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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Re: Parole hearing - Isodoro Martinez

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MODESTO, CALIFORNIA – Stanislaus County District Attorney James Brazelton announced today that Isodoro Martinez, age 58, was denied parole yesterday after a hearing held before the State Board of Prison terms at Folsom state prison on Thursday, February 26th, 2004.

Martinez stands convicted of the murder of Antonio Nestor, who was found beaten to death in the locked bedroom of his home in Modesto on April 18th, 1987. He had been dead for several days. A bloody crowbar believed to be the murder weapon was found outside the home

On April 19th, 1987 Martinez was located in Escondido, California with the victim's car, pink slip, \$600 in cash and a key to the locked bedroom where the victim had been found. At that time, when approached by officers, Martinez spontaneously stated "I didn't kill him."

A jury convicted Martinez of first degree murder with personal use of a weapon and auto theft. He was sentenced to 26 years to life in state prison.

Stanislaus County Deputy District Attorney, Beth O'Hara appeared at the hearing at Folsom State Prison on behalf of the People and argued against Martinez' release on parole based on the viciousness of the offense and his callous disregard for human life. O'Hara also argued that the victim was vulnerable, was killed in his own bedroom by a coworker and the body left there for days. While in prison Martinez had not furthered his education as recommended by the Board of Prison Terms nor had he engaged in any self-help groups to deal with his anger management issues.

Martinez received a three year denial. He is eligible for his next parole hearing in February of 2007.