he was walking so fast, he left So, I started walking and Officer started walking behind me and he says is something wrong with my leg? I didn't say nothing to him. If I were to tell him -- I had got shot in my leg at one time. So, he asked me was there something wrong with my leg, but I didn't answer. He said: Do I have to talk Spanish to No. So, still walking, he kept I said: following, he said: I should break your back. pulled a stick out. So, I kept walking up the stairs and I reached the top of the stairs and got on the landing on the ground, and I turn around after stepping off the stairs. And he pushed me. So when I turned around, he swung the stick at my head and I grabbed the stick. We wrestling and he grabbed his gun and pulled his gun out. He tried hitting me in the head with the

stick so I knew what he was going to do when he pulled the gun out. So I grabbed for the gun and we wrestling with the gun and I end up with the gun. So what happened, I am standing, looking to see if any police is going to be around because I know they are not going to ask me no questions, they just going to start shooting. When I turned back to Officer , he was reaching for another pistol to shoot me and that's when I fired the gun. Other than that, I would have never fired the pistol. So it wasn't like I just snatched his gun; his gun was out, he pulled the gun out. And also, on the stairs, two witnesses said the same thing, that he pulled his gun out. That's in my trial minutes.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: How did his holster get ripped open, then? He wouldn't have ripped it open. He knows how to pull his gun out of there, no?

A. The gun was already out. So how could the holster be ripped if the gun was already out?

COMMISSIONER BROWN: That's what I am asking you, sir. Doesn't make sense. Either you are lying or he was lying or the facts are lying.

A. It takes a lot of weight to break a regular holster, a lot of pressure. So as far as -- that happened afterwards; after we went to the precinct, that's what

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: And where was

I was living uptown,

your job interview?

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A. Job interview was downtown somewhere, because I had already been on a couple job interviews already.

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Okay, so how

did you end up on ?

A. Because I end up walking downtown with the person that was with me.

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Thank you.

BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON:

Q. So you walked from _____, all the way down to

time.

- A. No, I was on the part of the second and the second and the second and I was waiting on somebody.

 And when I came out, she wasn't there. So when I came out, I bump into the second and the second and the second and the second and I was waiting on somebody.

 And when I came out, she wasn't there. So when I came out, I bump into the second and the s
- Q. What were you doing the day before? You said you were going on interviews. It seemed like you made a lot of stops, and, it was still so early in the morning when this occurred. So what time did you leave your home to go towards this interview? What time would you say?

 A. The interview was the next day. But I was on unemployment because I was in the Army Reserves at the
- Q. So it wasn't even this morning when you were going to this interview? You stated you were there because you

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were trying to get on the train.

- A. Right, the next day, that was the next day, not the same day the incident took place. That night, I stayed out all night, and this happened at 6:00 in the morning, I never went home.
- Q. Stayed out all night doing what?
- A. Hanging out. I was with some females at the time and waiting for another female. I was down south, doing basic training. So when I came back I had not seen her, and once I was with them, they told me to wait. And I and from there I was walking downtown there.
- Q. So you were out all night the day before you had this interview. Where did you go?
- A. Just walking around, just seeing people, that's all. I had drank a little and that was it.
- Q. Any drugs involved?
- A. No, there was no drugs involved. I had drunk some, that was it.
- Q. What had you been drinking?
- A. I don't know what it was, forgot, because I don't really drink, but I had drank some that night.
- Q. You don't know if it was vodka, rum, mixed drinks, beer, shots?
- A. No. I don't drink, but they wanted me to drink. I was with three other females.

what kind of job interview were you going to on that

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day, messenger?

Yes.

Α.

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COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Okay. All

right. Thank you.

BY COMMISSIONER THOMPSON:

- Q. All right. And the officer, did you crouch down and get into a combat position or anything like that?
- A. I don't remember crouching down, but I just remember just trying to get him off as far as not to shoot me, and I just fired the gun.
- Q. How many times would you say you fired the gun?
- 10 A. Twice.

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- 11 Q. All right. You were aware that the officer was 12 struck in the head?
- 13 A. I found out after I was arrested.
- 14 Q. Were you aiming for his head?
- 15 A. No, I was not.
- 16 Q. ...knowing that he probably had on a vest in his
 17 chest area.
- 18 A. No.

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- Q. All right. After you shot the officer, what did you do?
 - A. After I shot the officer, I took a gun with me and I ended up going in the park, and I got rid of the gun and that was it.
 - Q. Did you climb a tree?
- 25 A. I was in a tree for a little while.

- Q. All right. Why did you take his gun if you are saying you felt threatened and that's why you shot him? Why take his gun?
- A. As far as the gun part, that took place during the struggle. I had the gun and I guess it was in my head: Instead of me throwing it on the ground, I just took it with me and I hid the gun. When I was arrested, I didn't have no gun on me.
- Q. Did you know that you had hit officer when you shot him, that he was actually struck?
- A. I didn't know that. When I was arrested, I asked was he all right. I didn't know he was shot.
- Q. Well, after you shot this officer, what did you see? You must have seen he went down, blood? What did you observe at that point?
- A. I didn't see any blood, I didn't see him fall, either.
- Q. After you shot him twice, what did you observe?
- A. He was shot one time. Because the first time that I fired the gun, he was still reaching for his pistol.

COMMISSIONER BROWN: Where was this

other pistol and, did they find the pistol?

- A. Yup, they did find the pistol. The pistol was in his waist.
- Q. And what did you say you did with the gun?

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A. I had took the gun and I threw the gun in the garbage can.

- Q. Where was your friend at that point? Or your friend, when he told you all to leave, he left?
- A. He was gone. I don't know where he was at, I ain't seen him no more.
 - Q. All right. Did you render any assistance, did you look for the other officer? Or, did you just try to get away at that point?
 - A. The other officer was downstairs. I never even thought about some assistance; I had just ran, that's all.
 - Q. All right. And you were apprehended in the park?
 - A. Yes, I was.
- 15 Q. Horrible crime, Mr.
 - Since your last appearance you have completed ASAT, is that correct?
- 18 A. Yes.

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- 19 Q. And you work as a porter?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Have you used any other drugs while in prison?
- 22 A. None.
- Q. So the last time you used drugs was in '08?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. What drugs did you use then?

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1 A. Marijuana.

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- Q. Okay, and why was that?
 - A. Dealing with prison, period. Deaths, just....
- 4 Q. Upon release, where you plan to reside?
- A. My plans was to live in a halfway house, as far as try to get an apartment. That's if I am released. And
- 7 then to seek work.
- 8 | Q. What type of work would you seek?
- 9 A. In a hospital, or child day care or go to college,
- 10 you know.
- 11 | Q. Or what?
- 12 A. Child day care, hospital or wherever I can get a job
- 13 at.
- 14 | Q. You said "or go to college"?
- 15 A. I have three years of college.
- 16 Q. All right. You did reach out to some organizations,
- 17 right, Fortune Society; is that correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Any other family out there, sir?
- 20 A. Brothers and sisters.
- 21 Q. All right. And they are supportive?
- 22 A. Yes, they are.
- 23 Q. Have they been by to visit?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. I know you have a sister that visits, right?

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A. Yes.

- Q. You do have family out-of-state?
- Α.
- Q. We also have your sentencing minutes on file and they will be considered, along with your risk assessment.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: Commissioners,

any other questions?

- Q. Mr. is there anything we have not covered that you to say at this time?
- A. If I ask a question?
- Q. Go ahead.
- A. Because, in the decision it been saying based on the executive law, that it has to be written in detail as far as the decision. And I am trying to figure out why every decision I get they talk about the parole Commissioners talk about that I am going to re-offend, when I don't have no weapons, no robberies, no assaults or not even a fight as far as before this incident took place. So I want to find out where is this information coming from as far as being used against me to talk about the future, what I would do. I would think that

would be something based on a psychologist or psychiatrist to determine. If it's just based on one incident for right here, this is for what I was arrested. No gun, a knife, no assaults. And I am trying to figure out, who determine as far as future risk stuff what I am going to do? Where did that come from?

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: This is a new day, new opportunity. I can't speak for prior decisions. I think I have seen you once. I don't believe I put that in my decision. Everybody writes their decisions differently, sir, based on all the information in the file. I can't give you an answer for that, but I know we will take what you are saying into consideration today.

A. Miss Hernandez, this is the third time seeing you, my third time, because you were with Miss Thompson before, that was in Clinton.

commissioner Hernandez: I remember it well, and I know what I said to you at the time, as well. Okay? I am glad you have not used drugs.

A. I am talking about the written decision. You told me, when you were with miss Thompson, you said this is not the way to get out as far as having the drug ticket, you said drugs is not going to cure anything.

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COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Commissioner,

COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ: Yeah, yeah.

are you done?

All right?

Yes.

Α.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON: Okay, thank you, sir. We will review everything and get you a decision in a couple day. Take care. (Offender was excused.)

We have to take everything and we weigh everything.

(After due deliberation by the Parole Board panel, the following decision has been rendered:)

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DECISION:

Parole is denied. Hold 24 months. Next appearance 2/2015. Parole is denied for the following reasons. After a careful review of your record and this interview, it is the determination of this panel that your release at this time is incompatible with the welfare and safety This decision is based on the of the community. following factors: The serious nature of the instant offense Murder 2nd involve you taking possession of the victim's firearm. The victim was on-duty as a New York City Transit Police Officer at the subway station when he approach you and a friend and stated, in sum and substance, pay the fare or leave the area. During interview you stated you did not have money to pay the fare and were thinking about entering without paying. When the officer escorted you out the subway station, while walking up the stairs your friend left and you were in a physical confrontation with the police officer deliberately shooting the officer with the zone gun, causing his death. You then fled the scene. Your positive programming, disciplinary record, risk to the community, needs for successful reintegration, rehabilitative efforts, opposition to your release and required statutory factors are also considered. However. discretionary release is not appropriate at this time.

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for the panel to release would so deprecate the severity of the offense as to undermine respect for the law, as you placed your own interest above those of society at large.

(All commissioners concur.)

NYSID#

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me on the above cause and that this is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my ability.

Susan Fischler