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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: October 5, 2023
Re: Victor Garcia
Attempted Murder Inmate denied parole

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Modesto, California – Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Victor Garcia, age 38, of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole during September 14, 2023, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at the California Substance Abuse Treatment Facility, a California prison. Deputy District Attorney Amy Elliott Neumann appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People and argued against Garcia’s release.

Inmate Garcia is serving a 45-years-to-life prison term for firing a shotgun eight times at rival gang members in Modesto. His shooting rampage injured an innocent 12-year-old girl. Inmate Garcia was convicted after a jury found him guilty of premeditated attempted murder, personal and intentional discharge of a firearm, and committing the crime for benefit of the Sureño gang.

At the parole hearing, Attorney Neumann urged the Board not to release Garcia because of his violent rule violations in prison including a 2020 battery with serious injury, making weapons in prison in 2014, and attempted murder in 2009. In 2009, Garcia stabbed a fellow inmate in the chest nearly killing him. A prison psychologist who examined Inmate Garcia determined that he presents a high risk for continued violence, and he also struggles with a current opioid addiction. Attorney Neumann urged the Board to deny parole for a ten-year term so that Garcia could address his persistent criminal thinking, the failure to program for his substance abuse issues, and the callous disregard for human life exhibited in his life crime.

After deliberation, the Board determined that while Garcia qualified for youthful offender consideration since he was 17 years old at the time of the life crime, he posed a current risk to public safety. The Board determined that Garcia’s current behavior and discipline problems indicated persistent criminality and lack of offender change. The Board determined that Garcia needed to remain discipline free, engage in sustained drug rehabilitation, and participate in self-help programming. The Board denied parole for five years.

This was Garcia’s first parole hearing.

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