



# 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  
Administrative Services

**W. CHARLES HUGHES**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Special Prosecutions

**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  
Criminal Prosecutions

**MICHAEL BARAY**  
Chief Investigator  
Bureau of Investigation

August 25, 2017

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

**Re: Inmate Juan Rodriguez Jr.; CDCR AX3010  
Ventura County Superior Court Case 2015003252  
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings August 27, 2017**

Dear Board Members:

This letter is written to recommend denial of early parole for inmate Juan Rodriguez, Jr. Only two years ago, in July 2015, he was sentenced to six years four months in prison. If released now, he will only serve one-third of his sentence. This recommendation to deny early release 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 January 30, 2015, Ventura County Sheriff's Office deputies working gang enforcement detail went to the inmate's residence to conduct a parole search. The inmate, a known gang member, observed police approaching. He threw a large quantity of methamphetamine that was packaged for sale into his girlfriend's car, and then attempted to walk away from police. When a deputy stopped the inmate, and told him they were conducting a parole search, the inmate became belligerent and began to fight the deputy. Ultimately, the deputy gained control. The inmate then stated that he had about "two 8-balls" of methamphetamine that he threw into the vehicle.

Deputies conducted a parole search of the inmate's home and located a loaded .25 caliber semi-automatic handgun, which was sitting in the hallway cupboard. The gun had three rounds in the magazine, and one round loaded in the chamber. Additionally, 17 more rounds for the handgun were found in a closet. A record check of the handgun revealed it was stolen on March 13, 1989. Deputies also found methamphetamine, a meth pipe with residue, bags of marijuana, a marijuana bong, cloth gloves, and \$310 in cash. In total, deputies recovered 21.8 grams of methamphetamine and 151.4 grams of marijuana from the parole search. Further, the inmate's girlfriend told the deputies that the inmate had beaten her in the past, was very controlling, and the handgun and other contraband belonged to the inmate.

The inmate was arrested for unlawful possession of a firearm, a violation of Penal Code section 30305(a)(1); possession of stolen property, a violation of Penal Code section 496(a); possession of methamphetamine while armed, a violation of Health & Safety Code section 11370.1(a); participating in a criminal street gang, a violation of Penal Code section 186.22(a); committing a felony for the benefit of a criminal street gang, a violation of Penal Code section 186.22(b)(1), and resisting arrest, a violation of Penal Code section 148(a)(1).

### **CRIMINAL HISTORY**

With a criminal history of approximately 22 years, the inmate is the embodiment of a career criminal, and deserves the full sentence the court imposed.

In 1995, as a minor, the inmate was arrested for being under the influence of a controlled substance, and possession of a controlled substance. He served six months of informal probation and 40 hours of community work.

In 1997, the inmate was stopped and investigated in a vehicle after a report of shots fired. When the inmate exited the vehicle, an open can of beer fell from underneath his shirt. In addition, ten bags of cocaine, and a bag of meth were found on the inmate. The inmate was arrested for possession of a controlled substance for sale, a violation of Health & Safety Code section 11351, and being under the influence of a controlled substance. The inmate was initially placed in a diversion program, but failed. He was then ordered to serve 120 days in jail, and placed on probation. However, after violations of probation, including a new sales/transportation case and subsequent conviction, he was sentenced to two years in prison.

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In July 2003, less than one month after being paroled, the inmate drove a van into rival gang territory. The inmate was driving the van while a fellow gang member pointed a sawed-off shotgun at a resident and his three-year-old son. The inmate and his gang associate drove further down the street, opened the van door, and began shooting. When police arrived, the inmate fled in the van. He threw a loaded shotgun, shotgun shells, a stolen cell phone, an empty box of ammunition, and an open beer can from the van as he was being chased by the police. The inmate was subsequently convicted of attempted murder, a violation of Penal Code section 664/187, and sentenced to 10 years in prison.

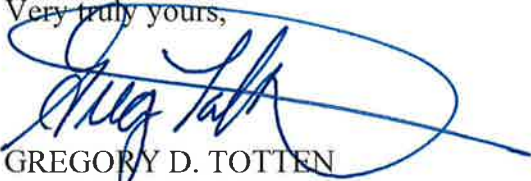
### **DISCUSSION**

The inmate has repeatedly demonstrated that upon his release from custody he puts the public at risk of violence. As described above, the inmate has repeatedly been involved in gang violence, and illegally using firearms. He also possesses firearms while selling drugs. Additionally, the inmate's girlfriend stated that he had beaten her. The inmate has been arrested seven times, and sentenced to prison on most of those arrests. The inmate has yet to remain crime free after being released back into the community. To label the inmate a non-violent offender is a mischaracterization of who he is. The inmate has continued to commit offenses that are violent in nature, with a blatant disregard for human life, as evidenced by engaging in a gang-related shooting.

### **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. TOTTEN  
District Attorney

GDT:nl

E-mail: [BPH.CorrespondenceUnit@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:BPH.CorrespondenceUnit@cdcr.ca.gov)