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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 24, 2002

Re: **Lifer parole hearing**

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Antonio Villaecsusa Montano, age 45, formerly of Modesto, was found to be unsuitable for parole at a life prisoner initial parole consideration hearing at California State prison, Corcoran on May 14, 2002. Mr. Montano was convicted by a jury in 1995 of willfully, deliberately and with premeditation attempting to kill his wife. The jury also found that Mr. Montano used a knife to attack his wife and that he inflicted great bodily injury on her during the attack. The Parole Board found that Mr. Montano was not eligible for parole because of the especially heinous nature of the attack and because of Mr. Montano's inadequate institutional behavior. Deputy District Attorney Sandra Bishop, who prosecuted the case in 1995, appeared at the hearing, and argued that Mr. Montano should not be found suitable for parole.. Mr. Montano will next be considered for parole in two years.

The case arose out of events which occurred on January 18, 1994, in the city of Modesto. Believing that his wife of sixteen years had had an affair Mr. Montano used a knife to repeatedly stab her. She was seriously injured as a result of the attack. The couple's four children were present in the home when the attack occurred and ran to a neighbor's house to call for help.