

Parole Determination Andrew Nolan

20 August 2026

Parole denied for man who inflicted catastrophic injuries on baby boy

Parole has been refused for a man who assaulted a seven-month-old baby, causing permanent and catastrophic injuries.

Andrew Nolan is serving a total sentence of 15 years and three months, with a non-parole period of 11 years and six months, after being convicted of causing grievous bodily harm with intent.

At a hearing considering his release under the *manifest injustice* provisions, the Authority was Nolan had completed his custodial program pathway and had commenced, but not yet completed, the Reintegration and Intensive Support Program (RISP).

The program is designed to prepare inmates for a safe and structured release into the community ahead of parole.

The victim's mother and the State made submissions opposing Nolan's release.

In a lengthy and powerful statement to the Authority, the victim's mother outlined the extensive lifelong care required for her son and the impact of the offending on the family, but said her primary concern was community safety if Nolan were released.

Addressing the victim's mother, Judicial Officer Judge Penny Hock expressed the Authority's sympathy and admiration.

"No words of mine, on behalf of the Authority, can ease the pain or remedy the harm caused to Bobby and his family," Judge Hock said.

"We understand the devastating consequences of Nolan's actions and the profound impact they have had on you and your family.

"You are to be commended for the care and love you continue to provide to Bobby."

The State also argued Nolan should remain in custody to complete the RISP.

The Authority was told he had initially agreed to undertake the program, acknowledging his anxiety about release and recognising his need for comprehensive support in the community.

However, his legal representative advised that he had since changed his position and was seeking release before completing the program.

Judge Hock observed the Commissioner of Corrective Services NSW initially refused Nolan approval to undertake the RISP when it was first requested in May, before reversing that decision one month before the parole hearing.

"Had the Authority known the Commissioner was reconsidering the situation, this hearing may not have been necessary and the distress caused to the family could have been avoided," Judge Hock said.

Counsel representing the Commissioner of Corrective Services NSW acknowledged the situation was "unfortunate".

After considering the submissions, the Authority refused parole under the *manifest injustice* provisions, finding that Nolan must complete the RISP before being considered for release.

Under legislation, the Authority must reconsider his case before his next anniversary parole eligibility date on 23 April 2027.

Nolan's matter will return before the Authority in February 2027.

His total sentence will expire 23 January 2030.