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August 29, 2017

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

**Re: Inmate Adam Leighton Vanstane; CDCR AN0372
Ventura County Superior Court Case 2012036832
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings September 6, 2017**

Dear Board Members:

This letter is written to recommend denial of early parole for inmate Adam Vanstane. The inmate was sentenced to seven years in prison for severely beating a homeless woman. This recommendation to deny early release 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 the inmate is released early.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF COMMITMENT OFFENSE

On October 3, 2012, a witness saw the inmate striking victim Amber Louis in the face with a closed fist and knocking her to the ground. When police arrived at the scene, paramedics were tending to Ms. Louis, whose face was covered in blood. Ms. Louis told officers that the inmate punched her in the face three times, cutting her above the left eye and upper lip. The victim was transported to the hospital by ambulance where she was treated for her serious injuries.

When officers spoke with the inmate, they noticed that his speech was slurred, and he appeared unsteady on his feet. The inmate stated that he hit the victim because she attacked him, but subsequently denied hitting anyone at all. On December 3, 2012, the inmate pled guilty to battery with serious injuries, admitted a strike allegation, as well as four prison priors. He was sentenced to seven years in prison.

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CRIMINAL HISTORY

The inmate has a criminal history that dates to 1986. The inmate has continuously engaged in violent conduct as an adult, including voluntary manslaughter in 1986 which constitutes his strike prior.

In July 1986, the inmate stole three bottles of liquor from a grocery store. When a store employee approached the inmate, he stated, "Don't mess with me, I have a loaded gun." In August 1986, the inmate was sentenced to probation and 136 days in jail.

In December 1986, the inmate was arrested for murder. After a night of drinking, the inmate, the victim, and several others went to a cemetery. A fight broke out between the inmate, the victim, and another individual, and the victim was hit on the head with a headstone and died. The victim's clothes were removed and his body was dragged through the dirt. In August 1987, the inmate pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to six years in prison.

In August 1997, the inmate stole a drill valued at \$159, and attempted to return the item for cash. After the inmate was arrested, he told officers that he had done it ". . . 150 times before. I do it to get drugs and alcohol." In October 1997, the inmate was sentenced to two years eight months in prison.

In September 2002, the inmate assaulted a patron in a restaurant, left the restaurant, then stole a bottle of vodka from a nearby grocery store. When officers contacted the inmate, he was outside of the grocery store drinking the vodka. In January 2003, the inmate was convicted of petty theft with priors and sentenced to four years eight months in prison.

In November 2008, the inmate stole several items from a store. The inmate was on parole at the time of the theft. In August 2009, the inmate pled guilty to theft and was sentenced to four years in prison; however, the sentence was suspended, and the inmate was placed on probation and 365 days in jail. In June 2010, after violations of probation, the inmate was sentenced to four years prison.

In October 2011, while in custody at the Ventura County jail, the inmate struck his cellmate several times in the face and head with a closed fist. The victim's face was bloody, and he suffered an abrasion to his upper lip, left cheek, and a cut inside his mouth. The inmate was convicted of battery and sentenced to 30 days jail and probation.

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In addition to the above arrests and convictions, the inmate has suffered 36 misdemeanor convictions, including being under the influence of a controlled substance, battery, disturbing the peace, trespassing, resisting arrest, drunk in public, and domestic battery.

DISCUSSION

Granting early parole to this inmate poses a risk of safety to the community. Since 1986, the inmate has been arrested or convicted at least 44 separate times. The inmate's criminal activity affects his victims in various ways, most notably through physical violence. In 1991, the inmate was charged with murder and ultimately pled guilty to voluntary manslaughter. During the commission of the murder in 1986, the inmate used a headstone to attack the victim in a cemetery.

While incarcerated for another crime, the inmate violently attacked his cellmate in jail. As demonstrated by his commitment offense, the inmate is a dangerous, violent person.

In addition to the inmate's violence, he also exhibits an inability to refrain from criminal conduct while on parole or probation. In 2002, the inmate violated parole four times. In 2011, the inmate violated his terms of parole twice. There is no evidence to suggest the inmate will stop 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,



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District Attorney

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