



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

Assistant District Attorney
Jeffrey M. Laugero

Chief Deputies
Marlisa Ferreira
Wendell Emerson
Michael D. Houston
Mark Zahner

Bureau of Investigation
Chief Terry L. Seese

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 12, 2021
Re: Sammy Eddie Provencio
Life inmate granted parole after only 7 years

For More Information Contact:

John Goold, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-6909

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Sammy Eddie Provencio, age 46, of Ceres, was found suitable for parole at the conclusion of a November 9, 2021 parole hearing held at the RJ Donovan Correctional Facility in San Diego. Deputy District Attorney Sameer Shukla appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On December 19, 2012, Provencio repeatedly punched the mother of his child in the chest, knocked her down to the ground, pulled her by her hair and hit her in the back of the head. He told her if she called the police, he would kill their 22-month-old baby that she had been holding the entire time of the assault.

On March 28, 2014, a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury convicted Provencio of felony domestic violence and felony criminal threats. He was sentenced to serve 27 years to life in state prison under California's "Three Strikes" law due to his extensive criminal history which included robbery convictions in 1994 and 2001.

Prosecutor Shukla argued against Provencio's release on parole based on the inmate's lack of insight into what caused his violent behavior as well as his lack of any prevention plan to avoid future violent behavior if he were released. A prison psychologist noted that Provencio was on parole for felony domestic violence at the time of the crime. During an interview, Provencio told the psychologist that he never spent longer than five months out of custody in his entire adult life and had previously been a member of the Norteno criminal street gang.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Provencio was granted parole after the Commissioners found that the inmate did not represent a present threat to public safety. The Board found that Provencio accepted responsibility for his crimes and currently understood the triggers that caused him to commit violence and use illegal drugs.

Office: 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354 Mailing: PO BOX 442 Modesto, CA 95353
Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027 www.stanislaus-da.org



<https://www.facebook.com/StanislausDistrictAttorney/>

Although sentenced to serve 27 years to life in prison under California's "Three Strikes" law, recent changes to the law made him eligible for parole after serving only seven years despite his prior violent criminal history for robberies and felony domestic violence.

This was Provencio's first and only parole hearing since being sent to prison in 2014.

###

Office: 832 12th Street, Suite 300 Modesto, CA 95354 Mailing: PO BOX 442 Modesto, CA 95353

Telephone: (209) 525-5550 Fax: (209) 558-4027 www.stanislaus-da.org



<https://www.facebook.com/StanislausDistrictAttorney/>