



# OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

COUNTY OF VENTURA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**GREGORY D. TOTTEN**  
District Attorney

**MICHAEL D. SCHWARTZ**  
Chief Assistant District Attorney

**MICHAEL K. FRAWLEY**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Administrative Services

**CHERYL M. TEMPLE**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Special Prosecutions

**MICHAEL R. JUMP**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Victim & Community Services

**W. CHARLES HUGHES**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Justice Services

**R. MILES WEISS**  
Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Criminal Prosecutions

**MICHAEL BARAY**  
Chief Investigator  
Bureau of Investigation

September 26, 2018

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

**Re: Inmate Jeffrey Kenneth Hedlund; CDCR AZ0564  
Ventura County Superior Court Cases 2012019097, 2013022375, 2015005103  
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings September 28, 2018**

Dear Board Members:

This letter is written to recommend denial of early parole for inmate Jeffrey Hedlund.<sup>1</sup> In January 2016, the inmate was sentenced to 12 years 8 months in prison on the above cases. Releasing the inmate now means he would serve less than 25 percent of his actual sentence. This recommendation to deny early release is based upon:

- 1) The inmate's commitment offenses.
- 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 2012019097

On May 24, 2012, at approximately 11:15 a.m., police located an unoccupied vehicle with two flat tires on the side of a road. It appeared the vehicle had collided with the curb and was subsequently abandoned by the driver. After conducting a records check, the inmate was identified as the registered owner. Police then located the inmate at his residence. The inmate stated he was driving home the previous night and had hit the curb. Police invoked the inmate's search terms and found \$707 cash in his wallet, pay/owe

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<sup>1</sup> This letter is very similar to the opposition letter sent last year.

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sheets, a glass pipe, and credit cards in the names of three other people (victims). One victim was contacted by police and stated that she did not know how the inmate obtained her personal information and that she had not given him permission to have her credit card. On the inmate's personal camera, police found a picture of a paper with another individual's name and a credit card number, including a security code and expiration date. Police also searched the inmate's two cars and found a micro-scale in both vehicles, as well as two plastic bags containing methamphetamine and a total of nine empty plastic bags. The inmate later pled guilty to possession for sale of a controlled substance, admitted three prison priors, and a strike prior. The inmate was sentenced to 16 months in prison for this conviction, consecutive to his other cases.

Case 2013022375

On July 16, 2013, police officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle suspected of illegal narcotics activity. Two men were passengers in the vehicle and the inmate was the driver. In full view on the passenger seat was a syringe and glass pipe. Officers searched the vehicle and found a total of 4.75 grams of methamphetamine, 2.58 grams of heroin, a loaded .25 caliber handgun, two safes containing additional ammunition, and a digital scale. Additionally, \$3,641 cash was located on the inmate's person, and the inmate's cell phone was found to contain several text messages related to sales of narcotics. The inmate admitted ownership of the drugs and the handgun. The inmate later pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a felon, and to possession for sale of a controlled substance. He also admitted four prison priors, a strike prior, and two special allegations for prior drug sales convictions while personally armed with a firearm. The inmate was sentenced to ten years in prison on this case.

Case 2015005103

In January 2015, narcotics detectives began investigating the inmate for selling methamphetamine in Ventura County. With the assistance of a confidential informant, detectives arranged a controlled buy of methamphetamine from the inmate. The inmate subsequently provided the informant with a useable quantity of methamphetamine. On February 17, 2015, as the inmate walked to a parked car and placed several bags into the trunk, detectives arrested him. A search of the bags he was carrying revealed 15.8 grams of methamphetamine, two working digital scales, packaging material, and two cell phones.

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The inmate pled guilty to possession for methamphetamine for sale. Additionally, the inmate admitted to six prior drug sales convictions, and one strike prior. The inmate was sentenced to 16 months in prison, consecutive to his other cases.

### **CRIMINAL HISTORY**

The inmate has an extensive criminal history that dates to 1986. The inmate has continuously engaged in criminal conduct as an adult, including a violent strike offense and seven prior controlled substance sales convictions per Health and Safety Code section 11370.2(c).

On April 26, 1991, the inmate forcefully grabbed and stole a victim's purse while she was shopping. To evade capture by police, he drove recklessly with his pregnant girlfriend in the car, nearly causing accidents with four or five other vehicles. The inmate was convicted of second-degree robbery and evading a peace officer while driving with willful and wanton disregard for the safety of persons. He was sentenced to 32 months in prison. When the inmate was released on parole, he violated parole two times.

On June 30, 1993, undercover detectives were following the inmate after receiving information that he was selling cocaine. During the surveillance, the inmate began driving erratically to evade the detectives, reaching speeds more than 100 mph. After completing a drug transaction with an informant, the inmate noticed an officer behind his truck. The inmate then shifted his truck into reverse and accelerated directly at the officer. Fearing for his life, the officer fired three shots at the inmate who managed to flee to his nearby residence despite being struck by all three rounds. The inmate was apprehended in the driveway of his home after being subdued with pepper spray. Detectives subsequently executed a search warrant at the inmate's residence where they found 12.02 grams of cocaine hydrochloride, 11.42 grams of cocaine, a rifle, and five knives. The inmate was convicted of sale of a controlled substance, and possession for sale of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to seven years in prison.

On December 17, 2001, police attempted to stop the inmate for a traffic violation. As the vehicle came to a stop, the inmate leapt out of the vehicle and threw something. Police arrested the inmate for driving with a suspended license and an active warrant. During an inventory search of the inmate's vehicle, police discovered a false water bottle with a hidden compartment containing two plastic bags of methamphetamine (13.83 grams and 3.19 grams). Police also recovered an organizer containing three California driver's licenses, each with the inmate's picture but with different names and addresses. Also, inside the organizer were three temporary credit cards in the name of another individual.

Police contacted this individual, who stated that he did not know the inmate and that he did not know how the inmate came to possess his identifying information. The victim later contacted police and informed them that he had discovered bills and sales in his name from Eddie Bauer (\$1,252.08), JCPenney (\$1,432.40), Target (\$969.97), Zales (\$4,844.94), and Joseph's Fine Jewelers (\$1,168.00). The inmate later pled guilty to transportation/sales of a controlled substance and was sentenced to two years prison.

On December 21, 2001, police executed a search warrant on the inmate's home after surveilling him as he associated with another known narcotics dealer. The inmate was in possession of a .22 caliber bolt-action rifle, an Enfield .303 bolt-action rifle, a box of 500 .22 caliber long rifle bullets, three bags of methamphetamine (.39 grams, .44 grams, and .16 grams), a digital scale, a cell phone, a scanner, 47 Propranolol pills, three MDMA (ecstasy) tablets, and a large quantity of property that was not his. The inmate later pled guilty to possession for sale of a controlled substance and was sentenced to 6 years 8 months in prison.

On August 3, 2009, a parole search conducted at the inmate's residence revealed methamphetamine, a plastic straw, and a light brown spoon commonly used to prepare and package powder drugs. Officers also discovered a water bong with white residue and a methamphetamine pipe inside. The inmate later pled guilty to possession of a controlled substance and was sentenced to five years prison. However, imposition of the prison sentence was suspended, and the inmate was placed on 36 months formal probation and sentenced to 151 days jail.

In addition to the above, the inmate has also been convicted of the following offenses:

- 1986 – Possession of a controlled substance (Health & Saf. Code § 11377(a))
- 1989 – Unlawful taking of a vehicle (Veh. Code § 10851)
- 1989 – Possession of drug paraphernalia (Health & Saf. Code § 11364)
- 1997 – DUI with a blood alcohol content .08 percent or greater (Veh. Code § 23152(b))

## **DISCUSSION**

Granting early parole of this inmate poses a significant safety risk to our community. Since 1986, the inmate has been arrested or convicted at least 14 separate times. The inmate has displayed a persistent and brazen disrespect toward the law and toward every opportunity given to him to change his criminal ways.

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The inmate's criminal history demonstrates potential for violence, as well as participation in actual violence. Perhaps most disturbingly, the inmate drove his truck at a police officer who was about to confront him after he sold drugs to an informant, placing the officer in such fear for his life that he responded with deadly force of his own. The inmate continued his flight and ultimately had to be subdued with pepper spray. Though he was not convicted of the assault with a deadly weapon charge in this case, the incident sheds light on the inmate's danger to society.

The inmate has suffered convictions for possession of a firearm by a felon, and for dealing drugs while armed with a firearm. On two other occasions, search warrants revealed various weapons alongside drugs in the inmate's residence (rifles in both cases and several knives in one case). The inmate was also convicted of driving recklessly while evading a peace officer, demonstrating no regard for the safety of his pregnant girlfriend. The inmate has been convicted of robbery. He has shown he will place others in dangerous violent situations to take their property or flee from law enforcement.

The inmate's criminal history exhibits an inability to refrain from using or dealing with controlled substances. He has suffered ten separate convictions for offenses related to controlled substances including use, possession, transport, and sale of such substances or related paraphernalia. The inmate is clearly heavily addicted to controlled substances, but the harm from his vice does not end with the inmate himself; it poisons the community at large through the inmate's repeated efforts to sell drugs.

## **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 this inmate.

Very truly yours,



MICHAEL D. SCHWARTZ  
Chief Assistant District Attorney

MDS:kd

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