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August 3, 2017

Board of Parole Hearings  
Attn: Nonviolent Parole Review Process  
P.O. Box 4036  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

**Re: Inmate Juan Castillo; CDCR BA2349  
Ventura County Superior Court Cases 2014034563, 2014038014  
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings August 4, 2017**

Dear Board Members:

This letter is written to recommend denial of early parole for inmate Juan Castillo. This recommendation is based upon:

- 1) The inmate's commitment offenses.
- 2) The inmate's significant criminal history.
- 3) The unreasonable risk of violence to the community if the inmate is released early.

## **CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COMMITMENT OFFENSES**

### **Case 2014034563**

On November 13, 2014, at approximately 2:56 a.m., police officers responded to a residential area regarding two suspicious subjects pulling on car door handles and shining flashlights into vehicles. While searching the neighborhood on foot, officers observed the inmate and Esteban Oseguera in the area. The officers watched the inmate walk towards victim Jennifer Howard's 2009 Mitsubishi in the driveway of her home and reach into her vehicle. Officers also saw Oseguera pull open the door of victim Daniel Gil's 2005 Audi parked in his driveway.

After breaking into the vehicles, the inmate and Oseguera saw the officers and were directed to get on the ground. The inmate ran across the street and got into a Nissan Altima which was waiting with a driver and the engine running. The vehicle then sped away.

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Officers conducted a traffic stop of the fleeing vehicle just one block away. The driver of the Nissan Altima was identified as Vanessa Luna and the inmate was seated in the backseat.

The inmate was in possession of a large amount of loose change and a cell phone. There was a message on the cell phone asking that if someone found the phone, to please contact the number posted on the screen. The officer called the number, but the person who answered the phone denied any knowledge of a missing cell phone.

The inmate was convicted of conspiracy, in violation of Penal Code section 182(a)(1), and, after failing probation, was sentenced to eight months in state prison.

**Case 2014038014**

On December 14, 2014, victim Robin Hall left his Dell laptop computer (valued at \$610) and a Cinting Companion tablet (valued at \$1,500) on the front passenger seat of his vehicle. The following morning, Hall noticed that his laptop and tablet were missing.

On December 16, 2014, deputies contacted a local pawn shop to inquire about the victim's stolen laptop and tablet. Upon reviewing the surveillance video, deputies discovered that the inmate and another man, Michael Cantero, attempted to pawn the victim's stolen laptop, but the transaction was denied when he was unable to log on to the computer. The inmate then pawned the victim's stolen tablet for \$100.

Deputies conducted a traffic stop of the inmate's vehicle. The inmate was driving and Cantero was in the front passenger seat. Neither the inmate nor Cantero could provide identification and they both denied being on probation or parole. The inmate was also unable to provide registration or proof of insurance for the vehicle he was driving. He stated that the vehicle belonged to his sister. As deputies directed him to exit the vehicle, they noticed that there was no key in the ignition. Deputies observed the butt of a handgun tucked between the center console and the driver's seat. The gun was identified as a Glock .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol with a magazine containing eight rounds of Horandy hollow point ammunition. The gun was later identified as belonging to victim Stanley Jensen.

During a search of the vehicle, deputies found a credit card, a blank check, a California driver license belonging to victim Stanley Jensen, numerous electronic devices, gift cards, and a glass pipe. During a consensual search of Cantero's residence, deputies located a backpack containing miscellaneous electronic cords, and a backpack and miscellaneous items belonging to victim Robin Hall.

Deputies contacted Stanley Jensen at his residence in Camarillo and notified him that his property was found during a traffic stop. Mr. Jensen told officers that on December 16, 2014, he arrived home and parked his vehicle in his driveway that is enclosed by a wrought iron gate. Jensen keeps his wallet in the driver's side door compartment and his gun in the center console. Upon searching his vehicle, Jensen found that his gun, an envelope containing \$100, his wallet, credit cards, several gift cards, and approximately \$1,000 in cash were missing.

The inmate was convicted of grand theft, in violation of Penal Code section 487, and felon in a possession of a firearm, in violation of Penal Code section 29800. He was sentenced to five years in state prison, but imposition of the sentence was suspended. The inmate was placed on 36 months probation.

#### **CRIMINAL HISTORY**

On October 15, 2004, the inmate was arrested for the unlawful carrying and possession of weapons, in violation of Penal Code section 12020(a). He was sentenced to 36 months probation and four days in jail.

On January 20, 2008, the inmate was arrested for receiving stolen property, in violation of Penal Code section 496(a). In this case, the inmate was arrested after numerous vehicle thefts were reported in the same general area. The inmate and two others were found in possession of several items of stolen property, including electronic devices, cell phones, and gift cards. He was sentenced to three years probation and 270 days in jail. After an unsuccessful probation term, the inmate was sentenced to 16 months in jail.

On February 14, 2011, the inmate was again arrested for receiving stolen property and for being a felon in possession of a firearm, in violation of Penal Code section 12021(a)(1). The inmate was attempting to sell a stolen firearm. During a probation search of the inmate's home, officers found a .22 caliber rifle and a law enforcement identification card, flashlight, and charger all belonging to a Santa Barbara County sheriff deputy. The deputy was known to have been a victim of a recent vehicle burglary. The inmate was sentenced to 16 months in jail.

In addition, the inmate has multiple drug convictions including: eight convictions for being under the influence of a controlled substance, two convictions for possession of methamphetamine, and one conviction for possession of drug paraphernalia. The inmate has multiple convictions for petty theft, identity theft, loitering, and fraudulent use of account information.

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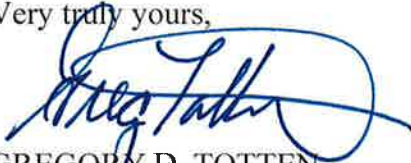
## **DISCUSSION**

The inmate is in prison after being unable to successfully complete probation. He has demonstrated he is unable to reform and there is no reason to believe he will refrain from future criminality if released into the community. His willingness to engage in a vehicular chase with officers and his possession of firearms shows he presents a risk to the community.

## **CONCLUSION**

The inmate poses an unreasonable risk of violence to the community if granted early parole. I respectfully request the Board deny early parole for the inmate.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Totten", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

GREGORY D. TOTTON  
District Attorney

GDT:tm

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