May 23, 2018

Board of Parole Hearings
Attn: Non-Violent Parole Review Process
Correspondence – NV
Post Office Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

Re: JOSEPH DUCKETT, CDC# T-31652

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Board regarding the administrative review of inmate Duckett and his suitability for early release. The Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office urges the Board to find that inmate Duckett is not an appropriate candidate for early parole.

I prosecuted inmate Duckett for possessing a weapon in prison in August of 2011. While serving an 11 year commitment at Folsom State Prison, inmate Duckett was observed with an item in his sock while in a medication line. Sgt. [redacted] began following the inmate and called to him to “get over here.” The inmate looked at Sgt. [redacted] and then began to climb stairs. Sgt. [redacted] called a Code 1 Alarm and yelled “get down!” The inmate continued to evade Sgt. [redacted] and ran up the stairs. Additional officers encountered the inmate and ordered him to get down and he complied. Sgt. [redacted] then retrieved the item from the inmate’s sock and found it to be an inmate manufactured weapon approximately four inches long, consisting of a piece of metal sharpened on one side like a razor blade, with masking tape on the other end to serve as a handle.

Inmate has suffered numerous prior criminal convictions, including convictions for weapons and violence:

1997 San Joaquin PC 148 M 15d
1997 San Joaquin PC 12025(a)(2) M 45d
(Inmate had a .380 caliber semiautomatic pistol in his rear pants pocket.)
Duckett has been convicted of a crime or been in state prison every year since 1997 when he was 21 years old. He was committed to state prison twice and was convicted of his most recent felony while serving a sentence in state prison.

Notably, in 2001, the Inmate was convicted of the crimes of robbery and attempted carjacking and was sentenced to 71 months in state prison. In that case, the inmate accosted a 52 year old woman at gunpoint and yelled, “Give it up! Lady, give it up! Give me your car keys!” Fearing that she would be shot, the victim gave her keys to the inmate who then attempted to steal her car. As the inmate attempted to start the victim’s car, the victim fled into a bar and called for help. The inmate fled into the backyard of a nearby residence where he was apprehended with the assistance of a K-9. The inmate was found with a pellet gun wrapped in black electrical tape. Officers discovered that the inmate was a suspect in two prior robberies that had occurred not far from the area.

The inmate has also been the subject of numerous CDCR 115 violations while in prison custody including “mutual combat,” “disobeying orders” and “conduct that could lead to violence.” These violations, and the present case confirm that the inmate, even in a highly regulated environment, while monitored by law enforcement, is unable to regulate his behavior and if released, will continue to defy society’s laws. The inmate is a serial offender that has made no attempts to rehabilitate.
Given inmate Duckett’s propensity for violence, weapons and his poor past performance on parole, the Sacramento County District Attorney’s office requests that the Board deny early release. Requiring the inmate to serve the remainder of his term will ensure the safety of the citizens of Sacramento County.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Alan R. Van Stralen
Deputy District Attorney
Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office