



OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Stanislaus County
832 12th Street, Suite 300
Modesto, CA 95354

Mailing address: POB 442, Modesto, CA 95353
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney
Carol Shipley
Assistant District Attorney
Chief Deputy District Attorneys
Jerry Begen
Alan Cassidy
Dave Harris

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

For More Information Contact:

Date: March 12, 2013
Re: Parole denied for Stephen Mendonca

Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney
Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Stephen Curtis Mendonca, age 47, of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole. Just prior to the start of his scheduled hearing before the State Board of Parole Hearings in Corcoran on March 5, 2013, the defendant waived the current hearing and his right to have a hearing for five years. The Board of Parole Hearings accepted the waiver and denied parole for 5 years. Deputy District Attorney Brad Nix handled the matter for the District Attorney's Office.

On January 22, 1989, Kenneth Lawton Stewart was found shot to death on West Keyes Road. Mendonca admitted to a Stanislaus County Sheriff's detective that he and another man were solicited to kill Mr. Stewart by Dennis Lawley. According to Mendonca, Lawley claimed that Mr. Stewart had robbed him of \$3,500. Mendonca admitted to a cellmate that he had killed Mr. Stewart with a codefendant, Brian Seaborne, and that each of them fired one bullet into Mr. Stewart. Both Seaborne and Lawley were convicted of this murder.

Mendonca was previously denied parole in 2007. Mendonca will be scheduled for another parole hearing in 2018.