



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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Non-Violent Second Striker Board of Parole Hearings

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RE: Torres, George Mario, CDC#AN8915

August 14, 2015

Board of Parole members,

I'm writing this letter to oppose the early release of inmate George Mario Torres, CDC#AN8915, a four time felon, validated gang member, who had a loaded stolen firearm in his pants pocket. Inmate Torres is currently serving a 4 year prison sentence for violating Penal Code section 29800(a) (Possession of a firearm). In addition, he admitted a prior strike offense within the provisions of Section 667(b)-(i) and Section 1170.12 of the Penal Code. His early release would be a great danger to public safety.

In his most recent case, Officers from the Sacramento Police Department made contact with inmate Torres in a high crime area. When they asked his name, he lied. Inmate Torres fled on foot for approximately 150 yards while reaching into his right pants pocket. Officers located a .380 semi-automatic pistol in his right pants pocket. The .380 pistol was a Makarov and was loaded with one round in the chamber and 7 live rounds in the magazine. Officers discovered the firearm was stolen 10 years prior. In addition, not only was inmate Torres in possession of a loaded stolen firearm, he was on PRCS, and had a no bail warrant for his arrest. Inmate Torres is also a validated Varrio Gardens Sara (VGS) Norteno gang member and the same arresting officer in this case validated him as a gang member in August of 2012.

This is not the first and only time inmate Torres possessed a stolen loaded firearm. In 1996, inmate Torres robbed innocent victims in a public parking lot while pointing a loaded stolen firearm at them. On February 7, 1996, he was sentenced to 5 years in prison for violating Penal Code section 211 (robbery, with the use of a firearm) and Vehicle Code Section 10851 (a). In that case, the victims were walking back to their car from the Olive Garden Restaurant in Sacramento. They observed inmate Torres and another subject walking towards them.

Inmate Torres then pointed a medium sized semi-automatic handgun (described as a .380 semi-automatic pistol) at the victims and demanded a purse from one of them.

Inmate Torres and the other subject took the purse and ran through the parking lot of the Olive Garden. One of the victims chased inmate Torres, but immediately backed off when inmate Torres pointed the gun at him. Witnesses in the area observed inmate Torres and the other subject running from the victim and flee in a nearby vehicle. Inmate Torres was later detained and positively identified by the victim's as the individual who used the firearm during the robbery. The firearm Torres used was also found and identified to be a .380 Taurus semi-automatic pistol with a loaded magazine and was reportedly stolen out of Sacramento County.

A further review of inmate Torres's criminal history shows a propensity for criminal behavior and violence. On November 16, 2006, inmate Torres was sentenced to 32 months state prison upon a separate violation of Vehicle Code section 10851 (a) (vehicle theft).

On March 18, 2008, inmate Torres was sentenced to 4 years state prison upon another violation of Vehicle Code section 10851 (a) (vehicle theft). In the committing offense, Officers from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department observed inmate Torres driving a stolen vehicle. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle by activating their lights and sirens; however, inmate Torres fled at a high rate of speed and continued to evade officers for approximately 10 minutes, covering approximately 6.8 miles. During the pursuit, inmate Torres made unsafe lane changes into oncoming traffic, drove through controlled intersections without stopping, reached speeds in excess of 90 mph in residential areas, and nearly collided with another motorist's vehicle. Officers arrested Torres, and determined Torres was on active parole at the time of this offense.

In addition to his violent offenses, inmate Torres has consistently shown that he has no ability to conform his conduct to the requirements of the law. Inmate Torres has failed to take advantage of the opportunities given to him to be a productive member of society. While serving his intended sentence, inmate Torres has exhibited defiant and hostile behavior. On August 29, 2013, inmate Torres was ordered to submit to a clothed body search of his person. During the search inmate Torres began to reach in his back pocket. Officers instructed inmate Torres not to put his hands in his pocket. In the middle of the search, inmate Torres ignored all officer commands and reached into his front left pocket. Inmate Torres broke free from officers and ran to the bathroom and began flushing an unknown object down the toilet. Inmate Torres was found guilty of a Division "D" charge based upon a preponderance of evidence which substantiated the charge of section 3005(d)(1), with the specific act of "resistive inmate requiring use of force." Inmate Torres was sentenced to 30 days loss of privileges. He was counseled, and reprimanded on future behavior, expectations, and progressive discipline.

Inmate Torres has repeatedly demonstrated a willingness to engage in criminal activity. He has shown no interest in complying with the law. Law and order exist for the protection and progress of our community. Inmate Torres's disregard for the law and his violent nature, pose an immediate danger to our community. This is evident by the clear pattern of behavior demonstrated by inmate Torres when he was convicted of armed robbery with the use of a .380 semi-automatic pistol in 1996, and years later found in possession of the same type of gun, a .380 semi-automatic pistol in 2013. Both guns stolen, both guns loaded. Inmate Torres appears to be a creature of habit and continues to display his lack of respect for the law and for others.

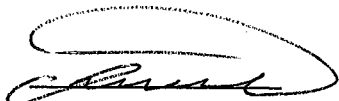
Inmate Torres is a poor candidate for early parole and should serve his full prison term. Inmate Torres has four prior felony convictions. After each sentence he has never changed his pattern of criminal activity. His history and behavior in custody shows nothing but a guarantee that he will re-offend. An early release would be a disservice to the community and would place the citizens of California in immediate danger.

In the interests of justice and public safety, the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office strongly opposes inmate Torres's early release.

Respectfully,

Anne Marie Schubert,

District Attorney

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anissa Galata", with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Anissa Galata

Deputy District Attorney