

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 2012

JUSTICE PRECINCT OFFICES
160 MARSDEN STREET
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150**MEDIA STATEMENT****Man convicted for murder of police officer
Glenn McEnallay to remain in jail**

One of four men convicted for the shooting murder of police officer Glenn McEnallay will remain in jail after being refused parole by the State Parole Authority.

Motekiai Taufahema, aged 35, was today refused parole at a public hearing following the expiration of his seven-year non-parole period last month (26 March 2012).

The State Parole Authority is concerned Taufahema has not addressed his offending behaviour and his release is not supported by the Serious Offenders Review Council (SORC).

A SORC report stated, "The offender needs to be reduced in classification before progress and judgment...It is not appropriate for SPA to consider the offender for release on parole."

Commissioner Ron Woodham opposed Taufahema's release, saying it was not in the public interest and he had not addressed his offending behaviour.

Taufahema, found not guilty of the murder of Senior Constable McEnallay but guilty of manslaughter, was sentenced to 11 years prison.

Motekiai's brother, John, also found not guilty of the murder of Senior Constable McEnallay but guilty of manslaughter, was last month refused parole and will not be eligible again until 2014. His full sentence is also 11 years with a non-parole period of seven years.

The Authority last month also refused parole for co-offender Meli Lagi at a private meeting. He will not be eligible for parole again until next year.

Lagi, 32 – who was found not guilty of the murder of Senior Constable McEnallay but guilty of firearms offences – was sentenced to almost 13 years prison with a non-parole period of almost nine years, which expired on 2 April 2011.

The fourth co-offender, 32-year-old Sione Penisini, is serving a total sentence of 36 years and won't be eligible for parole until 2029.

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