



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

GREGORY D. TOTTEN
District Attorney

JANICE L. MAURIZI
Chief Assistant District Attorney

MICHAEL K. FRAWLEY
Chief Deputy District Attorney
Criminal Prosecutions

W. CHARLES HUGHES
Chief Deputy District Attorney
Administrative Services

MICHAEL R. JUMP
Chief Deputy District Attorney
Victim & Community Services

MICHAEL D. SCHWARTZ
Special Assistant District Attorney
Justice Services

R. MILES WEISS
Chief Deputy District Attorney
Special Prosecutions

MICHAEL BARAY
Chief Investigator
Bureau of Investigation

July 20, 2017

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

**Re: Inmate Christofer Jewett; CDCR #AX4348
Ventura County Superior Court Case #2015021901
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings August 2, 2017**

Dear Board Members:

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

- 1) The inmate's commitment offense.
- 2) The inmate's significant criminal history and failure to be crime free.
- 3) The unreasonable risk of violence to the community if the inmate is released early.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF COMMITMENT OFFENSE

On May 30, 2015, deputies with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office responded to a vehicle burglary. Upon arrival, deputies learned that an individual smashed a rear window of a car belonging to Thomas Nelson. Mr. Nelson reported his briefcase containing credit cards, his driver's license, and a business checkbook was stolen. Catherine McKinnis reported her purse containing a wallet, credit cards, an iPhone, and sterling silver necklaces was missing. Later in the afternoon deputies recovered some of the victims' belongings in a residential trash can.

On June 1, 2015, Mr. Nelson's credit card was used at a restaurant in Ojai. Surveillance from the restaurant showed the inmate pass a credit card to a cashier.

On June 3, 2015, one of Mr. Nelson's business checks was passed at a check cashing business. The check was made out to the inmate.

Board of Parole Hearings
Re: Christofer Jewett, CDCR #AX4348
July 20, 2017
Page 2

On June 3, 2015, an officer with the San Luis Obispo Police Department stopped the inmate and found more of Mr. Nelson's checks in a wallet containing identification for Samuel Castellanos (a victim of VC 10851 in San Luis Obispo).

On June 4, 2015, Deputy Mulroony conducted follow-up investigation of the check cashing incident. A compliance officer with the company determined that the check was cashed by the inmate. The compliance officer also sent video from the store, as well as a copy of the inmate's driver's license and California identification card, which he used to cash Mr. Nelson's check.

On July 8, 2015, the San Luis Obispo Police Department notified the Ventura County Sheriff's Office that the inmate was in custody on unrelated charges in San Luis Obispo County jail.

In addition to the primary offenses of Penal Code section 459, burglary, and Penal Code section 530.5(a), identity theft, the inmate also has two prior serious felony convictions, and three separate prison priors.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

The inmate has a lengthy criminal history throughout several counties in California.

In July 2007, the inmate was convicted of Penal Code section 245(a)(1), assault by force likely to produce great bodily injury, and Penal Code section 487(c), grand theft person, in San Luis Obispo County. According to the inmate, he and his girlfriend asked a homeless person to buy them beer. The inmate beat the homeless individual when he refused. The inmate was sentenced to five years probation and 365 days in jail. The inmate violated probation and was sentenced to two years eight months in state prison on November 19, 2008.

In April 2010, the inmate was charged with Penal Code section 243(e)(1), domestic battery, and Penal Code section 422, criminal threats, in San Luis Obispo County.

In November 2010, the inmate was convicted of Penal Code section 136.1(b), witness intimidation (felony), and sentenced to 16 months in state prison. According to the inmate, he and his girlfriend "got into a domestic" before officers responded. The inmate stated that "[his] girlfriend sent [him] to prison."

In December 2013, the inmate was charged with VC 10851(a), auto theft, Penal Code section 496(a), possession of stolen property, and Penal Code section 148.9(a), providing

false information, in the city of Eureka. The inmate was contacted in a stolen vehicle where officers found the inmate rummaging through the glove box with a flashlight. The inmate provided officers with the name of "Steven Belt." Officers determined the vehicle was stolen from Placerville and the license plate belonged to a stolen vehicle from Modesto. The inmate also possessed four check books, each belonging to different owners. In December 2013, the inmate was convicted of Penal Code section 496(a) (felony) and sentenced to 16 months in jail.

In December 2013, the inmate was charged with assault by force likely to produce great bodily injury, and battery with serious bodily injury, during his incarceration in the Humboldt County jail. According to the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department, the inmate struck a fellow inmate (victim) and said, "You have to leave." The victim told the inmate that he could not leave, and correctional staff later found the victim with blood running down his jumpsuit. Staff determined that the inmate had struck the victim several times and told him that it would happen every day until he left. The victim suffered a broken jaw and several broken teeth. The inmate was convicted of 245(a)(4), assault likely to produce great bodily injury, and sentenced to two years in state prison.

In July 2015, the inmate was charged with violation of VC 10851, auto theft, in San Luis Obispo County. According to a California Highway Patrol report, officers contacted and arrested the inmate driving a stolen vehicle. The inmate was also in possession of heroin and drug paraphernalia at the time of the arrest. The inmate was convicted of auto theft, with two prison priors and sentenced to four years in state prison.

In addition to the aforementioned arrests and convictions, the inmate has other convictions in California:

- 1999 – PC 459, San Luis Obispo County.
- 2002 – PC 484(a) and PC 242, San Luis Obispo County.
- 2003 – PC 12020(a), San Luis Obispo County.
- 2004 – PC 496(a), San Luis Obispo County.
- 2008 – HS 11350(a), San Luis Obispo County.
- 2012 – HS 11550(a) and PC 273a(b), San Luis Obispo County.
- 2015 – HS 11550(a), San Luis Obispo County.

Board of Parole Hearings
Re: Christofer Jewett, CDCR #AX4348
July 20, 2017
Page 4

DISCUSSION

Granting early parole of the inmate poses a risk of safety to the people of California. Since 1999, the inmate has been arrested and/or convicted 18 separate times. The inmate's criminal activity affects his victims in various ways, including physical violence and financial damage. In 2007, the inmate was convicted of 245(a)(1), assault by force likely to produce great bodily injury. Following the conviction, the inmate did not follow his probation terms and was sentenced to an additional two years eight months in state prison. In 2010, the inmate was charged with domestic battery and criminal threats. The inmate was ultimately convicted of 136.1(b) and sentenced to 16 months in state prison. The inmate did not take responsibility for his actions as he stated that "[his] girlfriend sent [him] to jail."

In addition to the inmate's violence in society, he also exhibits violence during incarceration. In 2013, the inmate violently attacked another inmate on several occasions and caused serious injury, including a broken jaw and several broken teeth. The inmate was not remorseful for causing injury to the victim, as he reportedly told the victim that the assaults would continue "every day until he left."

Early parole should be denied due to this inmate's extensive violent criminal history, and his inability to follow rules of law. There is no evidence to suggest the inmate will curb his criminal ways if released into 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,



GREGORY D. TOTTON
District Attorney

GDT:at

E-mail: BPH.CorrespondenceUnit@cdcr.ca.gov