



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

10 April 2014

The Honorable Dennis W. Foreman
Chairman
West Virginia Parole Board
1409 Greenbrier Street, Suite 220
Charleston, WV 25311-0700

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing on behalf of the membership of the Fraternal Order of Police to urge you and the Parole Board to reject parole for Robert M. Gray (Inmate #16919-1), the murderer of Putnam County Sheriff's Deputy Jonathan D. Janey.

On 17 August 1989, Deputy Janey was staking out a residence which was thought to be the target of an arsonist, one Robert M. Gray, who was planning to torch the property in an effort to claim the insurance money. Deputy Janey, having witnessed the man dousing the interior with an accelerant, was identified by the suspect who then attempted to flee. Deputy Janey gave chase and apprehended the suspect, but after placing one of his wrists in handcuffs, the man was able to use his other hand to produce a .357 caliber handgun and shot the deputy twice. The second shot was fatal. Not content with having killed the officer, the killer fired a third round into his head.

Deputy Janey's killer was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment, with the caveat that he be eligible for parole every three years. Every three years the family of Deputy Janey must again mourn the loss of their son and brother. Every three years his extended law enforcement family throughout the State of West Virginia and every county in the nation must once again ask that his killer's parole be denied. Not once has this cop-killer expressed any remorse for his deed. This is a man who came well-armed to carry out a serious crime and was willing to kill a law enforcement officer to escape. In this case, justice demands his parole request be rejected.

On behalf of the more than 330,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I urge that you deny this cop-killer parole. If I can provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington, D.C. office.

Sincerely,


Chuck Canterbury
National President