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August 9, 2017

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

**Re: Inmate Stephen Reid; CDCR H68705
Ventura County Superior Court Case 2014023631
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings August 10, 2017**

Dear Board Members:

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

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

CIRCUMSTANCES OF COMMITMENT OFFENSE

On August 1, 2014, an officer attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a motorcycle driven by the inmate. A chase ensued with the inmate traveling up to 60 mph in a residential zone. The inmate failed to stop at two stop signs, and nearly lost control of the motorcycle repeatedly. The inmate escaped behind a set of concrete barriers. Another officer observed the inmate riding his motorcycle through a dirt field. The inmate was eventually found hiding in a driveway and taken into custody.

The inmate's backpack was discovered lying near a wall, empty, with its large compartment open. A resident in the area reported that he saw the inmate with a large bag in his hand when he fled. Officers searched the area and discovered a plastic bag

Board of Parole Hearings
Re: Stephen Reid, CDCR H68705
August 9, 2017
Page 2

containing 183.03 grams of methamphetamine lying underneath the bumper of a nearby truck.

The inmate pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance for sale in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11378, and evading an officer with willful disregard in violation of Vehicle Code section 2800.2(a). The inmate admitted six prison priors on both counts pursuant to Penal Code section 667.5(b), and three prior controlled substance convictions pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11370(b). The judge struck five of six prison priors, and sentenced the inmate to nine years in prison even though he was facing a maximum exposure of 14 years.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

The inmate has an extensive criminal history riddled with narcotics abuse, sales, production, and violent crimes.

On March 9, 1981, the inmate pled no contest to attempted grand theft in violation of Penal Code section 664 & 487.1, based on his attempts to remove spare tires from new cars at a car dealership with the intent to sell the tires.

On November 5, 1983, the inmate was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon in violation of Penal Code section 245(a)(1). The disposition is unknown in this case. The inmate was involved in a physical altercation with numerous subjects. Various weapons were used during the altercation including bats, chains, fists, and feet. The inmate allegedly brandished a knife during the incident.

On December 30, 1983, the inmate was convicted of battery in violation of Penal Code section 242, after he assaulted an 18-year-old male, punching him in the face and upper body. The victim suffered a concussion, bruising, and liver trauma.

On February 10, 1989, the inmate was arrested for willful infliction of corporal injury violating Penal Code section 273.5. The inmate slapped his girlfriend, who was nine months pregnant, multiple times. The case was ultimately dismissed.

On February 26, 1993, the inmate was convicted of unauthorized cultivation, harvesting, or processing marijuana, in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11358, and sentenced to 16 months in prison. In this case, deputies arrived at the inmate's residence to investigate a structural fire while the inmate was in county jail. Inside the inmate's residence, the officers found a sophisticated marijuana and methamphetamine laboratory,

two loaded handguns, one .45 caliber rifle, three sets of nunchakus, a police scanner, a gram scale, and items to grow marijuana. On November 25, 1993, the inmate was paroled. The inmate received nine violations of parole on this case.

On August 12, 1998, the inmate pled guilty to possession for sale of methamphetamine in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11378, with two prior prison terms. He was sentenced to serve two years four months in prison. One prior was stricken. In this case, police attempted to conduct a routine traffic stop on a vehicle driven by the inmate. The inmate's two children, aged eight and three, were in the vehicle but were not wearing seatbelts. The inmate failed to stop, and accelerated to speeds approaching 60 mph in a residential area, made wide turns, and almost collided with several parked vehicles. The inmate skidded to a stop in front of his residence, and pushed his children out of the vehicle. A search of the inmate's vehicle yielded 233.3 grams of methamphetamine. The inmate had an outstanding warrant for a parole violation.

On May 12, 2000, the inmate was convicted of evading a police officer/reckless driving in violation of Vehicle Code section 2800.2(a), with three prior prison terms. The inmate was sentenced to serve three years four months in prison. In this case the inmate refused to pull over for deputies attempting a traffic stop, and accelerated to speeds up to 100 mph during a 30-minute pursuit. The inmate failed to stop at several lights and stop signs, and forced vehicles to swerve to avoid hitting him as he drove the wrong way down the street. After crashing the vehicle into a center median, the inmate led deputies on a foot pursuit prior to being arrested.

On July 29, 2002, the inmate again pled guilty to possession for sale with one prior conviction per Health and Safety Code section 11370.2(c). The inmate was sentenced to serve five years in prison. In this case, the inmate was observed backing out of a driveway while yelling at a female. The inmate got out of his car and walked towards the female. Officers intervened and found two bags in his vehicle containing 84.81 grams of methamphetamine, a cell phone, and \$314 cash. A folding knife was located in the inmate's pocket. The inmate's driver's license was suspended at the time.

On October 16, 2002, the inmate pled guilty to assault with deadly force likely to produce great bodily injury with four prior prison terms. The inmate was sentenced to one year in prison consecutive to the previous listed conviction. In this case, the inmate was involved in a physical altercation with another inmate at the Ventura County jail. The inmate grabbed the victim and slammed his head into a steel door and a cinder block wall, then held him to the ground and repeatedly punched him until he was pulled away by another inmate. The victim suffered a laceration to his head, which required seven stitches.

Board of Parole Hearings
Re: Stephen Reid, CDCR H68705
August 9, 2017
Page 4

On September 9, 2005, the inmate again pled guilty to evading a police officer/reckless driving with five prison priors and was sentenced to serve four years four months in prison. In this case, the inmate led officers on a high-speed chase on the freeway and through residential streets. The inmate failed to stop at red lights and stop signs and was observed throwing a plastic bag from the driver's side window. The inmate was finally stopped near a middle school after the officers used a ramming technique. The inmate was discovered to be driving on a suspended license with .3 grams of methamphetamine in his possession.

On May 26, 2009, the inmate again pled guilty to possession for sale with six prior prison terms and two controlled substance priors. The court struck four of the six prison priors and both controlled substance priors, and sentenced the inmate to four years in prison. In this case, the inmate's vehicle was searched in accordance with his parole search terms. The search yielded \$2,120 cash and 12 plastic bags containing a total of 22.63 grams of methamphetamine.

The inmate has also been convicted of possession of a controlled substance three times, being under the influence of a controlled substance three times, driving on a suspended license three times, evading a police officer, possession of a switchblade knife, and unlawful display of vehicle registration.

In addition to the aforementioned convictions, the inmate has been arrested for willful cruelty to a child, battery, narcotics possession, narcotics sales, and being a felon in possession of a firearm.

DISCUSSION

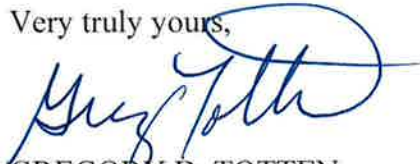
The inmate has spent almost his entire adult life in the custody of, or under the supervision of, the criminal justice system. His crimes include sales of large quantities of methamphetamine, assault, domestic violence, and numerous attempts to evade police with no regard for the safety of those around him. The inmate's past performance on probation and parole has been unsatisfactory and includes at least 24 violations. The inmate has demonstrated repeatedly that he will continue to disobey all laws even after benefitting from multiple lenient sentences. The inmate's repeated attempts to evade police in dangerous high-speed chase circumstances makes him a serious threat to the public safety.

Board of Parole Hearings
Re: Stephen Reid, CDCR H68705
August 9, 2017
Page 5

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 "Gregory D. Totten", with a large circular flourish above the name.

GREGORY D. TOTTEN
District Attorney

GDT:jl

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