

Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: May 5, 2022 Re: Geraldine Quintin Three Strikes life inmate granted parole John Goold, Public Information Liaison Phone: (209) 525-6909

Modesto, California- Stanislaus County District Attorney Birgit Fladager announced today that Geraldine Quintin, aka Terri Lynn Jones, age 71, was found suitable for parole during an April 29, 2022 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at the California Institute for Women in Chino. Deputy District Attorney Kirk Brennan appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On August 27, 1995, Quintin burglarized a home in Modesto. She was seen leaving the scene by the homeowner who reported her license plate to police as she drove away. A Stanislaus County Superior Court jury found her guilty of first-degree residential burglary on December 4, 1996. Quintin, who has a lengthy criminal history, had previously been convicted of nine prior residential burglaries, which counted as prior "strikes" under California's Three Strikes law, and had served two separate prison terms. Her felony jury trial conviction and prior burglary convictions made her eligible for life in prison under the "Three Strikes" law. On January 16, 1997, she was sentenced to serve 30 years to life by Judge Al Girolami.

Since being sent to prison in 1997, Quintin committed approximately thirty serious rules violations. At least half of those involved acts of violence. In 1997, shortly after she arrived at state prison, she attempted to stab another inmate in the eye with a makeshift weapon. In that case, she was convicted of a new felony "Strike" crime, battery with serious bodily injury, and sentenced to an additional two years in prison consecutive to her life sentence On another occasion, she also was disciplined for trying to smuggle heroin into the prison.

A 2020 comprehensive risk assessment by a prison psychologist who interviewed Quintin gave the opinion that she continued to represent a moderate risk for future violence to the community if she were to be released from custody.

During the hearing, prosecutor Brennan argued against Quintin's release on parole and for continued confinement based on her long history of violence while in prison, use of controlled substances while in custody, lack of insight into her heroin addiction issues and lack of firm parole plans.

After deliberations, the Board of Parole Hearings found that Quintin was suitable for parole and did not pose an unreasonable risk to public safety. The Board noted that her most recent violent incident occurred in 2015 and she incurred only two minor rule violations since then. The Board also noted Quintin's advanced age (71) and that her current medical conditions diminished her physical condition. They also found that her parole plans were adequate. The Board ordered her to report to transitional housing upon her release from prison.

This was Quintin's second parole hearing since coming to prison in 1997. Just two years ago, in 2020, the board denied her parole for a period of three years. In 2021, her application to advance her next suitability hearing was approved, leading to this earlier hearing on April 29th.

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