

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 31, 2002

Re: Rodrigo Orozco Parole Hearing

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Rodrigo Orozco, aged 38, was found unsuitable for parole during a July 26th, 2002 hearing of the State Board of Prison Terms held at Solano prison in Vacaville.

Deputy District Attorney Mike Stone appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People of the State of California, and argued for continued confinement based on Orozco's prior criminal record, and the nature of the crime for which he was convicted. Members of the victim's family also appeared and argued against Orozco's release.

In 1983, Orozco was sentenced to 25 years to life after being convicted of the First degree murder and robbery of 78 year old George Shafer of Riverbank. On May 5th, 1983, Orozco and a crime partner broke into Shafer's home. After the 78 year old Shafer was bound and gagged, Orozco and his partner ransacked the house for property. Mr. Shafer's body was found the next day after Orozco made an anonymous call to police reporting that someone was tied up in a house in Riverbank..

Orozco has previously been denied parole. He will be eligible for another parole hearing in one year.