



MEMORANDUM

SACRAMENTO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

THIEN HO
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

December 30, 2025

Non-Violent Parole Review Process
Board of Parole Hearings
Correspondence – NV
P.O. Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

Re: Bonton, Amough

CDC #BY5747

Docket(s): 24FE000191

I am writing to express my strong and unequivocal opposition to the early release of Inmate Bonton. The inmate's record in this case demonstrates not only chronic recidivism and extreme danger to public safety, but also a clear lack of insight, lack of remorse, and complete failure to rehabilitate, all of which weigh heavily against any grant of parole.

Inmate Bonton's current conviction is his fourth conviction for drug sales offenses. Prior to the present offense, he sustained three separate drug sales convictions, including a nine-year state prison sentence imposed in 2013. Between 2000 and 2023, he has been sent to prison 6 times on offenses such as: evading police, felon in possession of a firearm, statutory rape, assault causing great bodily injury, car theft, driving under the influence, and child abuse. These repeated commitments show that prior incarceration, including lengthy sentences, have failed to deter his criminal behavior and that he continues to return to the same dangerous conduct.

The facts of the current offense further illustrate his lack of insight into the harm he causes. In 2023, Police officers conducted an undercover fentanyl buy with the inmate. While officers waited outside the inmate's tent to purchase drugs from him, a man from inside the tent came out exclaiming that someone inside the tent was overdosing. Despite an active overdose occurring at the very location of the drug operation, the fentanyl sale was completed. This conduct demonstrates a complete absence of remorse or concern for human life and a failure to recognize the lethal consequences of peddling poison.

Inmate Bonton's history of violence further reflects a lack of rehabilitation. In 2006, the inmate's eight-month-old infant suffered a head laceration requiring stitches after Inmate Bonton threw a brick through a car window, striking the child. The mother of the child grabbed their baby and began to run with it, screaming for help. Inmate Bonton chased and brutally assaulted the child's mother, punching her seven to eight times in the head while she held the baby. This level of violence—particularly toward the inmate's own defenseless child—demonstrates an extraordinary disregard for the safety of others.

As we are given thirty days to respond, and we are not provided with any disciplinary history or any other information aside from the one-page notice of parole review, I cannot comment on Inmate Bonton' prison conduct. However, based on the information that is available, it is clear he should not be released. There is nothing in his history to suggest that early release would result in lawful or safe conduct in the community. Granting parole would expose the public to an unreasonable risk and would undermine the purposes of sentencing, including accountability, deterrence, and protection of the community. For these reasons, I respectfully and strongly urge the Board to deny any request for early release and require Inmate Bonton to serve the full sentence imposed.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catrina Ranum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a stylized "R" at the end.

Catrina Ranum
Deputy District Attorney
Sacramento County District Attorney's Office