

November 2, 2023

Alliance for Safe Communities / Robert Jewett Parole

Alliance for Safe Communities is submitting a letter of opposition regarding the pending parole of Robert Jewett. The Alliance respectfully requests Rhode Island's Parole Board to seriously consider the factors surrounding this individual's incarceration and events that led up to his incarceration.

Mr. Jewett was a minor serving a sentence for 1stdegree sexual assault of a 12-year-old girl with a record of "B & E's" at the RI Training School.

While serving time for these crimes, he demonstrated a propensity to reoffend as a sexual predator. He not only reoffended as a sexual predator but in fact escalated to committing a heinous murder.

It was during this sentence that Mr. Jewett committed the 1990 crimes of 1st degree sexual assault and murder of a 17-year-old girl.

Mr. Jewett was in State Custody at the time and was afforded crucial tools for rehabilitation. Jewett, however, utilized those tools to commit subsequent heinous crimes.

Robert Jewett found a window of opportunity during limited supervision to commit a rape and murder while at his community placement program.

Mr. Jewett simply walked off his worksite and only a block away forced himself into a nearby home, where he raped and murdered a 17-year-old girl.

Robert Jewett demonstrated a propensity for committing violent sexual crimes as well as being a repeat offender. Robert Jewett stalked his prey and in a calculated fashion unleashed unthinkable acts of depravity and violence.

Robert Jewett took advantage of rehabilitative tools the state of Rhode Island offered him while in custody. Jewett manipulated those tools to facilitate horrific crimes upon an innocent young girl.

Are Rhode Islanders expected to trust a different outcome from this individual today? Will history repeat itself?

There is a responsibility to ensure the safety of our society, and that responsibility is paramount to all else.

"Time heals all wounds" is a common saying. Will this decision be made based on more time elapsed, and more programs offered to Mr. Jewett alone?

The Rock family has been given a life sentence with no parole from their pain and suffering. There is no relief any given day, month, or year from their loss. There are no second or third chances to bring these young girls back to their families. Communities were shattered and no amount of time will erase that.

A wrong decision can lead to horrific consequences given the history of Mr. Jewett's nature as demonstrated over time.

There is a responsibility to ensure the safety of our society, and that responsibility is paramount to all else when deciding the outcome of Mr. Jewett's parole hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Medeiros,

Executive Director Alliance for Safe Communities