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Valentines Day Murderer Denied Parole *CDC #BA4880; Court Case #BF159213A*

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced that the California Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) denied release to convicted murderer Juan Molina Jr. On January 30, 2024, BPH found that Molina continues to pose a current and unreasonable risk to public safety. Representing the District Attorney's Office was Deputy District Attorney Gina Nargie.

On February 14, 2015, Molina shot and killed Adrian Matthew Garner. On Valentine's Day evening, Molina and his wife went over to his wife's family's house in Delano. After comments made by Molina, a fight broke out between Molina, another male at the party, and Molina's brother-in-law. Molina made threats as he was physically removed from the house and left with his wife. However, Molina's wife later returned to the residence and got into a physical fight with two other women. Molina's wife was then removed from the residence and was seen pacing the sidewalk and talking on the phone. She then yelled back at the house, "We are going to come back and shoot all you mother f[**]kers."

A witness called and warned the others that Molina had returned, had a gun, and was headed back over to his wife's family's house. In response to the warning, they tried to lock up the house before Molina returned. By this point, Garner was present and told witnesses that he would handle the situation. Molina returned to his wife's family's house holding a gun in his hand. Garner opened the front door and had a handgun concealed on his person. Molina, still holding the gun in his hand, forcibly tried to get past Garner to enter the house. While Garner continued to try to prevent Molina from entering, Molina's gun discharged. Garner died at the house from a gunshot that pierced his heart.

After the shooting, Molina fled the area in his vehicle. He admitted that he dismantled his gun and threw out the parts. The next day, Molina turned himself into law enforcement.

On May 23, 2016, a Kern County Jury found Molina guilty of one count of murder in the second degree and one count of destruction of evidence. On July 16, 2016, a Kern County Judge sentenced him to 15-years-to-life.

On January 30, 2024, the BPH focused on Molina's continued demonstration of criminal thinking and lack of remorse. This hearing was Molina's first parole hearing. The victim's family members attended the

hearing. The Kern County District Attorney's Office asked the Board of Parole to deny parole. The Board of Parole has the option of denying an inmate parole for a period of 15, 10, 7, 5 or 3 years. Molina's commissioners issued a five-year denial. As such, Molina's next parole hearing date could potentially be in 18 months.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "Molina's inability to control his emotions is dangerous and has left a family devastated, mourning the loss of their loved one. Fortunately, justice is being upheld."

Juan Molina:

