



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: August 21, 2017
Re: Catarino Santos Martinez
Parole Granted

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Catarino Santos Martinez, age 49, of Modesto was found suitable for parole at a July 12, 2017 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings. Deputy District Attorney Rick Mury appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on Martinez's lack of understanding of the factors that led him to commit the crime and how to deal with those factors if they should arise again. In finding Martinez suitable for release, the Board of Parole Hearings determined that after availing himself of the self-help programs available in the State Prison system Martinez no longer poses an unreasonable risk of dangerousness to the public.

Martinez was convicted in April 1998 of attempted murder and spousal battery for an attack on his wife. His wife had left him and planned on a divorce to further her personal growth. Martinez decided if he could not have her then no one could. He lured her back into their house by stating that a nonexistent letter had arrived for her. Once he had her in the bedroom he stabbed her five times in the back. She escaped before he could kill her and survived the attack.

Martinez had previously been denied parole in 2016, 2014, 2012, 2010, 2007, and 2004.

The grant of parole is subject to review by the Governor's Office. Martinez has an immigration hold and will be deported upon being paroled.

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