

County of Kenosha

Board of Supervisors

Resolution No. _____

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE PAROLE COMMISSION TO DENY PAROLE

Original <u>X</u>	Corrected <u> </u>	2 nd Correction <u> </u>	Resubmitted <u> </u>
Date Submitted: _____ Date resubmitted: _____			
Submitted by: Undersigned Supervisors			
Fiscal Note Attached: <u> </u> Legal Note Attached: <u> </u>			
Prepared By: Supervisor Zach Rodriguez and Supervisor Daniel Gaschke			

WHEREAS, in 1985, Joseph Vite, a 41 year old well-liked and respected member of the Kenosha community who was an insurance agent and foster parent, had his life tragically and senselessly taken by Eric S. Nelson; and

WHEREAS, after having been found guilty by a jury of an act of homicide characterized by the judge presiding over the case as “an assassination,” he was sentenced to life in prison; and

WHEREAS, by the terms of the law in place at that time, he nonetheless became eligible for parole in 1999; and

WHEREAS, the Parole Commission has denied every previous application for parole; and

WHEREAS, he has recently been moved to a minimum security, pre-release correctional facility, prompting fears that a new application for parole might be successful; and

WHEREAS, the Vite family has publically asked individuals to support a petition calling on the Parole Commission to deny any pending parole application; and

WHEREAS, District Attorney Michael Graveley has described him as a “rare individual” who “terrified the community” and belongs in prison; and

WHEREAS, District Attorney Graveley further argued that the specific circumstances of this crime,

involving the pre-meditated killing of a virtual stranger for material gain, qualifies one as “the rarest of dangerous individuals in any community...and reveals his character as profoundly dangerous to the community...;” and

WHEREAS, the County Board agrees with the assessment of District Attorney Graveley in relation to the danger posed to the public by this individual; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has an appropriate role in advocating for the rights of victims as well as the protection of the community from those who have, by demonstrating their high degree of dangerousness, forfeited their right to live freely in the community;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors does call upon the Wisconsin Parole Commission to deny this and any subsequent petitions for parole from Eric S. Nelson; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors encourages members of the community to sign the petition initiated by the Vite family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk is instructed to send a copy of this resolution to the Wisconsin Parole Commission to be considered at the time this petition is heard.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zach Rodriguez



Daniel Gaschke





