



Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Jeff Laugero
District Attorney

Assistant District Attorney
Mark Zahner

Chief Deputies
Marlisa Ferreira
Wendell Emerson
Michael D. Houston
Rick Mury
Joseph Chavez

Bureau of Investigation
Chief Terry L. Seese

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: November 30, 2023
Re: Manuel DaSilva
Convicted Killer Denied Parole

For More Information Contact:

Wendell Emerson, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-5509

Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Manuel DaSilva, age 78, of Modesto was found unsuitable for parole at a November 2, 2023 hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings in the California Health Care Facility in Stockton, California. Deputy District Attorney Holly MacKinnon appeared on behalf of the People.

On July 5, 1992, DaSilva shot and killed his wife, Rosa, during an argument. Witnesses heard him say "My wife, she's no good, I kill this wife, she ruined my life." When interviewed, DaSilva blamed the victim for causing what happened. Over the next five years, DaSilva was repeatedly declared incompetent to stand trial and was treated at various state mental hospitals. A competency trial held in October of 1997 found him competent to stand trial. On June 22, 1998, he pleaded no contest to second degree murder and was sentenced to serve 15 years-to-life in state prison.

In preparation for this parole hearing, DaSilva refused to be interviewed by a prison psychologist. The psychologist found he posed a moderate risk to public safety if released. Due to DaSilva's disruptive behavior during the parole hearing and his refusal to use the Portuguese interpreter, the remaining hearing was conducted in absentia. The Board relied on his previous statements in which DaSilva blamed his wife for causing his actions and claimed he had no intent to kill her despite her gunshot wound to the head and a skull fracture that was caused by the .22 caliber rifle barrel striking her.

The Board denied parole for five years. The Board specifically referred to DaSilva's refusal to participate in any self-help programing or educational or vocational training. The Board also expressed concern over his recent rule breaking behavior in prison and the fact that he continues to blame the victim and shows no remorse for her death.

This was DaSilva's sixth parole hearing. He is eligible to have his next hearing advanced to an earlier date due to his age.

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