

John Bolen serving THREE LIFE SENTENCES



Age: 46

Race: Asian/white

Raised: Palm Bay, Florida

Tried: Southern Florida

Will live: Melbourne, Florida

Charges: Conspiracy to import 5 or more kilos, attempt to import 5 or more kilos, conspiracy to possess 5 or more kilos, possession with intent to possess 5 or more kilos

Trial/plea: Trial

Sentence: Life without parole

Sentenced on: 03/05/2007; denied bond, in since August 2006

Served: 12 years

Priors: **First time offender**

Prison Conduct: No disciplinary infractions

Clemency status: Submitted again June 11, 2018 (previously denied under Obama initiative March 2017)

Release date: When deceased

Institution: FCC Medium, Coleman Florida

Media: 360 Law: [How Courts Could Ease The White House's Clemency Backlog](#)

Accomplishments: Currently in service to others as a mental health companion and mentor in the BOP's Skills Program under the guidance of Dr Benitez. Program is to help those with brain injuries and mental health issues with daily living skills and cognitive change - See John's [CANDO profile page](#) for long list of programs complete.

After the 2004 hurricane season devastated the East Coast of Central Florida, John's chartered fishing boat business was struggling financially and after he got the boat repaired, he got involved in a drug conspiracy to overcome debt. According to John: I rationalized and justified my behavior, thinking I wasn't doing anything that bad, by *allowing my boat to be used while I looked the other way*. I replay this day over and over in my head. I had options and choices but I lost sight of the value of good honest hard work and instead I compromised my integrity and my honesty. I horrible regret this terrible mistake. Words truly cannot describe how sorry I am for my actions that has inflicted indescribable pain upon my wife, son, mother and extended family. After coming to prison I found myself in the BOP's residential Challenge Program. One of the main tenets of the program is the eight attitudes of success, honesty, objectivity, willingness, humility, open-mindedness, gratitude, responsibility, and caring; so simple, yet so life changing. The irony is that had I embraced and lived these attitudes in the free world, I would have never become involved in criminal activity. Now, I am in service to others in the BOP's Skills Program as a mentor and mental health companion for those with mental health issues and brain injuries. It is rewarding to see others achieve

the same personal change and growth that I have. I pray President Trump will find me worthy of his mercy so I can make both him and my family proud.