

Cecil Holmes

- Cecil Holmes is a 70-year-old man who was convicted of second-degree murder in 1980. He was accused of being an unarmed lookout, standing across the street from an attempted robbery that resulted in the death of a Philadelphia taxi driver.
- An army reservist with no prior convictions, Cecil was a 23-year-old husband and expectant father when he was arrested in 1979.
- The presentence report recommended probation, but because of mandatory sentencing, Mr. Holmes was sentenced to life without parole.
- Over decades, he has earned the trust of prison staff, even working in the prison's staff kitchen. Now, after more than 45 years of incarceration, he suffers from severe dementia.

View [Mr. Holmes' King's Bench petition, filed Sep. 10, 2026](#)