



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

Assistant District Attorney
Jeffrey M. Laugero

Chief Deputies
Marlisa Ferreira
Wendell Emerson
Michael D. Houston
Mark Zahner

Bureau of Investigation
Chief Terry L. Seese

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 22, 2022
Re: Kenneth Ray White
Violent Sex Offender Denied Parole

For More Information Contact:

John Goold, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-6909

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Kenneth Ray White, age 54, of Modesto was denied parole during a March 18, 2022 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at Mule Creek State Prison in Ione. Deputy District Attorney Victoria Vasquez appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On September 23, 1997, White was out on parole after being previously convicted and sentenced to state prison in 1991 for sexual assault. On this day, White approached the 40-year old female victim in downtown Modesto, pulled out a knife, held it to her throat and told her that he wanted to have sex with her. As the victim cried and pleaded to be let go, White forcibly undressed her, but struggled to remove his own pants. Fearing it was taking too much time, White dragged the victim towards a nearby dumpster, robbed her of \$19 and then tried to throw her in with the trash. A witness who saw White dragging the crying victim down an alley called police. Responding officers contacted White, who claimed he and the victim were a “couple” just having a disagreement. When she was interviewed, the victim broken down in tears and reported White’s crimes.

White was arrested and originally charged with attempted rape, robbery, assault with the intent to commit rape and aggravated kidnapping to commit rape as well as an enhancement for each count that he used a deadly weapon (knife). He was also alleged to have two prior “strike” offenses under California’s “Three Strikes” law – a 1987 robbery in San Francisco County and a 1991 penetration with a foreign object and rape offense in Stanislaus County. It was also alleged that White had previously served three prior state prison terms.

On February 6, 1998, a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury convicted White of false imprisonment by force, assault with intent to commit rape, robbery, kidnapping and found the enhancements true. On March 10, 1998, Judge William Mayhew sentenced White under the “Three Strikes” law to serve life in prison with a minimum incarceration time of 64 years.

Office: 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354 Mailing: PO BOX 442 Modesto, CA 95353
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027 www.stanislaus-da.org



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Over the last 24 years in custody, White has committed 22 serious rules violations including battery on an inmate, threatening staff and testing positive several times for controlled substances, the most recent in 2014. A prison psychologist who recently interviewed White found that he minimized the seriousness of his sexual violence criminal history, had stopped attending substance abuse treatment programs in 2013 and he gave the opinion that White would pose a moderate risk for future violence to the community if he were to be released from custody.

Following deliberations, the Board denied parole for a period of three years. In doing so, they found that White lacked insight into why he committed his crimes, continued to demonstrate a lack of self-control and had not completed sufficient self-help programs to address his sexual violence and addiction issues. The board also considered White's previous criminal convictions and prior violations of parole in making their decision that he was unsuitable for release.

This is White's first parole hearing. He will be tentatively scheduled for another hearing in 2025, although he may petition the Board for an earlier date if there is a change in circumstances as defined under current law.

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