# Former U.S. Army Sergeant Pardoned for Protester Murder in Texas



Daniel Perry, a former U.S. Army Sergeant, has been pardoned by Texas Governor Greg Abbott. Convicted in April 2023, Perry was found guilty of murdering protester Garrett Foster during the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests in Austin, Texas. He was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Governor Abbott requested a review by the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles shortly after Perry's conviction, resulting in a unanimous decision to recommend a full pardon. Abbott cited Texas' 'Stand Your Ground' laws in his decision, stating that these laws allow individuals to use deadly force if they feel they are in imminent danger.

The parole board's investigation included a review of police reports, court records, and witness statements. Following the recommendation, Perry's firearm rights have also been restored.

Perry had claimed he acted in self-defense, asserting that he feared Foster, who was legally carrying an AK-47, might shoot him. This claim was made despite prosecutors presenting evidence that Perry had indicated intent to shoot protesters prior to the event. The pardon has stirred controversy, with critics arguing it sets a troubling precedent.