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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

Date: November 18, 2013  
Re: Parole Hearing  
Convicted Murderer Andrew Lopez

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**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Andrew Lopez, age 49, of Denair was found unsuitable for parole after a November 13, 2013 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings at the state prison in Corcoran, California. The Board denied parole for 3 years.

On December 13, 1991, a Stanislaus County jury convicted Lopez of second degree murder for the 1991 stabbing death of James Turnbough in Denair. Turnbough was stabbed thirteen times by Lopez who left the victim lying on East Zeering Road. At the time of the killing, Lopez was just out of prison for selling heroin and wanted for absconding from parole. Lopez had a previous juvenile conviction in Hayward for stabbing a man in 1978.

During the hearing on Wednesday, the Board heard testimony regarding the inmate's prior criminal history, his lengthy prison record of conflicts with guards and staff as well as his failure to obey the rules. The Board also heard comments from members of the victim's family. In announcing the decision to deny parole, the Commissioner noted that the inmate posed an unreasonable threat to public safety based upon the following: Lopez's most recent psychological evaluation placed him at a relatively high risk to reoffend if released into the community; he demonstrated little insight into the causes for his criminality; the murder in particular was carried out in a heinous and cruel manner; this was his second criminal offense involving a stabbing; he showed no true remorse for his crime; and he was unable to conform his conduct even while incarcerated in prison.

Lopez began serving his 17 years-to-life sentence in June of 1992. This was his second subsequent parole hearing. He had previously been denied parole in 2009. Lopez will be scheduled for another suitability hearing in 2016.

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