



# PAROLE BOARD OF CANADA DECISION

### OFFENDER INFORMATION :

Name : **GEORGE, GARRETT STEVEN**

FPS : ██████████

Institution : ████████████████████

FILE NO : ██████████

### TYPE OF REVIEW :

- DAY PAROLE - POST RELEASE (PANEL-VIDEO CONFERENCE)
- DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE (PANEL-VIDEO CONFERENCE)

### PANEL INFORMATION :

OBSERVER (S) PRESENT (except during deliberations) : **NO**  
 EXCLUDED FROM PART OF HEARING : **NOT APPLICABLE**  
 REASON : **NOT APPLICABLE**

ASSISTANT PRESENT : **YES**  
 ELDER /ADVISOR : **YES**

### FINAL DECISIONS :

|                           |                      |            |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| DAY PAROLE - POST RELEASE | SUSPENSION CANCELLED | 2022-01-28 |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------|

Previously imposed conditions remain in effect.

|                          |                  |            |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------|
| DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE | CHANGE CONDITION | 2022-01-28 |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------|

Two new conditions imposed.

### LEAVE PRIVILEGES :

LEAVE PRIVILEGE FOR **DAY PAROLE - POST RELEASE - REGULAR**

AS PER CBRF AND PBC POLICY

As per the rules and regulations of the community based residential facility or other location, not to exceed Parole Board of Canada policy.

### SPECIAL CONDITIONS :

#### DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE

| Condition  | Status  |
|--|---------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· NO CONTACT WITH CERTAIN PERSON<br/>No contact with K.M. without the prior written approval of your parole supervisor.</li> </ul>                  | IMPOSED |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· OTHER SPECIAL CONDITION<br/>Not to enter any new relationship with a female without the prior authorization of your parole supervisor.</li> </ul> | IMPOSED |

### PREVIOUSLY IMPOSED SPECIAL CONDITION(S) STILL IN EFFECT :

FPS ██████████

Name : **GEORGE, GARRETT STEVEN**

File No: ██████████



The following condition(s) previously imposed are still in effect.

**DAY PAROLE - POST RELEASE**

| <b>Condition</b>  |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOT TO CONSUME ALCOHOL<br/>Not to consume, purchase or possess alcohol.</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOT TO CONSUME DRUGS<br/>Not to consume, purchase or possess drugs other than prescribed medication taken as prescribed and over the counter drugs taken as recommended by the manufacturer.</li> </ul>                  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• REPORT RELATIONSHIPS<br/>Immediately report all intimate sexual and non-sexual relationships and friendships with females to your parole supervisor.</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FOLLOW TREATMENT PLAN<br/>Follow treatment plan/program or counselling to be arranged by your parole supervisor in the areas of emotions management, substance use, family violence and reintegration issues.</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO CONTACT WITH VICTIM(S)<br/>No direct or indirect contact with the deceased victim's family without prior written approval from your parole supervisor.</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO CONTACT WITH CERTAIN PERSON<br/>Not to associate with any person you know or have reason to believe is involved in criminal activity and/or substance use.</li> </ul>   |

**NEW INFORMATION SHARED WITH THE OFFENDER : NOT APPLICABLE**

**REASONS FOR DECISION(S) :**

Mr. George, the Parole Board of Canada (the Board) reviewed your case by way of a video hearing to make a decision about the suspension of your day parole.

To make its decision, the Board must consider several legal criteria. In order to cancel your suspension, the Board must be satisfied that you will not, by reoffending before the expiration of your sentence, present an undue risk to society. If necessary and reasonable to protect society and facilitate your reintegration into society, the Board may also reprimand you, alter the conditions of your parole, or order the cancellation not to take effect until the expiration of a specified period if you have violated the conditions of parole on the occasion of the suspension and on at least one previous occasion that led to a suspension of parole or statutory release during your sentence.

However, if the Board is satisfied that you will, by reoffending before the expiration of your sentence, present an undue risk to society, it may terminate your day parole if the undue risk is due to circumstances beyond your control, or revoke your day parole in any other case.

Applying these criteria to the factors in your case, the Board cancels the suspension of your day parole with a change of condition. The Board describes its reasons below.

At 33 years of age, you are an Indigenous person serving a sentence of 8 years 4 months for Manslaughter – All Others. The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) refers to this as the index offence. Your sentence commenced on November 16, 2016. You are also subject to lifetime firearms prohibition order and a DNA order.

In late March 2013, you and the victim, your intimate partner, attended a party together. You were intoxicated and got into a confrontation with another man. You were told to leave but refused,



returning repeatedly to demand that the victim leave with you. She was reluctant to leave with you and expressed her fear to others at the party. However you and the victim subsequently left together. As others began leaving the party, they discovered the victim's body on the road, with her breasts and genitals exposed, frozen and cold to the touch. One of them tried to perform CPR but to no avail. Upon discovering the victim, witnesses saw you were walking towards their car. They confronted you about what happened but you claimed to have no knowledge. The pathologist determined that the victim had been subjected to severe and multiple sources of trauma and that three of her injuries were potentially fatal. You were arrested at the scene.

The Judge commented on your previous record for assaults against the victim, that included violence with a weapon as well as when she was pregnant. The Judge believed your victim was likely too scared to consider the option of leaving you. The Judge also considered your Indigenous social history and the overall impacts of previous racialized assimilation policies on your family and yourself. As your offence resulted in the death of the victim, it is evident your offence caused serious harm.

While there are no victim statements on file but the Judge summarized several statements received for court purposes. It is clear that the loved ones of the victim have experienced significant loss and pain from the death of the victim, including your child.

Your criminal history includes convictions for assault (including with a weapon), mischief and fail to comply offences. Other assault (included aggravated) and fail to comply charges were stayed. File information indicates that you previously assaulted the victim on a repeated and regular basis and that no contact orders were not effective in your not having contact or preventing you from further assaultive behaviours. You have, at times, failed to report and failed to attend programming.

Your most recent Correctional Plan Update (CPU #7) assesses you as having a moderate need for improvement in the risk areas of marital/family, personal/emotional and attitude, all three areas being reduced from high needs at intake. You continue to have a moderate need for improvement in the risk area of education/employment. Your need for improvement in the areas of substance abuse and associates has dropped from high, at intake, to low at present, and the risk factor of community functioning has dropped from a moderate need to a low need for improvement. At intake your motivation level, accountability and reintegration potential were assessed to be low; they are now assessed to be medium.

File information indicates that you grew up in your First Nation's community and were raised by your grandparents and one of your parents. You do not have a relationship with your other parent. As a child, you were also placed in respite care. At least two of your close family members attended residential school, as did many others from your community. You attended residential school conferences and workshops with your family and one of your grandparents shared a little about their residential school experience with you. You recall that going to school was good in many ways and that you did well academically but you also experienced racism and were picked on. You skipped classes and were suspended for fighting or arguing with teachers and you did not finish secondary school. You report that you were 14 when you started to drink alcohol and smoke marijuana. You experimented with other drugs but did not like them. Alcohol is your drug of choice and you have reported drinking until you black out. You report a history of substance abuse in your family and that your community has little culture due to alcoholism and the effects of the residential school system. You do not engage in cultural activities or follow any spiritual teachings. You have a history of mental health difficulties and suicide attempts and have relied on social assistance to support yourself. Many of your friends and associates were involved in substance abuse and you have had few positive role models or influences in your community.



A Psychological Risk Assessment was completed in May 2019. Overall you were assessed as posing a low risk for imminent violence but a moderate risk for future violence particularly in the context of an intimate relationship and a high risk if involved in substance abuse in the context of an intimate relationship. The psychological risk assessment also referenced the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment (SARA) on which you obtained a high score indicating that your risk in an intimate relationship is very high, especially if you are intoxicated.

Your institutional behaviour, while in provincial custody, has been described as problematic. You were involved in physical altercations with other inmates and were rude and disrespectful to staff necessitating interventions such as segregation. You were institutionally charged for assaulting two inmates in 2015 and for assaulting another inmate in 2016. You have received several more institutional charges over the course of your incarceration, mainly for being disrespectful and disobedient and for possessing unauthorised items.

While incarcerated, you completed your core programming, including the Non Intake Primer Aboriginal (2017) and the Aboriginal Multi-Target High Intensity Program (2017), and some educational upgrading. You also participated in ceremony and regularly engaged with the institutional Elder.

In July 2019, you were granted limited day parole for the purpose of treatment only. You attended a residential treatment program to address substance abuse and returned to the institution following the program.

In June 2020, you were granted a day parole. The Board found that, while you had a tendency to bottle up your emotions, you demonstrated that you will discuss your emotions and concerns with supports and that you are aware you need to continue working on this. The Board noted the gains you made in programming and on limited day parole. The Board believed you handled a new relationship when in the community in a positive way and that you had a strong release plan.

Your day parole release was continued in December 2020. The Board found you were using your day parole as intended and were showing improved behaviour and attitudes. Day parole was continued again in July 2021 with the Board noting that you had not breached conditions, had completed community programming with good results and that you had been open and honest with your case management team (CMT).

Six special conditions were imposed in June 2020: not to consume alcohol, avoid persons (victim's family), follow treatment plan (substance misuse, family violence, emotional regulation and reintegration issues), avoid persons (those involved in criminal activity and/or substance misuse), report relationships with females and not to consume drugs. These conditions remained in place when your day parole was continued December 2020 and July 2021.

While on release, you received an 'attended all sessions' of the Community Maintenance Program – Multi-Target in 2020 but then successfully completed this program in 2021. Your most recent program report determined that your overall ability and commitment to use the skills required to manage your various risk factors was 'moderate'. You have worked with the Elder on release, although reportedly sporadically. You had full time employment, but began to miss work to pursue a relationship. In April 2021, you were suspended when your community residential facility (CRF) withdrew support due to concerns about your threatening presentation to a female staff member and ongoing concerns about staff members' discomfort in dealing with you when you disagreed with a rule or felt entitled to an exception. You were subsequently transferred to another CRF. In August 2021, there were concerns about you communicating with incarcerated offenders and you were cautioned to avoid such contacts.



On November 03, 2022, you contacted your Community Parole Officer (CPO) by text messages reporting that you had a disagreement with your intimate partner which had turned physical, her kneeing you in the face and you kicking her off of yourself. You said you would return to the CRF and report her to the police for assaulting you. Your intimate partner stated that you forcibly took her phone and then pushed her by the throat and kicked her into the wall. Warrants for your apprehension and suspension were issued and executed the same day because of concerns of an escalation of your risk and to allow for further time to investigate the situation.

Your post suspension interview was conducted on November 08, 2022. You stated that you and the victim of the November 3rd incident had both overreacted and that you were still communicating with each other by phone. You maintained that you took her phone to see a phone number, that she tackled and kneed you and that you kicked her off of you. You noted that this happened in front of her young children. When you were informed that your relationship was no longer supported because of the reported violence, and relative newness of it, you became argumentative, belligerent and accusatory. Police have advised that the victim has not provided a statement and they are not pursuing charges.

The Board received your recent submission on January 26, 2022. In this submission, you share your version of the events that led to your suspension. You shared the two of you had been arguing and you were frustrated by her lack of response to your questions. You admitted to grabbing her phone from her and claimed she “rushed” you and began hitting you. You stated you then told her you were leaving at which point she attacked you again. You said she somehow got you on the bed and began “kneeing” you in the head. You then kicked her off you and left.

There is a letter from your girlfriend who shares you were very good to her children and you took care of them like they were your own. She provides her version of the events that occurred leading up to your suspension. Her version was somewhat different from yours as she said you had grabbed her phone because she had threatened to call your parole officer. She does admit to repeatedly hitting you and the fact you kicked her off of you. She said you then deleted some information from her phone, washed your face and left.

There are several recent letters of support on file from your mother, uncle and grandmother. They state how they are there to support you in any way possible and they have seen noted changes and maturity in you.

If your suspension is cancelled you will be expected to resume and complete the Community Maintenance Program – Multi Target and you will be referred to the Community Maintenance Program – Indigenous. You will also be referred to community agencies for financial and employment support. You have been accepted at three CRFs, pending bed space availability.

Your CMT recommends that your day parole be revoked. They acknowledge that you appear to have managed your risk to public safety over an extended period of time, but note that the incident leading to your suspension demonstrated highly reactive and aggressive behaviour on your part. Your CMT find it concerning that this incident mirrors your record of family violence and your index offence. If your suspension is cancelled, your CMT recommends the same special conditions remain in place.

At your video hearing today, your Institutional Parole Officer (IPO) states your behaviour since returning to the institution has been appropriate. She stated you have made multiple attempts to meet with the Elder and Indigenous Liaison Officer (ILO) but have not been able to do so due to the current Covid-19 restrictions in place.



Your Parole Supervisor spoke to the incident that led to your suspension. He noted you seemed to become somewhat obsessive and there were issues with jealousy. He mentioned your girlfriend was originally going to pursue charges with the police but changed her mind. He also noted you called her daily when you initially returned to incarceration. He spoke to your generally difficult interpersonal style and propensity to become “belligerent”. He recommended that if the Board decided to cancel your suspension, that there be a no contact special condition with her given the toxicity and issues evident in the relationship.

In response, you claimed your parole supervisor has a way of twisting your words and explained that during your post-suspension interview, he became angry when you were explaining your version of what occurred while stating he did not believe you. You believed he pushed your girlfriend to lay charges.

When asked about what happened, you said that the argument commenced when she started to refuse to talk to you but would mumble various comments. You said you became frustrated and wanted to leave but she wouldn't let you and threatened to call your parole officer, scaring you into staying. You admitted to issues of jealousy explaining that she was jealous and you responded in kind.

When asked if you understood the dysfunctions and warning signs concerning the potential issues in this relationship, you explained you could have reacted better and you were able to see that there was similarities between her and your previous relationship. You stated you had about four previous relationships with women which you ended because you could see it would not work but you had deep feelings for this girlfriend because you had been friends for years beforehand. You explained you had spoken to an Elder since you returned and now understand you are suffering from some PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) and have issues stemming from institutionalization. You expressed you would like to attend the Indigenous focussed CRF that has accepted you for residency as you would like to participate in some further trauma counselling and cultural activities. While you still care for your girlfriend, you have since decided to put the relationship on pause so that you both can deal with your own issues first. You were able to describe what a positive relationship should resemble. You admitted you have forgotten to take care of yourself in amidst of this relationship.

Your assistant was your mother. She spoke to what she believed to be a poor relationship between you and your Parole Supervisor. She believes you are working hard to stay on the right road but that you need more counselling. She mentioned the struggles of your childhood, how she struggled as a single mom and the generational impacts of residential schools and related issues on her and you. She stated her belief you have experienced some racism since release and that the system is against you.

The Parole Board Elder, after listening to your hearing, encouraged you to continue working with the Elders as he could see you have gained some valuable insight. He reminded you that all women are the “Life Givers” and must be respected. He encouraged you to continue to try and express yourself appropriately.

After considering the primary factors of your case, the Board has considered the significance of your index offence that involved the killing of your girlfriend. Your history reflects a considerable pattern for intimate partner violence in this relationship and notes you used weapons as well as assaulted her when she was pregnant as well as in front of the children.

The Board notes that the situation leading to your suspension shared similarities with your



previous relationship and finds it worrisome you were not able to recognize this on your own. You spoke to having ended four other relationships since being released because they were not right for you but "lost" yourself in the current one which bodes the question if you are actively choosing women who are similarly struggling to find appropriate partners and well-functioning relationships.

In reaching today's decision, the Board also turned its mind to some positive aspects of your case. You had been on day parole for close to a year and half before this suspension. While you have experienced some interpersonal difficulties with CRF staff and your Parole Supervisor, there were no other indications of high risk behaviours on your part. You have refrained from drugs, have been open regarding relationships and have complied with reporting and CRF regulations. You have previously completed programs but recognize the need for additional interventions, especially counselling and Indigenous cultural supports. You have explained, and the Board accepts, your belief you continue to have lingering issues of trauma from your childhood and you continue to require supports to address them.

After weighing all of the factors, the Board has concluded that because you have been on day parole for a lengthy time beforehand, you have accepted some responsibility for the events leading to your suspension and have ended the relationship, you are open to further programming and counselling, and the existence of new release plan that includes further Indigenous supported interventions, your risk on day parole is manageable with the imposition of two new special conditions. The Board recommends that if bed space permits, you be released or transferred to the Indigenous healing lodge CRF that has indicated acceptance and support for you.

Accordingly, the Board cancels the suspension of your day parole with a change of condition. It is the Board's opinion that you will not present an undue risk to society if released back on day parole and that your release will contribute to the protection of society by facilitating your reintegration into society as a law-abiding citizen.

The following two special conditions are considered reasonable and necessary to manage the risk you pose to reoffend and to facilitate your successful reintegration. They are imposed for the duration of your day parole continued unless removed or modified through a future Parole Board review.

1. Not to enter any new relationship with a female without the prior authorization of your parole supervisor.

The dynamics of your most recent relationship have definite overlaps with the dynamics of the crime and the tragic outcome. You have also admitted to ending previous relationships since being released upon realizing their potential toxicity. This condition is considered necessary until you can engage in further programming and you are able to recognize how the factors of your social history and interpersonal challenges lead to your poor relationship and how to recognize and manage any relationship challenges. Until this time, your parole supervisor needs to be apprised of any potential relationships and conduct appropriate checks and balances for any potential instability and challenges for you.

- 2.No contact with K.M. without the prior written approval of your parole supervisor.

The dynamics of this relationship was such that it eventually led to a physical altercation. You have admitted that she has some very pressing personal challenges and that you "lost yourself" within the dynamics of the relationship and you have exhibited some controlling and jealousy related issues within it. Until you have received necessary interventions to assist in your ability to manage your relationship risk factors, you are to avoid contact with K.M.



All previously imposed special conditions and leave authorization remain in effect.

**DECISION(S) AND VOTES :**

**DAY PAROLE - POST RELEASE**

**SUSPENSION CANCELLED**

**2022-01-28**

| Board Member | Vote                 | Vote Date  |
|--------------|----------------------|------------|
| REYNEN, C. . | SUSPENSION CANCELLED | 2022-01-28 |

**DAY PAROLE - PRE RELEASE**

**CHANGE CONDITION**

**2022-01-28**

| Board Member | Vote             | Vote Date  |
|--------------|------------------|------------|
| REYNEN, C. . | CHANGE CONDITION | 2022-01-28 |

**SIGNATURES :**

\_\_\_\_\_  
REYNEN, C. .

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Member Signature Date