

THE STATE OF



TENNESSEE  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

## COMMUTATION

### TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

**WHEREAS**, on September 27, 2001, in the Criminal Court of for Rutherford County, Tennessee, Mindy Sue Dodd (TOMIS # 339164) was convicted of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit murder in the first-degree (case no. 48523A). On December 5, 2001, she received a sentence of life imprisonment with the possibility of parole for the murder conviction and a concurrent sentence of twenty years of imprisonment for the conspiracy charge; 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:

Ms. Dodd was convicted of conspiring to murder her husband—who was also her former step-father—who had a history of sexually and mentally abusing her, first as his stepdaughter and later as his wife. In 2001, before her trial, Ms. Dodd was diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and personality disorders, which were exacerbated or created by the years of abuse and which were aggravated by Ms. Dodd's fear that her abuser would similarly abuse her daughter. Ms. Dodd has completed a number of rehabilitative and technical courses while incarcerated. At the clemency hearing, witnesses testified to her personal growth and diligent work while incarcerated, as well as her desire to help others. Ms. Dodd also submitted many letters of support attesting to her character, work ethic, rehabilitative transformation, and desire to be a contributor to society. The Tennessee Board of Parole recommending granting a commutation to Ms. Dodd.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, 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 sentences imposed upon Mindy Sue Dodd for her convictions of first-degree murder and conspiracy to commit first-degree murder to make her immediately eligible for parole consideration by the Tennessee Board of Parole. Ms. Dodd 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 2nd day of December, 2021.



GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE

