



COUNTY OF YOLO
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Broderick Murderer Denied Parole

Convicted murderer Alfredo Morales was denied parole for the maximum time of four years on Tuesday, August 26 at Salinas Valley Prison in Soledad, California. In 1986, Morales shot and killed 21 year old Gregory Rodriguez in front of the 600 Club in the Broderick area of West Sacramento. Morales was on parole and had been released from prison only four months earlier. According to Board of Parole Hearings Commissioner Hollis Gillingham, Morales surprised Gregory by shooting him in the head and then when Gregory crumpled to the sidewalk, Morales fired five more shots hitting him in the head, neck and chest area. A Yolo County jury convicted Morales of 1st degree murder and he was sentenced to 32 years to life in prison.

The two surviving brothers, Eugene and Valentino Rodriguez, appeared before the parole board to talk about how their brother's murder had impacted their lives and to tell the commissioners why Morales should remain in prison. This was not the first murder of a Rodriguez family member. Less than one year earlier, another brother, Albert, was also killed in the Broderick area. The trials of the killer of both Gregory and Albert occurred at the same time in separate courtrooms in Yolo County. The boys' mother attended every day of court for both trials, running from courtroom to courtroom.

Statements in the 1986 probation report describe Gregory as coming from a hard-working family that had a strong sense of values. He was never in trouble with the law, wanted to be a CHP officer some day, and the kids in Broderick admired him. Law enforcement photos from the crime scene depict the terrible and senseless loss. After the body was taken away, all that was left was Gregory's CHP baseball cap lying in a pool of blood.

Valentino, who was 16 at the time of his brother's murder, spoke passionately and tearfully to the commissioners. "He was very close to me and always looked out for me. I was the baby brother. I used to always want to tag along with him. One thing I saw in him was that he was such a good compassionate person. We worked hard and had some money. Gregory would buy lunch for those who weren't as fortunate. He was just a good person." Eugene talked about his brother and the impact of the murder on his mother and father. He stated, "My mom's not here right now. She said 'we've been dealt a life sentence.'" He concluded that Morales must remain in prison.

After deliberating for 20 minutes, Commissioner Gillingham returned with the panel's decision. She stated Morales was not suitable for parole because he was "an unreasonable risk and threat to public safety." He committed this offense while on parole. And, while serving time in prison previously, he was involved in the murder of another inmate and also was stabbed in another altercation. She continued stating that "the commitment offense was heinous and atrocious as well as dispassionate and calculated." It showed an "exceptionally callous disregard for human life." The victim was caught by surprise and was vulnerable. Motive cannot be found.

Yolo County Assistant Chief Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Raven attended the hearing on behalf of the family and the County of Yolo. He stated "I have never seen a family experience senseless tragedy quite like this. Two sons murdered independently. Two trials going on at the same time. The pain suffered by mother, father and the rest of the family, simply put, is immeasurable and unthinkable. I only hope that today's decision brought some satisfaction to the family."

District Attorney Jeff Reisig stated, "This is another example of the important work that our parole lifer unit is doing on behalf of our crime victims and the people of this County. We will be back with the family in four years before the parole board to ensure that Morales remains in prison where he will be unable to hurt another innocent person in our society."

For more information, contact Jonathan Raven at 530-666-8092.