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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 2, 2021
Re: Jerry Dale Ballard
Serial Pedophile denied parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jerry Dale Ballard, age 57, of Modesto, was found unsuitable for parole during a June 23, 2021 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at Valley State Prison in Chowchilla. Deputy District Attorney Sara Sousa appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On February 16, 1996, Ballard kidnapped an 11-year-old girl as she was walking home from the grocery store. Ballard brandished a knife, threatened to kill her, drove her to a remote location and raped her.

Stanislaus Sheriff's detectives investigating the case discovered evidence that Ballard had also sexually molested two additional 12-year-old victims, one of whom became pregnant.

On March 29, 1999, Ballard was convicted of forcible child molest and kidnapping. He also admitted an enhancement for using a knife during the crime and for causing great bodily injury to the 11-year-old victim. On that case, Ballard was sentenced to serve 15 years-to-life in state prison. He was also convicted of lewd acts with a child for the additional victims and sentenced to an additional three years to run consecutively to the other sentence for a total of 18 years-to-life in State Prison.

At the parole hearing on June 23rd, Ballard admitted that he had lied to the Board during a prior parole consideration hearing in May of 2018. Ballard also admitted that he molested two additional victims during the same time period of his life commitment offense but, was never caught or prosecuted for those crimes. Ballard agreed that he is a pedophile and described to the board the specific type of child that, to this day, he remains sexually attracted to.

After a break in the hearing, Ballard asked the Board allow him to voluntarily agree to a three-year denial of parole. Prosecutor Sousa opposed Ballard's request and asked the Board to proceed with the hearing as it was nearly finished and one of Ballard's victims was present and ready to provide an impact statement. Sousa was also prepared to ask for a longer denial given

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Ballard's admission of additional victims, his obvious lack of insight as to the reasons for his pedophilia and his obvious risk of harm to the public, specifically, 10-to-12-year-old young girls.

The Board overruled the People's objections, terminated the hearing after giving the victim an opportunity to address the Board and agreed to Ballard's proposed three-year denial of parole.

This was Ballard's third parole suitability hearing. He will be eligible for another hearing in three years.

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