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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: August 15, 2019
Re: Jorge Mendez
Parole Denied

For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jorge Mendez, of Patterson, was found unsuitable for parole at an August 15, 2019 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings at the Correctional Facility in Salinas, California. Deputy District Attorney Diane Von Der Ahe appeared at the hearing and argued for continued confinement based on continued gang affiliation, lack of parole plans, and insufficient effort by Mendez in prison to address the factors that led him to commit these crimes. The Board of Parole Hearings agreed and denied parole.

Jorge Mendez was convicted of voluntary manslaughter for the 2005 killing of Julian Isquierdo. Mendez shot the victim several times at point blank range, then drove off with his friends. While in county jail awaiting trial for that offense, he participated in a gang assault on another inmate, and was thereafter convicted of assault with a deadly weapon with an enhancement for benefitting a street gang.

Mendez is currently serving an eighteen-year prison sentence for these crimes. Although the Parole Board agreed that Mendez should not receive an early release at this time, Mendez is set to parole next year. He was eligible for this hearing to determine if he qualified for early release due to his status as a "youthful offender".

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