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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: August 10, 2022
Re: John Albert Indiveri
Convicted Killer Granted Parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that John Albert Indiveri, age 54, of San Jose was found suitable for parole during an August 3, 2022 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at Salinas Valley State Prison. Deputy District Attorney Victoria Vasquez appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On January 13, 1995, Indiveri shot and killed Michael Knoll over a debt Knoll owed him for methamphetamine. Indiveri drove to Knoll's home, waved to the children of Knoll's girlfriend and began banging on the garage door. When Knoll opened the door, Indiveri, who was armed, threatened to take Knoll's property to satisfy the drug debt. Knoll asked if they could "take it outside" but was shot by Indiveri as Knoll moved towards him. After the shooting, Indiveri told those present, "I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I just was mad at him." Indiveri assisted Knoll's girlfriend in placing the victim in the car so she could take him to the hospital.

Indiveri evaded law enforcement for two months during which time he threw a knife at an officer who approached him. In March of 1995 while being contacted by police, Indiveri purposefully aimed his vehicle at the officers in order to escape. While some officers avoided being hit, Indiveri clipped one officer before later crashing into a fence.

On December 16, 1996, a Stanislaus County Superior Court jury did not believe Indiveri's self-defense claim and convicted him of second-degree murder with use of a firearm. On April 10, 1997, Knoll's mother addressed the Court at sentencing stating, Indiveri "is a damn coward and he should spend the rest of his life in a cell the measurements of my son's grave." Judge David Vanderwall then ordered Indiveri to serve 27 years to life in prison. An appellate court upheld the conviction and sentence in 1999.

While in prison, Inmate Indiveri committed at least 18 rules violations ranging from possessing cell phones, inmate manufactured alcohol ("pruno") and narcotics and narcotics paraphernalia, mutual combat, theft, battery and conspiracy. In 2001, while in custody for the murder, Indiveri

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was convicted of possession of a controlled substance in prison after he convinced family members and friends to send him heroin labeled as “legal mail.” He received an additional four years which was added to his life term.

Indiveri also admitted an alliance with the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang including his participation with fifteen other inmates in beating up another inmate in 2000. Indiveri stated he had studied up on national socialism and received “lightning bolt” tattoos while in prison. These lightning bolts, also referred to as “SS bolts,” are a recognized symbol of white supremacy followers.

Prosecutor Vasquez urged the Board to deny parole, citing Indiveri’s continuing crimes while in custody and his admitted criminal prison gang affiliation. The Board disagreed, finding Indiveri suitable based upon the opinion of a prison psychologist who found Indiveri to be a low risk to public safety if released. The Board acknowledged that Indiveri’s multiple tattoos violated prison rules but also noted that his last rule violation occurred in 2012. Two additional altercations in 2013 and 2015 were deemed sufficiently long ago to support the idea that Indiveri had reduced his negative behavior.

The decision for the parole grant is not final and will be under review for 120 days. After the 120 days, the Governor has 30 days to review the decision.

This was Indiveri’s first parole hearing.

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