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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Parole Denied to Convicted Murder Rodolfo Alvarado III
CDC #H94303; Court Case #SC054101A

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced that the California Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) denied release to convicted murder Rodolfo Alvarado III. On February 9, 2024, BPH found that Alvarado continues to pose a current and unreasonable risk to public safety. Representing the District Attorney's Office was Deputy District Attorney Gina Nargie.

In late April of 1993, the victim George Wykoff's home was burglarized, and his video game equipment was stolen. Wykoff believed that two juvenile males, family members of Alvarado, were responsible. Wykoff demanded several times that the two juveniles return what they had stolen.

On April 28, 1993, Wykoff saw both juvenile victims again and demanded his property be returned to him. During one of the encounters outside a convenience store, one of the juvenile males threatened Wykoff by saying he was going to get his cousins if the victim "didn't stop messing with him." After this encounter, Wykoff returned home. When Wykoff got home, Alvarado drove up to the victim's house with several other individuals questioning "who was messing with his cousins?" Alvarado stabbed Wykoff in the chest with enough force to penetrate the victim's heart. George Wykoff was 18 years-old when he died.

On August 27, 1993, a Kern County Jury found Alvarado guilty of one count of murder in the second degree. The jury also found true that Alvarado personally used a deadly or dangerous weapon during the commission of the murder. On September 21, 1993, a Kern County Judge sentenced him to 16-years-to-life.

On February 9, 2024, the Board of Parole focused on Alvarado's insight into his life crime, prior gang involvement, and substance abuse issues both in the community and in prison. This hearing was Alvarado's sixth parole hearing. Ultimately, the Board of Parole found that Alvarado needed to engage in additional programming related to substance abuse and violence.

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. Alvarado's commissioners issued a three-year denial. As such, Alvarado's next parole hearing date could potentially be in 18 months.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; “We will continue to fight for victims beyond a conviction. Alvarado violently took a young man’s life and must face the consequences.”