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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Parole Denied for Convicted Rapist William Fowler**  
*CDC #E79392; Kern County Court Case #SC64990A*

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced that the California Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) denied release to convicted rapist William Fowler, age 58. On December 26, 2024, BPH found that Fowler continues to pose a current and unreasonable risk to public safety. Representing the District Attorney's Office was Deputy District Attorney Gina Nargie.

On August 18, 1990, Fowler went to the victim's residence to do yard work. While there, he went inside the residence and he and the 19 year old victim had a "playful argument". He then got angry, struck her in the face and raped her. Afterwards he told her she should not have teased him. Fowler was convicted of rape in Kern County case number SC43431A. He was sentenced to 6 years prison.

On October 3, 1995, while serving time in state prison for his rape conviction, correctional staff heard noise coming from Fowler's cell. Officers went to investigate and discovered that Fowler had forced another inmate to orally copulate him.

On March 4, 1996, a Kern County Jury found Fowler guilty of oral copulation while confined in a detention facility. After the jury found Fowler guilty, the court found true the special allegations that Fowler had been convicted of two prior rape cases from 1983 and 1990. The court determined that both prior rape convictions qualified as "strike priors" pursuant to California Three Strikes Laws. On April 1, 1996, a Kern County Judge sentenced Fowler to 25 years to life in prison.

On December 26, 2024, the BPH conducted Fowler's third parole hearing. At the parole hearing, the commissioners focused on Fowler's sexual offense history, institutional behavior, rehabilitative programming, and substance abuse. The Kern County District Attorney's Office asked the BPH to deny parole. The BPH found that Fowler 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. Fowler's commissioners issued a five-year denial.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; “Our office has consistently advocated for the well-being of our community during three parole hearings, highlighting the dangers Fowler’s release would present. This five-year denial is a critical victory for public safety.”