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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 16, 2016
Re: Parole Denial/Jeffrey Paul Sanchez

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jeffrey Paul Sanchez, age 48, of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole during a November 15, 2016 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings conducted at Solano State Prison in Vacaville, California. Deputy District Attorney Merrill Hault appeared at the hearing to argue Sanchez still posed a current safety risk to the community and failed to follow through with previous Parole Board recommendations. Sanchez ultimately waived his right to a parole hearing and agreed to a one-year denial.

On December 18, 1988, Sanchez, along with several other men, planned and carried out an armed robbery of the Assyrian Social Hall in Turlock. Armed with guns, his group confronted the six victims who were cleaning up after a bingo game. After forcing the victims to lie down on the floor, Sanchez became enraged upon learning that the night's bingo receipts had already been deposited at the bank. Sanchez pushed one of the victims with his rifle and then shot that victim in the middle of his back from only inches away. Although the shooting victim survived, he has endured hospitalizations, surgeries, and ongoing medical issues as a result of Sanchez's actions. The suspects got away with only personal items taken from the six victims.

A Stanislaus County jury found Sanchez guilty of attempted murder, second degree burglary, five counts of robbery, one count of attempted robbery, conspiracy to commit robbery, and various gun enhancements. In 1990, he was sentenced to life plus 9 years 8 months in state prison.

Sanchez has been denied parole seven times. On June 2, 2015, Sanchez stipulated to a 3 year denial agreeing that he was not ready for parole. At that time, the Board of Parole Hearings recommended that Sanchez remain discipline free, establish a viable parole plan, and continue to get self-help before his next parole hearing. Since his last hearing, Sanchez failed to engage in any self-help courses or formulate a viable parole plan as recommended by the Board. Because of these issues, he elected to waive a decision for one more year so he could continue to work on satisfying the Board's recommendations. The Board also felt Sanchez still currently posed an unreasonable risk to public safety if released. Sanchez will be eligible for another parole hearing in 2017.

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