

THE STATE OF



TENNESSEE
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
COMMUTATION

TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, on August 25, 2004, in the Circuit Court for Bledsoe County, Tennessee, Michelle Lea Martin (TOMIS #00380689) was convicted of Second-Degree Murder (case no. 76-2002). The court imposed a sentence of twenty-five years of incarceration for this conviction; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's constitution and statutory law authorize the governor to grant executive clemency, including the power to commute sentences; and

WHEREAS, this case appears to me to be a proper one for the exercise of executive clemency for the following reasons:

In 2004, Ms. Martin was convicted of second-degree murder after signing a plea agreement of guilty for the 2001 shooting death of her abusive father in Bledsoe County, Tennessee. Ms. Martin was twenty-one years old at the time of the offense. She committed this offense after intervening with respect to her father's physical abuse of her mother and confronting him about the years of ongoing, severe sexual and drug abuse that he committed upon Ms. Martin, beginning when she was four years old, and continuing throughout her childhood and teenage years.

Ms. Martin has taken numerous, substantial steps that evince her rehabilitation since her conviction. She has obtained her GED and earned a degree through Lipscomb University. Ms. Martin has completed numerous personal growth and other programs and serves as a model and mentor to other female inmates. She also has significant support in the community, with many citizens and community leaders testifying to her exceptional character and committing to assist her upon release. Ms. Martin has made remarkable progress and has great potential to contribute positively to society.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by Article III, Section 6 of the Tennessee Constitution and by the laws of the State of Tennessee, do hereby commute the sentence imposed upon Michelle Lea Martin (TOMIS #00380689) for her conviction of Second-Degree Murder (case no. 76-2002) to release her to parole supervision on December 20, 2018, and to time served on December 31, 2020. Ms. Martin shall live the life of a good citizen and shall not violate any of the laws of the United States, the State of Tennessee, or any other state and shall not be guilty of conduct which is illegal or improper in the opinion of the governor.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed at Nashville, Tennessee on this 26th day of July, 2018.



GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE

