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Parole Denied for Man who Stabbed Child's Mother Over 100 Times
CDC #H60684; Kern County Court Case #SC057374A

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced that the California Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) denied release to convicted murderer Eric Holder, age 59. On October 9, 2024, BPH found that Holder continues to pose a current and unreasonable risk to public safety. Representing the District Attorney's Office was Supervising Deputy District Attorney David McKillop.

Eric Holder murdered victim Stormi Martin by stabbing her over 100 times. Holder and Martin had been living together for over two years and had one child together. On January 24, 1994, Holder had been taking methamphetamine for hours with a friend in a motel room when he began to threaten the victim and eventually forced her into the bathroom and stabbed her to death. Holder was holding their eight-month-old son as he stabbed the victim, and the child sustained multiple cut wounds over his body. The coroner's office determined the cause of death was stab wounds to the throat, chest and abdomen.

Holder said the motive for the murder was drug related, and he thought she was part of a conspiracy to come and get him. In 2016, the victim's mother wrote a letter to the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) stating that the victim "finally had enough and decided to leave." That's when Holder locked her and the child in the bathroom and tortured her and stabbed her over 100 times.

On July 21, 1995, Holder pled guilty to murder in the first degree, use of a knife, and willful harm or injury to a child. On September 6, 1995, a Kern County Judge sentenced Holder to 32 years to life in state prison.

Holder has been denied parole on two prior occasions in 2016 and 2021. On October 9, 2024, the BPH conducted Holder's third parole hearing. He has served approximately 30 years in state prison. At the parole hearing, the commissioners focused on Holder's extensive criminal history, his poor institutional behavior, rehabilitative programming, and drug and alcohol addiction. The Kern County District Attorney's Office asked the BPH to deny parole. The BPH found that Holder was not suitable for parole and posed a current unreasonable risk of danger to society. The BPH has the option of denying an inmate

parole for a period of 15, 10, 7, 5 or 3 years. Holder's commissioners issued a three-year denial. As such, Holders' next parole hearing could be in 18 months.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented, "This was a truly horrific crime. Not only did Holder commit an act of brutal violence, but he did so while holding the victim's infant child. His heartless actions rightly support the significant prison time he will continue to serve."