



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stanislaus County
832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95354
Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

Carol Shipley
Assistant District Attorney

Chief Deputy District Attorneys

Alan Cassidy

Dave Harris

Doug Raynaud

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 30, 2014
Re: Parole denied

For More Information Contact:

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney
Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Nahu Rodriguez, age 47, formerly of Modesto, was found unsuitable for parole at a May 2, 2014 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings in Solano State Prison. Deputy District Attorney Elaine G. Casillas appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on the extreme violence of the attempted murder he committed, the severity of the injuries to the victim, the large number of recent rule violations and a unrealistic parole plans. The Board of Prison Hearings agreed and denied parole for five years.

On July 23, 1993, Rodriguez shot his 23-year-old neighbor, Andres Lopez, in the face with a shotgun at point blank range, blinding him in both eyes, after attempting to hit him with a stick and threatening to kill him. Witnesses confirmed both men had been drinking beer all day together until Rodriguez walked into his residence and returned outside with the shotgun. After shooting the victim, Rodriguez dropped the shotgun and fled the area. He was captured two years later.

Although Mr. Lopez could not be present for the parole hearing in Solano, Deputy District Attorney Casillas, provided a handwritten letter to be read for the Board. Through a Spanish interpreter, Mr. Lopez wrote that Rodriguez "...was a dangerous man...a danger to the community...and [that he is] in fear for [his] family" if Rodriguez would be set free.

Nahu Rodriguez was convicted of attempted murder with personal use of a gun and the infliction of great bodily injury in 1996. He is serving an eleven year-to-life term and was being considered for parole for a fourth time. Rodriguez had previously been denied parole in 2009. He will be scheduled for another hearing in five years.

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