December 4, 2015

Non-Violent Second Striker Board of Parole Hearings
Correspondence-NVSS
Post Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

RE: Matheny, Walter Jesse CDC # AX0041

Board of Parole Members,

Dangerous. That is just one word to describe the actions of Inmate Matheny during his most recent conviction. While the offense may not necessarily be considered violent under the three strikes law, the violence felt by the victims and officers involved is unquestionable. His actions clearly showed Inmate Matheny’s disdain for the law and that he is more than willing to put the public at risk for his own personal gain. Inmate Matheny has led a life of criminality and does not appear to have a plan to cease his destructive behavior anytime soon.

In his most recent offense, Inmate Matheny was found driving a stolen vehicle. After officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop, he led them on a dangerous high speed chase. During the pursuit, Inmate Matheny travelled on surface streets at approximately 80 miles per hour. He weaved in and out of traffic, ran both red lights and stop signs, and caused other drivers to swerve in order to avoid a collision. When he came to another red light where traffic had been stopped, he collided with three cars in an effort to get away. Inmate Matheny was able to smash his way through the cars and proceed through the red light. He then approached a train signal while a train was approaching yet he again failed to stop and instead proceeded over the train tracks. He later abandoned the vehicle in a residential neighborhood and continued to flee on foot. Inmate Matheny was found jumping fences into people’s backyards and was finally detained. Inmate Matheny received a four year sentence after pleading no contest to violations of VC2800.2 and VC10851.

However, his reckless, law breaking conduct did not start there. In 1995 and receiving four convictions for petty theft, and one conviction for obstruction, within a year and a half. Seven months after the last petty theft conviction, he was arrested for possession of narcotic paraphernalia. Inmate Matheny was given two chances to complete drug diversion, but failed both time.
After that, Inmate Matheny’s criminal activity worsened. He received a conviction for public intoxication and possession of a controlled substance, being methamphetamine. In less than two months Inmate Matheny was again found to be in possession of a methamphetamine, but this time he was also in possession of a loaded .32 caliber handgun. While in custody two days after being arrested, he was found to be in possession of five grams of methamphetamine. He received a felony conviction for a violation of HS11370.1 and a violation of probation for possessing methamphetamine while in custody.

A year after that conviction, he was yet again found to be in possession of methamphetamine. He received his second felony conviction and another violation of probation. Approximately seven months later he committed his strike offense in 2001. Inmate Matheny and his co-defendant were convicted of violations of PC211, a violent offense. Inmate Matheny received a sentence of three years in prison. After being released from prison he was again involved in another robbery. However, this time he received a sentence of 32 months for a violation of PC32.

Within five years of being paroled in June of 2008, Inmate Matheny received seven misdemeanor convictions for possession of controlled substances, driving under the influence, possession of burglary tools, being under the influence of a controlled substance, possession of tear gas, and child abuse. A year after his last misdemeanor conviction, and while still on two grants of probation, Inmate Matheny committed this most recent felony conviction that he is currently incarcerated for.

Since his first conviction, Inmate Matheny has committed every other one of his offenses while being on either probation or parole. Some were even committed while he was pending charges in another case. Early release is meant to be a reward for people who have rehabilitated themselves or who have generally led a crime free life but made a few bad choices along the way. Inmate Matheny continues to display a blatant disregard for the law. He continues to put civilians and officers in harm’s way. His criminal history, coupled with the dangerousness of his actions, prove that he is a poor candidate for early release and a danger to the community. Once released from custody, there is no doubt that he will continue his life of crime and surely victimize someone else along the way. Therefore, the Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office opposes any early release of Inmate Matheny.

Nicole Shaker
Deputy District Attorney