



# Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Date: June 2, 2017  
Re: Marty Don Spears  
Convicted murderer parole grant reversed  
by Governor Brown

### **For More Information Contact:**

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Governor Jerry Brown has reversed a decision by the State Board of Parole Hearings to grant parole to convicted killer Marty Don Spears, age 55. Spears is serving a life sentence for the gruesome 1979 murders of Phillip Ranzo and his wife Kathryn. The Governor stated the basis for his decision was that Spears currently poses an unreasonable risk of danger to society if released from prison.

Governor Brown had previously reversed a similar grant of parole for co-defendant Jeffrey Maria.

District Attorney Fladager wishes to thank State Senator Cathleen Galgiani for her support as well as all those members of the public and law enforcement who contacted the Governor's office requesting that the parole decision be reversed. Their work was greatly appreciated and ultimately effective in helping keep this convicted killer behind bars. Both Spears and Maria will nonetheless be entitled to additional parole hearings in the near future.

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