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Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: February 5, 2021
Re: Frank Joseph Aleo
Convicted Killer Denied Parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Frank Joseph Aleo, age 75, of Modesto, was denied parole during a January 13, 2021, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at the California Institution for Men in Chino, California. Deputy District Vita Palazuelos appeared on behalf of the People.

On June 6, 1982, Aleo, then age 19, drove himself and three others to the victim's apartment in order to commit a robbery involving marijuana. Aleo knocked on the door. When the victim asked who was there, a female co-defendant answered it was her. Two other male co-defendants then kicked in the door and Aleo's nephew shot and killed the victim.

In 1983, a Stanislaus County jury found Aleo guilty of first degree murder, robbery and residential burglary along with an enhancement for being vicariously armed with a firearm and having served three prior prison terms, two of which were for felony sexual conduct that included forcible rape and child molest. On November 30, 1983, Judge Charles Stone sentenced Aleo to serve 31 years to life in state prison.

Since being incarcerated, Aleo has violated prison rules including exposing his penis, possession of gambling paraphernalia and substance related violations. In 2004, he was convicted of possessing heroin in prison and given an additional 3-year prison term. He has not received any further rules violations or counselling since 2017.

A psychologist who examined Aleo in 2020 gave the opinion that the inmate posed a moderate risk of violence to the community if he were to be released on parole. Aleo has not consistently taken advantage of any self-help programming designed to help him gain insight into why he has engaged in repeated violent criminal behavior since he was a teenager.

During the hearing, prosecutor Palazuelos argued that Aleo remains an unreasonable risk to public safety if released and highlighted that Aleo failed to provide the Board with a specific

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sexual relapse prevention program, failed to discuss the facts of his prior sex crimes convictions, minimized his role in prior violent conduct and did not have adequate parole plans. His lack of empathy for his victims and lack of insight into the impact of his crimes on the victims caused concern for the Parole Board.

The Board denied parole for three more years. This was Aleo's sixth hearing, having been previously denied parole in 2004, 2008, 2014, 2017 and 2019.

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