

## Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Birgit Fladager District Attorney Assistant District Attorney Dave Harris

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## PRESS RELEASE

## **For Immediate Release**

**For More Information Contact:** 

Date: July 27, 2017 Re: Martin Josh Guillory Parole Denied John Goold, Public Information Liaison Phone: (209) 525-6909

**Modesto, California** - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Martin Josh Guillory, age 59, formerly of Modesto, was found unsuitable for parole during a July 12, 2017, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings at Avenal State Prison. Deputy District Attorney Tracy Roland appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People to argue against Guillory's release.

On January 8, 1988, Guillory was smoking rock cocaine in his garage when an argument began between him and his wife over his drug use and family finances. Guillory found her tone of voice to be demeaning so he grabbed a butcher knife, went to the master bedroom and stabbed her nineteen times while his four children were sleeping in a nearby bedroom. Guillory then cleaned himself up and drove to the Bay Area leaving the children behind. After buying and smoking more crack cocaine at a motel, Guillory called his work supervisor to say he had just killed his wife and asked if someone could retrieve his four children from the home. Modesto Police officers arrived at the house and found Guillory's deceased wife under the bed covers in the master bedroom with numerous stab wounds. The children were still asleep. Guillory turned himself in to the police the following day.

On August 30, 1988, a Stanislaus County jury convicted Guillory of second degree murder along with an enhancement for using a weapon. He was sentenced to 16 years to life in state prison.

At the parole hearing, Deputy District Attorney Roland argued against Guillory's release citing the vicious and brutal nature of the attack that occurred in a home, which should be a place of safety. Roland also noted that prison records showed Guillory demonstrated a continuing lack of impulse control even in prison, that he had no insight into what caused him to murder his wife and mother of his children, and that he still represents a significant danger to the public if he were to be paroled. The Board agreed and denied parole for three years.

Guillory had most recently been denied parole in October 2014. He will be scheduled for another hearing in 2020, although the hearing may be advanced as a result of recent changes in the law.

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