



COUNTY OF YOLO
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Convicted Murderer Again Denied Parole

(Woodland, CA) Yolo County District Attorney Jeff Reisig announced today that on Monday June 1, 2009, Commissioners of the Board of Parole Hearings denied parole for 3 years to Charles McNeill, age 56, for the murder of then 18 year old Davis High School student Charlie Muller. A Yolo County jury convicted McNeill of second degree murder in 1979.

On December 21, 1978, 25 year old Davis resident McNeill, followed Muller who was driving back from Christmas shopping with his friends. McNeill's vehicle then stalled and Muller, who did not know McNeill, helped him to restart his vehicle. Words were exchanged and McNeill challenged the younger Muller to meet him later to fight outside of Davis. McNeill then went home and retrieved a gun and went to the site where without warning he fatally shot the unarmed Muller. McNeill then fired several more shots towards Muller's friends to aid in his escape. McNeill drove home and cleaned his gun and went out to party before he was arrested the next day. McNeill was sentenced to 17 years to life for the crime.

This was McNeill's eleventh parole hearing which was held at California Medical Facility State Prison in Vacaville and was attended by Supervising Deputy District Attorney Kelli Brooksby of the Yolo County District Attorney's Office. Family members of the victim who had attended the jury trial over thirty years ago and have attended most of the parole hearings also attended Monday's hearing. The family members voiced their feelings against McNeill being paroled to the Commissioners. Brooksby argued that McNeill does not show an understanding of why he committed this completely senseless crime and therefore still continues to be a risk to society.

The Commissioners relied on the recently enacted Marsy's Law which was passed by California voters in November 2008. Marsy's Law, or Proposition 9, amended the California Constitution and increased the terms for a parole denial. Brooksby, who also attended the parole hearing for McNeill with the victim's family two years ago, expressed relief that the family who has been through so much will now have a longer period of time before having to return to argue against parole again.

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