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February 23, 2018

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

**Re: Inmate Kenneth Ray Craig; CDCR BD1776
Ventura County Superior Court Case 2014035910
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings February 28, 2018**

Dear Board Members:

This letter is written to recommend denial of early parole for inmate Kenneth Ray Craig. On December 5, 2016, the inmate was sentenced to seven years in prison. Releasing the inmate now would mean he would serve less than a third of this actual sentence. 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

In October 2014, the victim, Lucio Gomez, was employed by the owner of a mobile home to provide construction and remodeling on the home. On the day of the crime, Mr. Gomez entered the home and saw the inmate and another suspect inside the restroom using drugs.

Mr. Gomez told them they needed to leave. The two declined so Mr. Gomez said he was going to call the police. The inmate responded by calling Mr. Gomez a "stupid Mexican" and "fucking Mexican." Mr. Gomez then left the home to retrieve his cell phone and call the police.

The inmate and the second subject followed Mr. Gomez out of the home. As Mr. Gomez was holding his phone, the inmate grabbed the phone and threw it to the ground. The inmate stomped on the phone with his feet until it broke into pieces, rendering the phone useless. The inmate and the second subject then hit Mr. Gomez and a physical fight ensued between the inmate, the second subject, and Mr. Gomez.

The inmate then got into the driver's seat of a nearby car and backed out of the parking space by approximately 15 feet. During this time, Mr. Gomez was standing to the front of the car attempting to memorize the license plate. The inmate proceeded to drive the car quickly forward towards Mr. Gomez, who turned to flee. The car struck Mr. Gomez on the back of his legs causing him to fall forward and become pinned under the front bumper of the car. The inmate then reversed the car and left the scene. Mr. Gomez obtained medical treatment after the assault and reported feeling pain in his back and legs. The inmate was later identified by Mr. Gomez through a photographic lineup.

The inmate was charged with an assault with deadly weapon and dissuading a witness by force or threat, both serious felonies. The inmate pled guilty to dissuading a witness with force or threat, admitted a strike allegation and a prison prior. He was sentenced to seven years in prison.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

The inmate's criminal history began as a juvenile. He engaged in vandalism and exhibited weapons. As an adult, the inmate was convicted of several alcohol-related offenses which included driving under the influence. Most notably, the inmate was convicted of a battery with substantial bodily harm in Nevada in 2010. That conviction involved the inmate breaking the jaw of a neighbor at his apartment complex. The inmate called the victim "a fucking immigrant." The victim suffered a monetary loss of \$44,406 due to medical bills.

On August 8, 2012, the inmate was caught with bindles of heroin and cash in his wallet. Text messages showed the inmate was selling heroin. While his current case was out to warrant, the inmate was caught twice being under the influence of methamphetamine.

DISCUSSION

Granting early parole of the inmate poses a safety risk to the community. The inmate is a violent, self-admitted drug addict. The inmate appears to specifically commit acts of violence towards ethnic minorities. Both the current incident and his strike prior involve

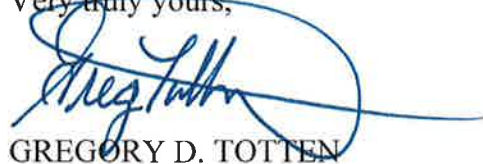
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violent assaults against minority victims. The inmate's criminal history shows he is unable to refrain from engaging in violent, dangerous criminal conduct. Prior grants of probation and parole have failed to curb his violent criminality. Moreover, while housed in the Ventura County jail, the inmate received numerous write-ups for being disrespectful to staff, under the influence, refusing to lock down, possessing contraband, and fighting with another inmate. He was also identified as an associate of the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang. The inmate deserves to serve his full prison term.

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, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

GREGORY D. TOTTON
District Attorney

GDT:lm

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