



COUNTY OF YOLO  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Parole Board Denies Release in '92 Gang Slaying  
Harold Rigsby shot and killed Pierre Fortier because he had  
disrespected the Broderick Boys**

(Woodland, CA) – **August 11, 2011** - Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that 35-year-old convicted murderer Harold Rigsby was denied a release at a parole hearing on August 10 at Pelican Bay State Prison in Crescent City, CA.

On December 14, 1992, Rigsby of West Sacramento and several identified members of the “Broderick Boys” street gang met at the home of a young female. According to Rigsby, they lured 23-year-old Pierre Fortier to the home because he had made disparaging remarks about the “Broderick Boys” street gang. After beating Fortier, Rigsby shot and killed him.

Rigsby pled guilty to second degree murder. The Deputy Probation Officer who prepared the June 23, 1993 probation report stated, “This crime represents the ultimate violation of society’s morals, values and the basic human inherent goal to preserve and cherish life. Simply stated, the defendant callously and senselessly murdered an innocent person.” Rigsby was sentenced to 15-years-to-life in state prison.

Rigsby has been housed at Pelican Bay State Prison Security Housing Unit (SHU) at MAX custody, due to his validation as a member of the Northern Structure prison gang. In August, 2010, he disassociated from the gang but still remains housed at the SHU.

During the hearing Rigsby stated, “I thought I had to prove myself to the Broderick Boys.” Rigsby said he was “jumped,” or beaten, into the gang at 15. He said “I constantly had to prove who I was. I was loyal to the gang and the gang had a reputation to uphold.”

The victim's mother, brother, and sister-in-law attended the hearing. Chief Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Raven attended the hearing on behalf of the Yolo County District Attorney. The victim's mother told the commissioners that "Pierre loved life and had a lot of living to do. He was brutally shot for no reason."

After deliberating for 30 minutes, the commissioners found that Rigbsy was not suitable for parole because of the commitment offense, his prior criminality, his unstable social history, his poor record while in prison including his gang affiliation, and his very limited parole plans. He will not be eligible for another parole hearing for five years.

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