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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: September 24, 2020
Re: Freddie Leon Rogers
Convicted Killer Denied Parole

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California- Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Freddie Leon Rogers, age 62, was denied parole after a hearing by the Board of Parole Hearings at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville on September 11, 2020. Deputy District Attorney Kirk Brennan appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On June 2, 1978, Rogers repeatedly struck victim Jimmie Lee Hendrix in the head with a tire iron while Hendrix was visiting Rogers's sister at her home. He then repeatedly stabbed Hendrix with a knife, killing him. Rogers also took Hendrix's cash. Several days later, Rogers and his friend Danny Wettstein put the body in a borrowed sleeping bag and dumped it in a local canal.

In 1978, Rogers was convicted by a Stanislaus County jury of first degree murder and robbery for killing Hendrix and taking his cash. Rogers was sentenced to serve seven years to life in state prison.

Since being in custody, Rogers has failed to comply with psychiatric treatment and at times needed to be forcibly medicated. A prison psychologist gave a written assessment to the Board stating that Rogers still represents a high risk for future violence in the community if he were to be paroled. The psychologist also noted that Rogers had inadequate parole plans that did not address where he would live if released, how he would earn money or access psychiatric services when needed.

After deliberations, the Board denied Rogers release on parole for a period of five years. He may petition the Board for an earlier date if a change in circumstances warrants it. This was the fourteenth parole hearing for Rogers since his initial hearing in 1984.

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