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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 22, 2016

Re: Herman Lee Groves – Denied Parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Herman Lee Groves, age 57, of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole after a January 14, 2016 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held in Stockton, California. Deputy District Attorney Randy Fischer appeared for the People and argued for the inmate's continued confinement because he has been determined to be a moderate to high risk for violence if released, and based on the heinous facts of his crime and his lack of programming while incarcerated. The Board of Parole Hearings agreed and denied parole for 7 years.

Groves was convicted of second degree murder in 1984 for killing three-year-old Tina Marie Cavender. While living with the toddler's mother, Groves physically abused the child and killed her by punching her in the stomach hard enough to cause her death.

Groves refused to leave his cell and participate in the parole hearing. He was represented by an attorney who appeared on his behalf. The parole board denied parole for another seven years based upon the inmate's risk of violence to the community if released, the facts of the crime, and his defiance in refusing to attend the hearing.

Groves is serving a life sentence. This was his ninth parole hearing. His next appearance before the parole board will be scheduled sometime in 2023.

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