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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 24, 2013
Re: Luis Lozano Tamez

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Luis Lozano Tamez of Patterson was found unsuitable for parole at an October 22, 2013 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings in Folsom. Deputy District Attorney W.R. McKenzie appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on the danger Tamez would present to the community were he to be released as well as the heinousness of the life crime. The Board of Parole Hearings agreed and denied parole for 5 years.

In December of 1997, defendant talked with two of his adult children, Saul and Christine, about his suspicions that his 42-year-old wife, Elvira, was seeing another man and was going to leave him. He told them that he was going to kill her and then commit suicide. A few minutes before midnight on the evening of December 13, 1997, defendant knocked on the door of Sam Rubio's home. He was panicked and told Rubio to call 911 because "he had just stabbed his wife and she was out in the cold dying." He told Rubio that he had planned to shoot Elvira and then himself, "but in the process of shooting her she had somehow wrestled the gun from him and threw it out the window and that made him even more mad so he took out his knife and he stabbed her."

Officer Cory Brown of the Newman Police Department arrived at Rubio's house. Tamez took him to a nearby deserted field. There, Officer Brown found Elvira lying dead on the ground near a white pickup truck. She had been stabbed in the chest twice; the fatal thrust perforated her heart sac, causing massive internal bleeding. A knife was found on the ground approximately 90 feet from Elvira's body. A .22-caliber Ruger handgun was found near an access road located east of the truck. A box of .22-caliber ammunition was found in the truck's glove box and a spent .22-caliber casing was found behind the seat. The truck's passenger window was broken out. Tamez's son identified both the gun and knife as belonging to Tamez.

Tamez was convicted on May 4, 1999, by a Stanislaus County jury of the 2nd degree murder of his wife Elvira Tamez. The jury also found true the use of a firearm and use of a knife enhancement. On June 1, 1999, Tamez was sentenced to 20 years to life.

Luis Lozano Tamez will be scheduled for another hearing in 2018.