



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 5, 2021
Re: Rodolfo Benavides Garcia
Repeat child molester denied parole

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Rodolfo Benavides Garcia, age 55, of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole during a January 8, 2021, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings at the Correctional Training Facility in Soledad, California. Deputy District Attorney Monroe Tyler appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

Around Christmas of 1996, Garcia raped his 7-year-old niece, injuring her genitalia. The victim disclosed the attack to a doctor during a medical examination the following year.

At the time, Garcia had been required to register as a sex offender from a 1985 conviction in Santa Clara County for child sexual abuse where he assaulted an 8-year-old victim in a backyard shed. At the time of the 1996 attack, he had failed to register with police for about ten years.

On April 22, 1998, Garcia was convicted of forcible child molest along with an enhancement for the prior 1985 conviction from Santa Clara County. He was sentenced to serve 25 years to life in state prison.

Since being sent to prison, Garcia has not committed any rule violations. However, he admitted to the Board that for the past 20-plus years in prison he has not engaged in any sort of self-help programming or other rehabilitation efforts. He also could not tell the Commissioners why he committed repeated acts of pedophilia nor could he explain the impact his sexual abuse might have had on the victims.

Deputy District Attorney Tyler argued that parole should be denied for 10 years based on Garcia's complete lack of effort towards rehabilitation and total lack of insight into why he committed these crimes and that he would therefore be a danger to the community. The Board of Parole Hearings agreed, but only denied parole for a period of five years.

This was Garcia's first actual parole hearing, having previously waived his right to a hearing in 2017. He will be eligible for another parole hearing in 2026, however that date may be accelerated based upon changes in the law.

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