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August 3, 2018

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

**Re: Inmate Ricky Allen Ritter; CDCR AL8108
Ventura County Superior Court Cases 2010023864, 2011030813, 2011026833
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings August 5, 2018**

Dear Board Members:

This letter is written to recommend denial of early parole for inmate Ricky Allen Ritter. In June 2012, the inmate was sentenced to 12 years 8 months in prison. Releasing the inmate now means he would serve approximately 55 percent of his 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 OFFENSES

Case 2010023864

On July 5, 2010, an officer attempted to stop the inmate, who was driving a 2005 Nissan Maxima, for failing to stop at a stop sign. The inmate sped away. He fled at a high rate of speed, failed to stop at a red light, and drove the wrong way in traffic lanes. The inmate continued to drive up to 90 mph through city streets and failed to stop at additional stop signs. At one point, the inmate was traveling at approximately 60 mph on the wrong side of the roadway to pass other motorists. His vehicle fishtailed and almost lost control. The inmate continued to drive at a high rate of speed and collided with a 2010 Dodge van at an intersection, causing the van to spin out of control and land on a sidewalk. The owner of the van, Edgar Vergara, suffered an abrasion to the right side of his abdomen, bleeding from his mouth, and pain to his head and lower abdomen. He was transported to the hospital where he was treated for his injuries.

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The inmate fled the scene on foot. He was chased by officers into a nearby apartment complex, where he was apprehended. During a search of the inmate, two small ceramic pieces from a spark plug and a glass pipe were found in his pocket. He also had a screwdriver, two pairs of rubber gloves, and a small flashlight on his person. The inmate was also under the influence of methamphetamine.

While at the hospital, deputies learned that the vehicle the inmate had been driving was reported stolen; however, the license plate on the vehicle belonged to a 2006 Nissan Maxima. The owner of the vehicle, Ruth Ruiz, was subsequently contacted. She advised her vehicle was at her residence, but her rear license plate had been stolen a week prior. A record check using the vehicle identification number of the car the inmate was driving, revealed it was reported stolen.

The inmate pled guilty to auto theft, evading with a reckless and wanton disregard of others, DUI with injuries, and resisting arrest. He also admitted a strike prior, an auto theft prior, and two prison priors.

2011026833

On July 26, 2011, an officer attempted to initiate a traffic stop on a vehicle because the headlights were off. The vehicle failed to yield, and a pursuit followed. The vehicle drove to a dead-end street and the front passenger, later identified as the inmate, stepped out of the vehicle and put his hands in the air. The driver of the vehicle was able to drive over a road barrier and flee the scene. The inmate was detained. While in the prone position, he reached into his pocket and attempted to retrieve an item. The officer had to physically remove the inmate's hand from his pocket. During a search of the inmate, a can of pepper spray and .10 grams of methamphetamine were found in his pocket.

Under Miranda, the inmate admitted reaching into his pocket to remove the methamphetamine and that he was currently "snorting" methamphetamine. Since the inmate had been convicted of five felonies, he was not allowed to possess pepper spray. The inmate pled guilty to felon in possession of pepper spray. He also admitted a bail allegation, a strike prior, and two prison priors.

2011030813

On August 26, 2011, a deputy observed the inmate driving a black Jeep. The deputy recognized the inmate from prior contacts and knew he had several felony warrants for his arrest. The deputy attempted to initiate a traffic stop, but the inmate failed to yield. He pulled over a short time later, but then sped off at a high rate of speed. Another pursuit ensued. A short time later, the inmate pulled into a parking lot and fled from the

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vehicle on foot. The deputy gave chase and caught up with the inmate in a nearby parking lot. A canister of pepper spray tied to a bungee cord was found in the inmate's pocket, along with a methamphetamine pipe. There were tires, bolt cutters, and a sledge hammer found inside the Jeep. A license plate belonging to a 2005 Nissan Maxima (case 2010023864) was found in the vacant lot near the Jeep.

On August 27, 2011, the owner of the Jeep went to the Sheriff's Department and filed a stolen vehicle report. The victim also reported that the ignition lock on the vehicle had been broken and now the vehicle could be started without a key.

On August 27, 2011, deputies were dispatched to a vacant lot about a recovered Dodge Caliber, which had been reported stolen on August 19, 2011. The vehicle was sitting on blocks and was missing all four tires. A witness reported observing the vehicle parked, unoccupied, in the vacant field, on August 25, 2011. The following day, at about 6:30 a.m., the witness noticed a male subject taking the tires off the vehicle and placing them in a black Jeep. The witness took photos of the suspect, as he was taking the tires off the vehicle and provided the deputies with the photos, which resembled the inmate. The owner of the vehicle was contacted and identified the vehicle. He stated that the ignition key and key fob were missing. He identified the tires found in the stolen Jeep as belonging to his Dodge Caliber. The ignition key and key fob were later discovered in the inmate's booking property.

The inmate pled guilty to auto theft, grand theft, and resisting arrest. He also admitted a strike prior, an auto theft prior, two prison priors and a bail allegation. He was sentenced to 12 years 8 months on the above cases.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

Juvenile Record

On December 27, 1989, the 12-year-old inmate assisted his mother and Genevieve Sosa in shoplifting from a department store. There was a sustained petition for petty theft. On May 10, 1990, the 12-year-old inmate threw a stick at Clint B., barely missing him. The victim informed his uncle, Mr. Donarski. Mr. Donarski confronted the inmate about the incident. The inmate picked up the stick and threatened him with it. There was a sustained petition for assault with a deadly weapon.

On June 28, 1994, the 15-year-old inmate and two others vandalized a fence at a ranch with graffiti. The inmate stated he was responsible for tagging. There was a sustained petition for vandalism.

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On March 3, 1995, victim Chris I. told police that the inmate had challenged him to a fight and brandished a knife at him in a local restaurant. The inmate was found at a nearby motel. Police saw the knife in the inmate's pocket. Police searched the motel and found 3.63 grams of methamphetamine, packaged for sales, floating in the toilet. The inmate stated he was attempting to flush them down the toilet when police arrived. There was a sustained petition for brandishing a deadly weapon and possession of methamphetamine.

Adult Record

On April 6, 1996, the inmate battered an off-duty Port Hueneme police officer. Neighbors in the vicinity told arresting officers that the inmate had been harassing people for some time. The officer suffered abrasions to his shoulder, knee, contusions throughout his back, neck, and forehead, and a broken right hand. The inmate was convicted of battery with serious bodily injury.

On November 2, 1997, the inmate was convicted of petty theft.

On January 28, 1999, the inmate was again convicted of theft.

On April 7, 2000, the inmate was found in possession of .18 grams of methamphetamine. He was convicted of felony possession of methamphetamine.

On February 21, 2002, the inmate drove into a parking lot, where victim William Larrabee was re-arranging some vehicles he was transporting on his vehicle transporting truck. The inmate approached the victim and attempted to carjack him. He stated that his drug dealer would kill him (the inmate) if he did not get the Porsche Carrera that the victim was seated in. The inmate repeatedly asked for the vehicle, to which the victim denied him. The inmate stated, "Don't make me do anything stupid," to which the victim asked, "What are you going to do? Shoot me?" The inmate stated, "If I have to." The victim was able to go back to his vehicle and call police. The inmate fled the area but was arrested during a high-risk traffic stop. He was convicted of attempted carjack and sentenced to prison for 18 months.

On November 3, 2003, the inmate entered a car dealership under the ruse of buying a car. Instead, he stole a 2000 Honda Accord from the lot. On November 3, 2003, a CHP officer attempted to stop the stolen Honda, which was driven by the inmate without the headlights on. The inmate failed to yield and subsequently abandoned the vehicle in an alley. The inmate was later apprehended after jumping into residential backyards and attempting to enter houses. The following items were recovered from the vehicle: a camera, Toyota Tundra new vehicle sticker, a metal crow bar, a pair of needle-nose pliers,

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and paperwork belonging to a victim, whose vehicle had been broken into the previous day. The inmate was convicted of auto theft, felony evading with reckless disregard for others, and DUI. He was sentenced to prison for four years.

DISCUSSION

Granting early parole of the inmate poses a safety risk to the community. The inmate is a dangerous and violent thief who evades law enforcement, and his criminal history shows that his behavior has not changed since he was a juvenile. Rather, the inmate's criminal behavior has escalated over time and he has shown a complete disregard for the law. The inmate is unable to refrain from violent, dangerous, criminal conduct.

The inmate has not served his full sentence imposed by the court. Allowing the inmate to be released early will only enable him to victimize others as he has done before. The inmate clearly poses an unreasonable risk of violence to the public.

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,



MICHAEL D. SCHWARTZ
Chief Assistant District Attorney

GDT:eh

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