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Notorious Home Invasion Robber Granted Parole Over the DA's Opposition *CDCR #AT7917; Kern County Court Case #BF137124B*

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced that the California Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) granted parole to convicted home invasion robber Vicente Guizar-Figueroa. On May 13, 2025, BPH found that Vicente Guizar-Figueroa, age 29, does not pose a current and unreasonable risk to public safety. Representing the District Attorney's Office was Supervising Deputy District Attorney David McKillop.

On June 6, 2011, Guizar-Figueroa and his brother, with guns drawn, entered the home of a local business owner who was home with his wife and minor daughter. The Bakersfield family was held at gunpoint as Guizar-Figueroa threatened to shoot the family dog if they did not keep quiet. The business owner was then ordered to drive the brothers to his business while a third man held his family hostage. Unknown to Guizar-Figueroa, additional family members were present and escaped out the back door to call the police. Police surrounded the residence as Guizar-Figueroa fled out the back door, but police quickly detained him. Guizar-Figueroa said they watched the victim for six days to plan the crime, including going into the jewelry store to do reconnaissance.

On June 12, 2014, Guizar-Figueroa pled no contest to three felony counts of assault with a semi-automatic firearm and three use of a firearm enhancements. He was sentenced to 29 years and 8 months in state prison. The reason Guizar-Figueroa received a parole hearing approximately 14 years into his sentence of a violent crime is that he was under the age of 26 at the time of the crime, thus under the law, he is entitled to a youthful offender's parole hearing. Vicente's brother, Humberto Figueroa, was his accomplice and is currently an inmate in CDCR for his participation in the home invasion robbery. Humberto Figueroa has a parole hearing tentatively scheduled for November 18, 2025 and is eligible for a premature hearing as he is also considered a youthful offender. The third robbery suspect was never identified.

Just a few months before the crime committed in Kern County, Guizar-Figueroa also committed a robbery

in the state of Washington. On February 9, 2011, Guizar-Figueroa and a crew posed as energy company workers at the victim's house. She told them to come back later but they pulled out guns and pushed her inside. They held the family at gunpoint until a male victim, owner of a jewelry store, arrived home. The family was zip tied and a gun was put to the business owner's head. The business owner went with one of the robbers to the jewelry store while the family was held hostage. The robbers ultimately took \$370,000 worth of jewels.

Guizar-Figueroa was convicted of two counts of first degree residential burglary, five counts of kidnapping, one count of first degree robbery, and one count of automobile theft in Washington. Guizar-Figueroa was sentenced to 50 years in Washington concurrent to his California sentence, which was later reduced to 38 years.

On May 13, 2025, the BPH conducted Guizar-Figueroa's initial parole hearing. He has served approximately 11 years in state prison and an approximate total of 14 years in custody. At the parole hearing, the commissioners questioned Guizar-Figueroa about the facts, motivations, and consequences to the victims related to his crimes. Guizar-Figueroa admitted gang involvement while in prison but said he had left the gang in 2020, however, he was still housed in General Population with the gang members and could not explain why he had not made efforts to be moved to a different area of the prison. In addition, the BPH focused on Guizar-Figueroa's recent efforts to participate in rehabilitative programming related to substance abuse and anger management. The Kern County District Attorney's Office asked the BPH to deny parole. The BPH found that Guizar-Figueroa was suitable for parole and did not pose an unreasonable risk of danger to society.

If paroled in California, it is possible he will be returned to Washington state to complete his sentence. According to CDCR records, a detainer was filed by Benton County, Washington on March 11, 2015 and ICE filed a detainer on June 23, 2014.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; "Guizar-Figueroa had two very notable cases in Kern and Benton County that due to the extremity of his sophisticated crimes, left both communities feeling unsettled. It is awful that he has served less than half of his sentence and has been granted parole due to lenient laws. This early release emphasizes the importance for stronger laws that prioritize justice for victims and ensure public safety."

Vicente Guizar-Figueroa:

