

Shomari Figures Helped Oversee A Federal Program That Released Criminals Early, Including Murderers And Drug Traffickers. Some Of Those Released Are Now Back In Prison, Including For Drug Charges

From 2021 To 2023 Figures Worked At The DOJ Under Merrick Garland As Deputy Chief Of Staff And Counselor To The AG. ([Shomari Figures LinkedIn](#), Accessed 4/18/24)



Deputy Chief of Staff & Counselor to the Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Jan 2021 - Oct 2023 · 2 yrs 10 mos

([Shomari Figures LinkedIn](#), Accessed 4/18/24)

The Attorney General Supervises The Pardon Attorney Who Advises The President On Pardons And Commutations. “Housed within the Department of Justice is the Office of the Pardon Attorney, who is empowered to execute the duties outlined in §§ 1.1 – 1.8, such as processing petitions, drafting opinions, and conducting investigations. The Pardon Attorney (PA) is supervised by the Attorney General (AG) and directed by the Deputy Attorney General (DAG), though the PA must adhere to the limitations outlined in § 0.36.” (Zachary Newland, “President Trump’s Commutations and Pardons,” [Evergreen Attorneys](#), 7/1/25)

In January 2025, President Biden Commuted The Sentences Of Two People Connected To The Murder Of A Police Officer, One Of Which Pled Guilty To Involuntary Manslaughter. “Former President Joe Biden commuted the life sentences of two Virginia men who are in prison in connection with the 1998 killing of a police officer, despite a federal jury acquitting them of his murder. Terence Richardson and Ferrone Claiborne were charged in the killing of Allen Gibson, a police officer in Waverly, who was shot with his service weapon while breaking up a suspected drug deal in the woods behind an apartment building. Biden’s commutation, which came three days before he left office, drew outrage from Gibson’s daughter, Gov. Glenn Youngkin and state Attorney General Jason Miyares. The Virginia NAACP praised the decision and accused state Republicans of politicizing the case. Both men have denied killing Gibson, claiming they took plea deals in state court to avoid the death penalty. In 1999, Richardson pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter and Claiborne pleaded guilty to being an accessory to the crime after the fact. Richardson received a five-year sentence and Claiborne got time served.” (Dean Mirshahi, “Biden commutes Waverly Two sentences, sparking GOP backlash,” [VPM](#), 1/22/25)

In December 2024, President Biden Commuted The Sentence Of Someone Convicted Of Killing A Dozen People. “President Joe Biden on Monday announced that he is commuting the sentences of 37 of the 40 people on federal death row, including a Philadelphia drug lord who was convicted of killing a dozen people. Their punishments were converted to life in prison.” (Annie McCormick, “Biden Commutes Death Sentence For Philadelphia Drug Lord Who Killed 12 People, Including Children,” [WHYY](#), 12/24/24)

In December 2024, President Biden Commuted The Sentence Of A Drug Trafficker. “Walter Lee Muhammad was sentenced to 10 years in prison for drug trafficking. In December 2024, Joe Biden commuted his sentence. He now faces new federal charges following an investigation that led to the seizure of what was believed to be cocaine, fentanyl and heroin. In 2020, Muhammad received a 10 year sentence after being found guilty of federal crimes related to the possession of controlled substances, including fentanyl, with intent to distribute. However, in December 2024, President Biden commuted his sentence. In other words, he reduced his sentence without overturning the conviction or declaring him innocent. Muhammad was among the beneficiaries of a broad clemency initiative announced by Biden at the end of his term, which included 1,499 commutations and 39 pardons.” (Joaquín Núñez, “Biden Commuted A Fentanyl Trafficker’s Sentence. He Now Faces New Drug Charges,” [Voz](#), 8/18/26)

Christopher Dancy Was Released By President Biden. (Commutations Granted By President Joseph Biden (2021-2025), [U.S. Department Of Justice](#), Accessed 9/25/26)

Christopher Dancy	Eastern District of Virginia	288 months' imprisonment (as amended by order of December 19, 2018); five years' supervised release (February 27, 2009)	Conspiracy to distribute cocaine hydrochloride	See above download
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(Commutations Granted By President Joseph Biden (2021-2025), [U.S. Department Of Justice](#), Accessed 9/25/26)

Dancy Was In Prison For 336 Months For Conspiracy To Distribute Cocaine Hydrochloride. “Christopher Dancy - Prince George, Virginia Offense: Conspiracy to distribute cocaine hydrochloride (Eastern District of Virginia). Sentence: 336 months of imprisonment, five-year term of supervised release (February 27, 2009); amended to 288 months of imprisonment, five-year term of supervised release (December 19, 2018). Commutation Grant: Sentence commuted to expire on August 24, 2022, leaving intact and in effect the five-year term of supervised release.” (“Clemency Recipient List,” [Mirage News](#), 4/26/22)

In March 2025, Dancy Pled Guilty To Federal Drug And Gun Charges. “Marc H. Silverman, Acting United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that CHRISTOPHER DANCY, 35, of Hartford, pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Judge Omar A. Williams in Hartford to drug and firearm offenses. According to court documents and statements made in court, on August 18, 2022, Dancy was arrested for violating his state parole. A search of an apartment where he was staying revealed a loaded Glock model 45, 9mm pistol, approximately 20 grams of fentanyl mixed with xylazine, and items used to process and package narcotics for distribution. On May 3, 2023, Hartford Police officers observed Dancy engaging in suspected drug activity in the area of Albany Avenue and Edgewood Street and seized a car that Dancy had occupied. On May 5, 2023, a search of the car revealed a loaded Glock model 26, 9mm pistol. Subsequent DNA testing of the pistol connected it to Dancy. Dancy’s criminal history includes state drug and firearm convictions. It is a violation of federal law for a person previously convicted of a felony offense to possess a firearm or ammunition that has moved in interstate or foreign commerce. Dancy pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute fentanyl, which carries a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years, and unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon, which carries a maximum term of imprisonment of 15 years. A sentencing date is not scheduled. Dancy has been detained since June 5, 2023.” (“Hartford Man Pleads Guilty to Federal Drug and Gun Offenses,” [U.S. Attorney’s Office For The District Of Connecticut](#), 3/11/25)