



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

Bureau of Investigation
Chief Terry L. Seese

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: May 18, 2023
Re: Robert John Cassata
Child Molester Parole Violation

For More Information Contact:

John Goold, Public Information Liaison
Phone: (209) 525-6909

Modesto, California- Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Robert John Cassata, age 62, of Roseville was denied parole after a March 10, 2023, hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at Wasco State Prison in Wasco, California. Deputy District Attorney Victoria Vasquez appeared at the hearing on behalf of the People.

On July 23, 2013, Cassata was convicted of repeatedly molesting his 8-year-old granddaughter and sentenced to six years in prison. In March of 2018 he was released on parole. One of his parole conditions required that he stay-away from places where minor children congregate, including public pools.

On July 26, 2021, a concerned mother called police after seeing Cassata at a community pool in Roseville staring at her young children on more than one occasion.

A Placer County Superior Court subsequently found that Cassata violated parole due to his actions at the pool and referred him to the Board of Parole Hearings for parole revocation consideration and whether public safety required Cassata serve a longer period in prison.

In 2022, the Board reviewed whether Cassata was appropriate to release back on parole. At that time, they found he continued to pose an unreasonable risk of danger to the public and denied release.

At a subsequent hearing on March 10, 2023, prosecutor Vasquez argued to the Board that Cassata should not be released, citing his minimal attempts to complete any rehabilitation programs, especially those related to his sex offending. In addition, just months before the hearing, Cassata had used an illegal substance, suboxone, that he had obtained on the prison yard.

A psychologist who interviewed Cassata gave the opinion that he still posed a moderate risk for violence in the community if he were to be released. The panel members disagreed, finding that Cassata posed a high risk for violence. The Board found that Cassata minimized his history of sex offending, substance abuse and violating parole during his sworn testimony before them. They further found that Cassata's tendencies to sexually offend remained "un-addressed, untreated and un-understood."

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board denied parole for one year. Since he was not originally sentenced to a life term in prison, Cassata is eligible for an annual parole reconsideration hearing to determine if he is safe to be released.

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