

THURSDAY 17 MAY 2012

JUSTICE PRECINCT OFFICES  
160 MARSDEN STREET  
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150**MEDIA STATEMENT****Dr Chang killer to be deported**

The man who fired the fatal shot killing heart surgeon Dr Victor Chang will be immediately deported when released from prison following a decision today by the State Parole Authority.

The Authority formed an intention to grant parole at a private hearing this morning on the strict condition 68-year-old Chiew Seng Liew be immediately thrown out of the country.

The State Government, Corrective Services Commissioner Ron Woodham and interested parties can now make submissions before the public hearing in July.

Liew – who has served 21 years behind bars – is suffering the advanced stages of Parkinson's Disease.

The Serious Offenders Review Council (SORC) and the Probation and Parole Service both believe Liew will be unfit to travel if his health deteriorates further.

A report submitted by the Serious Offenders Review Council, chaired by the Hon. David Levine AO RFD QC, found, "This offender was not sentenced to die in a NSW Correctional Centre. The overall fragility of his condition cannot be denied."

A Probation and Parole report said, "It is impossible to ignore Mr Liew's deteriorating physical and mental health...there is ongoing concern it will also continue to have a detrimental impact on Mr Liew's capacity to return to Malaysia upon release."

Liew was sentenced to a maximum 26 years in prison for firing the two shots that killed Dr Chang in a failed extortion attempt at Mosman on 4 July 1991.

Liew was refused parole last year when his 20-year non-parole period expired on 12 July.

His partner in the murder and the offender who provided the gun, Phillip Choon Tee Lim, was deported to Malaysia in 2010 after serving 18 years of his maximum 24 year sentence.

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) will immediately deport Liew to Malaysia when he is released.

Liew remains incarcerated at Long Bay's Hospital.

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