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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Date: July 2, 2009

Re: Terry Clark parole denial

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Terry Clark (58) of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole at a July 1, 2009 hearing of the State Board of Prison Hearings at California State Prison, Solano. Senior Deputy District Attorney Doug Maner appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on lack of rehabilitation, poor parole plans and significant disciplinary history while incarcerated. The Board of Prison Hearings agreed and denied parole for three years. Clark has been incarcerated for this crime for 26 years.

In 1982, Clark and William Smith shot and killed Harold Parker and wounded Lonnie Duford because they mistakenly believed that they had stolen property from them and molested Smith's wife two weeks earlier. Clark and Smith lured the victims into a residence by promising to sell them methamphetamine and ambushed them once they arrived. Clark refused to discuss the crime with the Parole Board, but had previously stated that Parker's killing was accidental despite Smith's saying "We got the wrong guy" after shooting him; and that Duford's shooting was in self defense despite witness statements that Duford was unarmed and fleeing out the door when shot.

Clark was convicted of murder and attempted voluntary manslaughter in 1982 and was sentenced to a prison term of 23 years to life. He has previously been denied parole seven times. Smith was also convicted of murder but died in prison before he could be paroled.

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