

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: February 6, 2014 Re: Christopher Towler Carol Shipley, Assistant District Attorney Phone: (209) 525-5550

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Christopher Towler, age 58, was found unsuitable for parole at a November 13, 2014 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings conducted at the California State Prison Solano. Deputy District Attorney Rick Mury appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on the brutal nature of the crime and lack of rehabilitation. The Board of Parole Hearings agreed and denied parole for three more years.

On February 14, 1986, Towler was convicted of participating in the kidnapping and murder of brothers Gilbert and Joseph Flores. Towler and crime partners Rudi Blanusa and Edward Haro accused the brothers of burglarizing Haro's home and stealing property belonging to Towler, Blanusa and Haro. Gilbert and Joseph Flores were taken at gunpoint, driven to a remote orchard and shot over ten times with three different guns. Towler and his partners then went to a bar and had drinks while the brothers bled to death.

Towler was convicted of two counts of murder and two counts of kidnapping along with enhancements for personally using a firearm. Towler was sentenced to thirty-eight years-to-life in state prison. Towler had previously been denied parole in 2011. He will be scheduled for another hearing in three years.

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Birgit Fladager District Attorney

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