



# Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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## PRESS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Date: February 5, 2021  
Re: Jesus Antonio Felix  
Convicted murderer denied parole

### For More Information Contact:

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Jesus Antonio Felix, age 62, of Modesto, was found unsuitable for parole during a January 6, 2021, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at the California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo, California. Deputy District Attorney Monroe Tyler appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On September 15, 1988, Felix went to the Modesto Inn with co-responsible John Moses Ruiz to expand his drug-dealing business. Felix and Ruiz went to a room occupied by a woman, infant and two males under the pretext of wanting to buy drugs. When the door was opened, Felix, armed with a handgun, tried to barge into the room but was blocked by victim Jorge Ortiz. One of the pair shot and killed Ortiz before entering the room. Felix then shot victim Daniel Venegas in the chest even though both of Venegas's hands were raised in surrender. Venegas survived the shooting. Both defendants fled to Southern California where they were arrested about two weeks later.

On February 21, 1989, Felix was convicted of second degree murder with an enhancement for personal use of a firearm. He was sentenced to serve 15 years to life plus two years in state prison.

Since going to prison, Felix has received at least 22 disciplinary write ups and 35 serious rule violations, the majority of which were for drug-related offenses. The most recent violation occurred in December of 2018 when his urine tested positive for morphine.

Felix stipulated to a three-year denial which was accepted by the Board. His stated intention was to engage in more programming classes and have a longer period of time since his last rule violation, thereby increasing his chances of receiving parole.

This was Felix's sixth parole hearing, having previously been denied 3 times and either waived his right to a hearing or stipulated to unsuitability four times since 2001. He will be eligible for another parole hearing in 2024, however that date may be accelerated based upon changes in the law.

Co-responsible John Moses Ruiz, currently age 70, was also convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to state prison. He was paroled in 2014.

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