



COUNTY OF YOLO  
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
JEFF W. REISIG, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

January 4, 2016

ATTN: Non-Violent Second Striker  
Board of Parole Hearings  
Correspondence-NVSS  
P.O. Box 4036  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

RE: Costanza, James Anthony

Dear Board of Parole Hearings,

Thank You for the opportunity to address the Board regarding the administrative review of inmate James Costanza and his suitability for early release.

Based on my knowledge of the case against inmate Costanza, I do not believe that he should be considered for early release. The People's position is based on the facts of the commitment case, the inmate's prior convictions as well as the inmate's prior performance on parole.

In the inmate's commitment case he was arrested for committing a residential burglary. The inmate entered a residence in rural Yolo County and took numerous items. The owner of the residence arrived while the inmate was still on the property and saw the inmate speed away. Yolo County Sheriff's Department deputies located the inmate and the inmate stated that he was on his way home from a local casino. As deputies searched the inmate's wallet, the inmate jumped into his car and led deputies on a high speed chase, which reached speeds of 110 miles per hour, while directing the passenger in his car to throw all of the stolen items out of the window. The pursuit involved multiple agencies and ended in the apprehension of the inmate after he had crossed into another county.

The commitment offense was serious in that the inmate entered the homeowner's residence and took many items including an airsoft gun and a box of pyrotechnic starters. (The homeowner legally possessed the pyrotechnic starters as he frequently set up pyrotechnic displays). Further the inmate endangered numerous individuals when he led officers on a high speed chase in an attempt to evade arrest.

The inmate has a lengthy criminal history. In 2002 he was convicted of selling marijuana and possessing a dangerous weapon. Later that same year he was convicted of his first residential burglary.

He was arrested for receiving stolen property in 2003 and convicted and sent to prison for that offense in 2004.

The inmate was paroled and sent back to state prison on a parole violation in June 2006. In 2007 the inmate suffered convictions for second degree burglary and petty theft with a prior conviction, He was again sent to state prison. After being released on parole he was arrested for a parole violation in June of 2008. That violation was not pursued and the inmate was arrested for the commitment offense.

The inmate has shown that he is a criminal that is not rehabilitated and that will continue to prey on society every time that he is out of custody. He was on parole at the time of his commitment offense. Not only has he continued to commit crimes against the public, he has done so when he has benefitted by being released on parole in the past.

While the inmate's commitment offense is not considered to be a dangerous felony, it is certainly a serious felony. James Costanza has proven to be a career criminal and is not an individual that is deserving of early release.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wendy Milanez for". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Robin L. Johnson  
Deputy District Attorney