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August 8, 2018

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

**Re: Inmate David Kanteman; CDCR AX3015  
Ventura County Superior Court Cases 2013029226, 2014024161  
Opposition Letter Due to Board of Parole Hearings August 9, 2018**

Dear Board Members:

This letter is written to recommend denial of early parole for inmate David Kanteman.<sup>1</sup> In March 2017, the inmate was sentenced to 14 years prison on the above cases. Releasing the inmate now means he would only serve approximately 20 percent of the actual sentence imposed. This recommendation is based upon:

- 1) The dangerous and flagrant nature of the commitment offense.
- 2) The inmate's blatant disregard for the law.
- 3) The unreasonable risk to public safety if the inmate is released early.

## **CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COMMITMENT OFFENSE**

On September 18, 2013, Simi Valley Police Officers McLemen and Romo observed the inmate's vehicle leaving a known narcotics-related residence. The officers stopped the vehicle and recognized the inmate as a known drug dealer who was actively involved in selling methamphetamine. The inmate displayed symptomology consistent with illegal drug use and was arrested for being under the influence of a controlled substance.

When the inmate exited his vehicle, Officer McLemen saw closed folding knives protruding from both of the inmate's front pants pockets. Officer McLemen informed the

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

inmate he needed to remove these knives for his own safety. The inmate stepped backwards and thrust his left hand over the top of the knife in his left pocket in an attempt to conceal the knives and resist Officer McLemen. Officer Romo located a large bag of methamphetamine (approximately 14 grams) in the vehicle. Additionally, the officers located over \$2,000 cash, counterfeit U.S. currency, and two cell phones. One of the phones was an inexpensive flip phone, presumptively a "throw phone." Officers Romo and McLemen concluded that the inmate was actively in possession of methamphetamine for sale.

The following items were located during execution of a search warrant at the inmate's home:

- 94 grams of methamphetamine.
- Two digital drug scales with a white residue, consistent with methamphetamine.
- 33 Xanax pills.
- A loaded Smith/Wesson 500 (.50 cal.) Magnum revolver.
- Two used methamphetamine pipes.
- Numerous unused clear bags for packaging.

Because of the inmate's five prior felony convictions, he was prohibited from owning a firearm. The firearm was found approximately five feet from the methamphetamine. On June 4, 2015, the inmate pled guilty to possession, transportation, and sale of a controlled substance. The inmate also pled guilty to possessing a firearm while possessing and selling controlled substances. Also, the inmate admitted being a felon in possession of a firearm.

On August 6, 2014, while out on bail for the above offense (case 2013029226), the inmate committed several new offenses (case 2014024161). This incident included the transportation of over 130 grams of methamphetamine and sale of methamphetamine. On June 4, 2015, the inmate pled guilty to transporting and selling illegal narcotics, with a special allegation for use of a deadly weapon during the commission of a felony. On July 6, 2015, the inmate was sentenced to 14 years in prison in the aforementioned cases.

## **CRIMINAL HISTORY**

The inmate's documented criminal history began almost 20 years ago. He has been sent to prison on two prior occasions and given multiple opportunities to reform on probation and parole. He has previously been convicted of sales of controlled substances.

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The inmate's history indicates he is violent. He has been arrested for kidnapping, willful disobedience of a court order, and multiple counts of battery. Additionally, the inmate was convicted of infliction of bodily injury on a cohabitant or spouse and making criminal threats.

### **DISCUSSION**

It is beyond dispute that the sale of drugs is a violent business, especially while armed with firearms. In the commitment offense, the inmate possessed copious amounts of methamphetamine as well as knives and guns. The inmate has displayed a willingness to use violence against others, and to threaten violence upon others.

His repeated violations after multiple grants of probation and after being sent to prison demonstrate he is unwilling to reform. In fact, his most recent offense occurred while he was out on bail for the commitment offense.

### **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

MDS:kd

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