



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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June 4, 2020

Non Violent Parole Review Process
Board of Parole Hearings
Correspondence – NV
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Re: Reed, James
CDCR No. E87473
Court Docket No. 16FE011819

Inmate Reed has been committing crimes since he was a teenager. He has continued to place the public in danger and the consequences of his criminal conduct have yet to deter him from future criminality. The circumstances surrounding both his current conviction and prior criminal record show that to release him now would pose an unreasonable risk of danger to the public.

Inmate Reed began his life of crime at the age of 19. As a teenager, his first offense was for second degree burglary. He was originally placed on probation but after violating probation and receiving a new conviction for unlawfully possessing a weapon, he received two years in state prison. After being released later that year, he again picked up a new case for being a felon in possession of a firearm and received a sixteen-month sentence in December of 1991.

Since then, Inmate Reed has been convicted of a dozen felony offences and one misdemeanor offense. He has been sentenced to prison nine times, not including the two previously mentioned sentences. He has also been found in violation of parole at least nine times. In total, he has been sentenced to 34 years in prison, including his current ten-year sentence. Inmate Reed's convictions include residential burglary, illegal possession of weapons, vehicle theft, drug possession, vandalism, possession of stolen property, and recklessly evading officers.

Inmate Reed's residential burglary conviction is from January of 2009 when he entered an apartment after breaking the lock and stealing multiple items from the home. He was on parole at the time of the offense and received a sentence of eight years in prison. After being released on parole in 2014, Inmate Reed absconded for a short time in 2015 before being located again. He then violated parole yet again by committing the current offenses.

In June of 2016, Inmate Reed was located driving a vehicle that had been stolen during a residential burglary two days prior. When officers attempted to stop the vehicle, Inmate Reed fled. During the two-mile pursuit, Inmate Reed drove away at a high rate of speed and nearly rear-ended other vehicles stopped at a red light. Inmate Reed then drove over the center median and into oncoming traffic before driving onto the sidewalk to avoid a collision. Once back on the main road, Inmate Reed travelled at speeds of over 35 miles per hour above the posted speed limit. Inmate Reed ran three stop signs, causing the chase to become too dangerous for law enforcement to continue their pursuit. After law enforcement cancelled their pursuit, Inmate Reed was observed turning into a residential driveway. Inmate Reed then jumped from the vehicle while it was still in motion, causing it to crash into the fence, where he fled on foot before being detained nearby. A search of the vehicle revealed several items of property belonging to the victims of the residential burglary. Inmate Reed was convicted of driving a stolen vehicle and recklessly evading officers and received a ten-year state prison sentence on January 27, 2017.

Since the age of 19, Inmate Reed has consistently violated probation or parole by committing new offenses. There has been only a single instance since his first conviction that he has lasted even a year before committing a new crime or violating parole. His criminal career started out with him stealing and possessing firearms, and he has proven that he will not change. He has continued to disregard the safety of others and put the community at risk.

It should be noted that Inmate Reed was previously considered for release and was denied due to the offenses outlined above, as well as his repeated discipline for violations of CDCR rules.

As we are given 30 days to respond, and we are not provided with any updated disciplinary history or any other information aside from the one-page notice of parole review, I cannot comment on Inmate Reed's updated prison conduct. However, based on Inmate Reed's record, criminal nature, and demonstrated recidivism, I can only believe that he has not and will not change. If released, he will continue to put our community at risk. As such, the District Attorney of Sacramento County is opposed to his early release.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Morris". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Andrea Morris
Deputy District Attorney
Sacramento County District Attorney's Office