



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: July 1, 2022
Re: Brandy Lee Rose Devine
Convicted Killer Denied Early Parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Brandy Lee Rose Devine, age 34, of Turlock was denied early parole during a June 23, 2022 hearing before the State Board of Parole Hearings held at Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla. Special Prosecutor Holly MacKinnon appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On Friday, July 13, 2012, Devine, then age 25, put her 2-year-old daughter who had cerebral palsy in her crib and closed the bedroom door, leaving the toddler alone in the room with four cats. Devine then failed to check on the child, provide food or give prescription medication to her for the next three days. She did feed her other three children who were seven months, four and six years old. She also used methamphetamine in the very next room. Finally, around noon on Monday, July 15th, Devine checked on the daughter and found her dead in the crib. A law enforcement investigation found the baby's clothes were soiled with urine and feces and her diaper even contained maggots. Although almost three years old, the child weighed only 14 pounds. An autopsy ruled the cause of death to be acute dehydration and malnourishment.

On November 7, 2013, Devine was convicted by a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury of second-degree murder, felony child endangerment with an enhancement for inflicting great bodily injury on a child under five years of age and being under the influence of a controlled substance. On December 13, 2013, Judge Dawna Reeves sentenced Devine to serve 15-years-to-life in state prison.

During the hearing on June 23rd, prosecutor MacKinnon argued for continued confinement based on the danger Devine represents to the community should she be released given the callous circumstances of her crime and her lack of insight into what caused her to intentionally leave her 2-year-old baby to die.

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A prison psychologist who interviewed Devine gave the opinion that she represented a low risk for future violence in the community if she were to be paroled. The Board noted Devine had received only one rules violation during her time in prison for fighting with another inmate in 2015 and had actively participated in programming such as a substance abuse, AA/NA, anger management, vocational training and college courses. The Board felt Devine expressed remorse and had a release plan which included transitional housing, family support and employment.

After deliberations, the Board determined that although Devine qualified for “youthful offender parole” consideration because she was 25 years old at the time of the offense, she still posed an unreasonable risk to public safety and denied parole for three years. The Board felt she also lacked insight into her motivation behind locking only one of her children in a room and failing to care for her for three days. They felt she needed more programming in denial management and victim awareness.

This was Devine’s first parole hearing. She will be scheduled for another hearing in 2025 although she may petition the Board for an earlier date if there is a change in circumstances as defined under current law. Devine has been in prison for approximately eight years.

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