

## Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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Non-Violent Parole Release Review Board of Parole Hearings Correspondence - NV Post Box 4036 Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

RE: Lerma, Edward Martin

CDC# BA9179

**Court Case # 16FE003318** 

Inmate Edward Lerma is a brazen, recidivist felon. Since 1984 he has suffered thirteen misdemeanors and nine felony convictions. Inmate Lerma has been to state prison on seven different occasions. Granting him early release will almost certainly result in him re-offending sooner rather than later.

His first foray into criminality started at the age of 19 when he was convicted of grand theft and sentenced to 360 days in county jail. Rather than learn his lesson, Inmate Lerma spent the next 16 years in and out of county jail. In 2000, Inmate Lerma finally "graduated" to state prison, receiving a 72-month sentence for stealing a car and driving under the influence.

Later that same year, Inmate Lerma pleaded to a carjacking as well as a felony failure to appear and received a two-year concurrent prison sentence. On a separate docket he also pleaded to forging checks and, again, received a concurrent prison sentence. While on parole for these offenses, he was convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm and received a four-year prison sentence in 2006. After being released from prison on that case, he was convicted of a second-degree burglary in 2012 and received a three-year prison sentence. Finally, in 2015 he stole another car in San Joaquin and received a 32-month prison sentence.

Inmate Lerma's commitment offense is illustrative of his brazenness. On January 3, 2016 he walks into a car dealership and asks to see a new Chevrolet Camaro. In front of the sales representative he gets in the car and takes off in broad daylight. He almost collides with another car as he sped off the lot. The car is recovered two days later. For this offense, he again gets a break. He received a prison sentence concurrent to the car theft in San Joaquin.

Enough is enough. Inmate Lerma has been given enough breaks. Giving him another is an affront to the criminal justice system and the citizenry of this state. As such, the District Attorney of Sacramento is opposed to his early release. As we are given 30 days to respond, and we are not provided with any disciplinary history or any other information aside from the one-

page notice of parole review, I cannot comment on inmate Lerma's prison conduct. However, from the record that is available it is clear that inmate Lerma should not be released as he poses a significant, unreasonable risk of violence to the community. Parole should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

**Bret Wasley** 

Deputy District Attorney

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