



SOCIETY OF FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FBI, INC.

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August 27, 2021

Shawangunk Correctional Facility
P.O. Box 750
200 Quick Road
Wallkill, NY 12589-0750

Attention: SORC

RE: David Gilbert, DIN: 83-A-6158

NY State Parole Board Members:

As President of the Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), I write in opposition to the release of David Gilbert when the board considers this matter.

The Society represents more than 8,500 retired and former FBI Special Agents, many of whom participated in the investigation initiated after the tragic events of October 20, 1981, in Rockland County, NY.

David Gilbert was one of the principal subjects of that investigation.

The details of the crimes committed at the Nanuet Mall and on the New York State Thruway resulting in the murders of Brinks guard Peter Paige, Sgt. Edward O'Grady, Police Officer Waverly Brown, and the wounding of two other officers are well known.

Gilbert and his wife, Katherine Boudin, were already known to law enforcement prior to October 1981. Both were fugitive members of Weather Underground, a domestic terrorist organization.

The FBI investigation, led by the FBI/New York City Police Department Joint Terrorism Task Force, revealed the existence of a formidable and clandestine domestic terrorist organization that had been engaged in a violent crime spree for years. Described by its leaders as "The Family," this organized criminal enterprise was comprised of an amalgam of many members of domestic terrorist organizations such as the "Black Liberation Army," the "Republic of New Afrika," the "Weather Underground," and the "May 19th Communist Organization."

David Gilbert was far more than the driver of a “get-away vehicle” on October 20th.

According to the accounts of several cooperating witnesses that were developed during the investigation, David Gilbert was a willing and active participant in many of the planning and strategy sessions of these heinous crimes. It should also be noted that he intentionally chose not to actively participate in his state trial and attempted to disrupt the court proceedings on a number of occasions proclaiming that he did not recognize the jurisdiction of any judicial body in the United States. He was thereafter convicted on three counts of murder and sentenced to three consecutive terms of twenty-five years to life, ostensibly a life sentence.

The investigation clearly established that Gilbert chose his own revolutionary path without any regard for the law or for the sanctity of the lives of innocent people.

It should also be noted that throughout his forty years of imprisonment, Gilbert has never shown any remorse, nor has he ever apologized to the victims’ families for his criminal behavior. The commutation of his sentence by former Governor Andrew Cuomo is antithetical to any semblance of justice. Such compassion is ordinarily reserved for deserving and repentant criminals who have atoned for their crimes.

Granting his release would serve as a public insult to the families of Gilbert’s fallen victims and to all members of law enforcement who remain committed each day to the safety and welfare of the American people.

To allow Gilbert to benefit from the United States system of justice – a system he not only disavowed, but sought to overthrow – would be a shameful act.

On behalf of the membership of the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI, I urge the New York State Parole Board to deny the release of David Gilbert.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. L. Roemer". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Eileen Roemer
President
Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI