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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 13, 2018
Re: Jason Ian Lamarsh
Parole denied

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jason Ian Lamarsh, age 51, was denied parole during a Board of Parole Hearings held on June 13, 2018 at the California state prison in Calipatria, Imperial County.

In 1990, Lamarsh and co-defendants Ronald Willey, Richard Vieira, Gerald Cruz, James Beck took knives and baseball bats to a home in Salida to murder four people over a disagreement. Lamarsh was convicted by a jury of four counts of second degree murder and sentenced to 64 years to life in state prison.

This was Lamarsh's initial parole hearing and was advanced to an earlier date due to recent changes in the law governing youthful offenders (Penal Code §3051).

While in prison for the last 25 years, Lamarsh has racked up an impressive number of rule violations (34) including engaging in a riot, belonging to a white prison gang and fighting with other inmates as required by the gang. He has bought and sold drugs and is still using methamphetamine and heroin; his last positive urine test for using heroin and methamphetamine was in May of 2017. He also violated prison rules by making alcohol in September 2017 and twice more in February 2018 to make money to buy drugs. The latest two rule violation cases are currently pending hearing.

Prior to his parole hearing, Lamarsh was examined by a prison psychologist and received a rating of HIGH risk for future violence. He showed a lack of insight into the reasons he committed the crime, telling the doctor he doesn't think about the victims much if he can help it.

Although the Commissioners could have denied Lamarsh parole for 3, 5, 7, 10 or even 15 years, he was only given a 5-year denial. Under the new laws, as a youthful offender Lamarsh may be able to again accelerate that hearing to an earlier date.

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