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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Approved by CJZ
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Parole Denied for Inmate that Murdered Cellmate
CDCR #BD8151; Kern County Court Case #BF161210A

Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced that the California Board of Parole Hearings (BPH) denied release to convicted murderer Rory Moser. On January 28, 2026, BPH found that Moser continues to pose a current and unreasonable risk to public safety. Representing the District Attorney's Office was Deputy District Attorney Gina Nargie.

On June 29, 2014, Moser was serving time in state prison for his Sacramento County conviction (14F02826) for felony drunk driving causing serious bodily injury and hit and run when he murdered Donald Cook. At approximately 3 a.m., a correctional officer at North Kern State Prison heard "man down." When officers responded they noticed a strong odor of alcohol coming from inside the cell. The investigation revealed that Moser murdered the victim inside his cell. The victim died of blunt force trauma to his head, neck, and chest. The victim suffered from multiple head and facial lacerations as well as rib fractures.

On June 28, 2017, a Kern County Jury found Moser guilty of second-degree murder. On July 27, 2017, a Kern County Judge sentenced Moser to 15-years-to-life.

Moser is currently 45 years old and has served approximately nine years in prison. On January 28, 2026, the BPH conducted Moser's initial parole hearing. At the hearing, Moser's commissioners focused on his high-risk rating for re-offense in his latest mental health evaluation. The Kern County District Attorney's Office asked the BPH to deny parole. The BPH found that Moser continues to pose 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. Moser's commissioners issued a five-year denial.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented; “Heinous acts of violence warrant full accountability, whether committed out in the community or within correctional facilities. Accountability must apply in every case.”

Rory Moser:

