

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

JAMES C. BRAZELTON District Attorney

Stanislaus County Courthouse 11th and I Streets Room 200, 2nd Floor P.O. Box 442, Modesto, CA 95353

(209) 525-5550

FAX: (209) 525-5545

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: 10\7\3

Re:Thomas Chambers Parole Hearing

For more information contact: John J. Goold, Chief Deputy District Attorney (209) 525-5550

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Thomas Chambers, 39, was found unsuitable for parole at an October sixth hearing of the State Board of Prison Terms in Corcoran. Deputy District Attorney Doug Maner appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement since the cruel and callous nature of the crime and Chambers unstable mental health poses a severe risk to the community.

In June of 1984, Chambers severely beat 77 year old Joe Ramirez with an iron skillet and stabbed him with a ten inch butcher knife. Ramirez was asleep in his bed at the time. Chambers was convicted of second degree murder with the personal use of a knife and sentenced to sixteen years to life in prison.

After Chambers' arrest he was referred to several mental health facilities for evaluation of his mental instability. While at one of these facilities, he strangled another inmate, nearly killing him. He has also assaulted guards and inmates within the prison system on repeated occasions. Chambers refuses to address his mental problems or voluntarily take medication. He had no valid plans for his residence or employment if paroled and claimed to be a millionaire who owns an oil well in Tokyo.

Chambers has been denied parole twice before. He will be scheduled for another hearing in two years.