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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: April 4, 2023 Re: Enrique Silva Galvez

2nd Degree Murder Inmate denied parole

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Enrique Silva Galvez, age 43, formerly of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole during a March 14, 2023 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at Mule Creek State Prison. Deputy District Attorney Amy Elliott Neumann appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People and argued before the Board against Galvez's release.

On July 31, 1996, a 17-year-old Galvez shot and killed rival gang member Daniel Lopez after Lopez approached and punched Galvez, knocking him to the ground. At the time of the murder there had been ongoing conflict between two opposing criminal street gangs. Lopez belonged to the West Side Boyz while Galvez belonged to the Four Corners gang.

After the fistfight ended, Galvez got up, pulled out a gun, and chased Lopez into a nearby liquor store. Galvez fired his gun five or six times at Lopez and into the business, killing him and wounding a customer.

In January of 1999, Galvez pled guilty to one count of second-degree murder and one count of assault with a firearm. Galvez also admitted he used a firearm during the killing and acted with premeditation. He was sentenced to a term of 15 years to life for the murder, plus an additional three years for the firearm enhancement and a concurrent term of three years for the assault conviction, for a total sentence of 18 years to life in state prison.

Since going to prison, Galvez has repeatedly violated prison rules by participating in gang riots, possessing weapons, contraband, cellphones and inmate manufactured alcohol. In one instance he was criminally charged and convicted of battery on another inmate for which he received an additional six years added onto his total prison term.

A prison psychologist who examined Galvez found he still posed a moderate risk of future violence if he were to be released into the community. The psychologist also opined that Galvez' parole plans were immature and lacking in concrete details. Galvez also failed to prepare a comprehensive relapse prevention program to help him avoid returning to drugs and alcohol after release.

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Prosecutor Neumann urged the Board not to release Galvez on parole based upon his failure to attend sufficient programing for his substance abuse issues, persistent rule violations, and continued gang involvement.

After deliberations, the Board determined that even though Galvez qualified for youthful offender considerations, he still posed an unreasonable risk to public safety if he were to be released on parole. The Board determined that Galvez needed additional programming to address his entrenched criminality and attend substance abuse self-help programs. The Board denied parole for a period of three years.

This was Galvez's second parole hearing. He was previously denied parole for 10 years in 2013.

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