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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Date: August 1, 2024 Re: Robert John Cassata

Convicted Child Molester Denied Parole

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Modesto, California - Stanislaus County District Attorney Jeff Laugero announced today that Robert John Cassata, age 64, of Roseville was denied parole after a July 30, 2024, reconsideration parole hearing of the State Board of Parole Hearings held at San Quentin State Prison in San Quentin, California. Deputy District Attorney James H. Langston 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 to serve a longer period in prison.

In 2022 and 2023, the Board reviewed whether Cassata was appropriate to release back on parole. At each of those hearings, they found he continued to pose an unreasonable risk of danger to the public and denied release.

At a subsequent hearing on July 30, 2024, Prosecutor Langston argued to the Board that Cassata should not be released, citing a lack of understanding of the criminal offense, an inadequate ability to cope with his criminal tendencies, and that he still poses an unreasonable risk of danger to the public. At the hearing Cassata stated that he does not know why he molested his granddaughter, and he provided a release plan to the board that included going back to another swimming pool.

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A psychologist who interviewed Cassata in 2023 gave the opinion that he posed a moderate risk for violence in the community if he were to be released. The Board found that Cassata lacked insight into the criminal offense, more programming is needed to develop coping skills, and that he still poses an unreasonable risk of danger to public safety.

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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