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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: March 17, 2017
Re: Jonnie Dietzman
Parole denial

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Ms. Jonnie Dietzman, 55, of Modesto, California, was found unsuitable for parole during a January 5, 2017, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at the state prison in Chino. Deputy District Attorney Tanja Titre appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

In 1993, Dietzman and co-defendant Michael Stephens forcefully entered Jose Calderon's home and held him and his friends at gunpoint. Dietzman and Stephens demanded drugs and money. When Calderon told them he did not have any, Stephens shot him in the face with a shotgun. While the victim lay dying on the floor, Dietzman went through Calderon's pockets and took whatever money she could find.

In 1994, Dietzman was convicted of murder and sentenced to 25 years to life year in state prison. Stephens was also convicted and is serving a life sentence.

During the hearing, Deputy District Attorney Tanja Titre argued for Dietzman's continued confinement based on her lack of remorse and insight into why she committed the crime. The prosecutor also argued that Dietzman's unwillingness to address her substance abuse issues and inadequate parole plans made her an unacceptable danger to the community if released. The Board of Parole Hearings agreed and denied parole for five years.

Dietzman was previously denied parole in 2010. She will be scheduled for another hearing in 2022.

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