



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 4, 2022
Re: Keith Tribble
Third Strike Inmate Denied Parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Keith Tribble, age 58, formerly of Oakland was found unsuitable for parole during a September 30, 2022 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at Valley State Prison. Deputy District Attorney Victoria Vasquez appeared on behalf of the People.

On August 27, 2009, Tribble, then age 45, entered a motel room on McHenry Avenue in Modesto while an employee was cleaning the bathtub. He closed the blinds, locked the door and attacked her. The victim screamed and fought back, ripping his shirt. When she broke free, Tribble pulled her hair, threw her on the bed, straddled her and ripped her bra. The victim screamed and attempted to get to the hotel door. Tribble again grabbed her by the hair and threw her towards the other bed in the room, but she fell short and hit the floor. Tribble straddled her once more and lit a glass tube used for smoking drugs. The victim pulled on one of Tribble's fingers until she heard a popping sound at which point Tribble ran out of the motel room. Police caught Tribble nearby, running down an alley with his pants and shorts down around his ankles. From the window of an ambulance, the victim identified Tribble as her attacker. She sustained visible bruising on her back, side, neck and upper chest. She told police the attack lasted approximately 10 minutes.

A Stanislaus County Superior Court jury convicted Tribble of assault with force likely to produce great bodily injury, sexual battery on a restrained person and false imprisonment. The jury also found true that Tribble had been previously convicted of two "strikes" under California's "Three Strikes Law"—in 1983, felony lewd act with a child in Contra Costa County and, in 1998, an identical conviction in Stanislaus County.

At the sentencing, in her victim impact statement to the court, she said that even though two years had passed since the attack, she continued to suffer panic attacks and feared being alone. On March 29, 2011 Judge Ricardo Cordova sentenced Tribble to serve 51 years to life in state prison. In passing judgment, Judge Cordova stated: "And what's the most troubling to the Court is that Mr. Tribble was out three days from the state prison and was on electronic monitoring when this crime occurred."

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Since going to prison, Tribble has repeatedly violated prison rules for such acts as fighting with other inmates (2015 and 2018), disrespecting female staff (2014) and refusing to follow orders (2018 and 2019).

A prison psychologist who examined Tribble gave the opinion that he posed a “high” risk for future violence if he were to be released into the community on parole. Prosecutor Vasquez argued to the Board that Tribble blamed his sexual offenses on substance abuse but admitted he knew at the time what he was doing was wrong. Despite being in prison for eleven years, Tribble had only just started to attend rehabilitation courses in the last year.

Following deliberations, the Board denied parole for only three years finding as aggravating factors Tribble’s minimal offender change, his prior sexual offense history, his high-risk rating on the psychologist’s report and his pattern of violence while in custody.

This was Tribble’s first parole hearing. His next hearing will be scheduled sometime in 2025, although Tribble may have that hearing advanced to an earlier date if he can show a change in circumstances to support it.

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