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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: December 11, 2002

Re: Ray Walters Parole Hearing

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Ray Walters, 57, was found unsuitable for parole during a November 26, 2002 hearing of the State Board of Prison Terms held at Folsom State Prison.

Stanislaus County Deputy District Attorney Elaine Casillas appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People and argued for Walters' continued confinement based on the callous nature of the crime for which he was convicted.

In 1992 Walters was sentenced to 18 years to life after being convicted of the murder of Randy Fernandes in Modesto. On November 17, 1991 Fernandes was found dead in a front yard next to Walters' residence. Fernandes died from a gunshot wound to the chest. Walters later admitted to shooting Fernandes after a confrontation between the two, but claims it was in self defense although Fernandes was not armed.

Walters waived his appearance at the parole hearing. This was Walters first parole hearing. He will be eligible for another hearing in four years.

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