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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: March 30, 2015
Re: Aelam Khensanphanh Granted Parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Aelam Khensanphanh of Modesto was found suitable for parole over the objection of the Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office at a March 19 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings which took place at California State Prison, Solano. Deputy District Attorney Wendell Emerson appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on the defendant's lack of remorse for the murder, the seriousness of the prisoner's conduct that led to the senseless murder, as well as the unacceptable danger that Khensanphanh would pose to the community if released. Additionally, the victim's mother and brother were present at the hearing and pleaded with the Parole Board to deny parole for Khensanphanh. After citing new legal provisions enacted by the state to ease prison overcrowding, the Board of Parole Hearings recommended that Khensanphanh be released on parole.

Aelam Khensanphanh was convicted of first degree murder on January 31, 1994 and is serving a sentence of life with the possibility of parole. On March 12, 1993, Khensanphanh had gathered with several individuals near the intersection of Colorado and Pelton Avenue in Modesto. Khensanphanh and the other individuals were all members of the "Killer Roselawn Boys" street gang. At around 7:30 p.m., Khensanphanh got into a verbal argument with another group of individuals. During the argument, Khensanphanh pulled out a gun and fired approximately six shots into the crowd. One of the rounds struck the 17-year-old victim who was rushed to the hospital where he died from the gunshot wound.

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