



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: April 27, 2022
Re: Terrell Lamont Threet
Convicted Killer Granted Parole

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Modesto, California- Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Terrell Lamont Threet, age 59, of Stockton was found suitable for parole during an April 15, 2022, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at San Quentin state prison. Deputy District Attorney Kirk Brennan appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People

On May 25, 1991, Threet came from Stockton with several friends to attend a party in Salida. A fight broke out and Threet fired shots into the air. As people fled the party, Threet shot Jesse Bargas, in the arm, knocking him to the ground. Threet then walked up to Bargas and shot him in the back as he lay on the ground. Threet fled in a car, spotting Reggie Bland standing near a fence by Salida school. Threet shot Bland in the chest, killing him. A third victim, a 17-year-old juvenile, was grazed by a bullet to his hand, treated at a local hospital and released. Threet remained at large for several days before he was arrested on May 28th and charged with murder and attempted murder along with enhancements for personal use of a firearm.

On October 4, 1991, Threet pled no contest to second degree murder and attempted murder and admitted the enhancements for personally using a firearm. At a sentencing hearing on January 27, 1992, he was sentenced by Judge Edward Lacy to serve 18 years to life in state prison.

Since going to prison, Threet has regularly violated prison rules including possessing and using controlled substances five times between 2017 and 2018, possessing a cellphone and cellphone components in 2016, attempting to participate in a riot, disruptive work behavior, possession of inmate manufactured alcohol, and fighting with other inmates on more than one occasion. In 2018, a comprehensive risk assessment by a prison psychologist gave the opinion that Threet represented a high risk for future violence if released into the community. An updated assessment in 2021 by a different psychologist rated Threet as a moderate risk for violence if released.

At the hearing, prosecutor Brennan argued for Threet's continued confinement in prison based on his long history of violence, gang involvement while in prison, use of controlled substances while in prison, lack of credibility and lack of firm parole plans.

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The Board of Parole hearings disagreed and granted Threet parole. They found that Threet was being honest about his past while testifying during the hearing and had not used any controlled substances in prison since 2018. The Board gave great weight to the fact that Threet was only 18 years old when he committed the murder and attempted murder and that younger people are more susceptible to influences from their peers at that age. The Board also found his parole plans were adequate and ordered him to transitional housing upon his release.

Threet had previously been denied parole several times, the most recent being a 3-year stipulated denial in 2018. He has been incarcerated in state prison for approximately 30 years.

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