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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 31, 2019
Re: Ronald Anderson
Parole Denied

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Ronald Ray Anderson, age 58, of Modesto, was denied parole during a May 29, 2019 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at the Correctional Training Facility in Soledad, California. Former Stanislaus County Deputy District Attorney Elizabeth DeJong (now with San Joaquin County) attended the hearing along with members of the victim's next of kin to argue against Anderson's release on parole.

In June of 1979, Anderson participated in a residential robbery in Stanislaus County along with several co-defendants. Anderson tied up the victim and carried a shotgun with him to kill someone if needed. The following night, Anderson went with his co-defendants to the home of victims Philip and Kathryn Ranzo. After the Ranzos tried to help the defendants, who claimed to be out of gas, Philip Ranzo was beaten to death with a baseball bat and hatchet and his wife Kathryn was raped and killed.

At the end of the hearing, the Commissioners denied parole citing inconsistencies in Anderson's version regarding his involvement in the crimes, leaving many unanswered questions which caused them to determine he remains an unreasonable risk to public safety if released. Parole was denied for three years but the date may be advanced earlier due to Anderson being under 25 years old at the time of the crime.

Victim's next of kin once again made the trip to attend the hearing yesterday in Soledad. This was the 27th time since 1993 that they have travelled to attend parole hearings involving one of the several defendants who murdered their loved ones.

This was the tenth parole consideration for this inmate. Anderson was previously granted parole on December 27, 2017, but that decision was later overturned by then Governor Jerry Brown.

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