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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: August 8, 2014 Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney Re: Jesus Antonio Felix Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jesus Antonio Felix, formerly of Modesto, was found unsuitable for parole at a July 22, 2014 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings at the California State Prison – Los Angeles in Lancaster. Senior Deputy District Attorney Michael D. Houston appeared at the hearing and argued against parole based on the fact Flores continues to pose an unreasonable danger to safety. The panel agreed and denied parole for 3 more years.

On September 13, 1988, Felix and another individual went to the Modesto Inn to purchase heroin and cocaine. Felix was armed with a .22 handgun. The other individual had a rifle in the trunk of their car. After buying drugs, Felix believed he was "short changed" and tried to get back into the motel room by shoving his foot in the doorway to prevent it from being closed. Believing the occupants of the motel room were going to use a knife to cut his leg, Felix told the other individual to shoot the occupants. The other individual fired through the motel door, killing Jorge Ortiz. Another individual inside the room, Daniel Venegas, received a bullet wound to the chest, but survived. Another witness inside the motel room said Felix fired one shot from his gun. Felix pled guilty on February 21, 1989 to Murder in the Second Degree and admitted that he personally used a firearm. On March 21, 1989, he was sentenced to 17 years to life in state prison.

In arguing against a release on parole for Felix, Houston argued that Felix could not articulate how he has benefitted from the 12 Steps of Alcoholic Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous and that Felix has not properly addressed his drug problem which was the basis for the crimes. Felix had previously been denied parole three times-- in 2006, 2009 and 2012.