



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

ANNE MARIE SCHUBERT
District Attorney

Stephen J. Grippi
Chief Deputy

Michael A. Neves
Assistant District Attorney

October 25, 2016

Non-Violent Second Striker Board of Parole Hearings
Correspondence-NVSS
Post Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

RE: Hurts, Deon CDC # AX7464

Board of Parole Members,

Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or both, impairs the ability to safely operate a motor vehicle. Therefore, it is extremely dangerous to human life to drive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or both. If you continue to drive while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or both, and as a result of my driving, someone is killed, you can be charged with murder.

The above "Watson" admonishment is read by every court in the state of California when sentencing a defendant for driving under the influence. This practice began after the case of the same name was decided in 1981. For most people, the admonishment would be a sobering wake up call to change their behavior.

Inmate Hurts earned his current state prison commitment upon conviction of his 8th driving under the influence offense. Each occurred after 1981, which means that eight times, in some form or another, this inmate has been given this admonishment. For inmate Hurts, the admonishment is a meaningless verse in a boring old song.

No one should be surprised that this inmate ignores a call to change his behavior. Hurts was convicted in 1992 for armed robbery and committed to state prison for two years. In 1995, he was convicted for possession of a firearm and again sent to state prison. Those two convictions were just two brief interludes for his repeated driving under the influence convictions, for which he has been on informal and formal probation, as well as parole, to no benefit, for much of three decades.

The inmate fails to curtail his desire to drink and drive and this behavior puts any community in which he resides at risk of death when they share the roadway with him. This board should give his petition for early release the same weight that he gave the "Watson" admonishment.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Ma
Deputy District Attorney
Sacramento County District Attorney's Office