



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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Non-Violent Second Striker Board of Parole Hearings
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RE: Tapia, Jaime CDC # AV8605

Mr. Jaime Tapia is a violent, career criminal who needs to spend every single day of his current sentence behind bars before being released onto an unsuspecting public. At only 34 years of age Tapia has already been convicted of four felony offenses, two of which are strike offenses under the California Three Strikes Law. Tapia is currently serving a 32 month state prison sentence on his most recent strike conviction for violating Penal Code § 451(d), arson.

The facts underlying the above offense involve the burning of a baseball field behind St. Patrick's Academy, a K-8 Catholic school. Fire crews responded to the scene at approximately 10:15 a.m. to discover a pile of clothing and personal property on fire near the backstop of the baseball field. Tapia was contacted nearby and admitted to intentionally setting the fire, torching clothing and other personal items of two other homeless individuals because he was upset with them and wanted them to leave the area.

A review of [REDACTED] criminal history shows that his propensity for crime began in 2008 when he was convicted of a misdemeanor violation of Vehicle Code § 10851(a), vehicle theft, and a misdemeanor violation of Penal Code § 496d(a), possession of a stolen vehicle. Tapia continued with his thieving ways into 2009 when he was convicted of another violation of Vehicle Code § 10851(a), this time as a felony. Later on in 2009 Tapia was again convicted of another theft offense; a misdemeanor violation of Penal Code § 496(a), receiving stolen property.

Tapia's criminal behavior escalated to violence in 2011 when he was convicted of his first felony strike offense for a felony violation of Penal Code § 215(a), carjacking. In that case the victim was driving his car down the street around 6:10 p.m. when he was stopped at a red light. Tapia approached the victim's driver's side window and asked him if he had any change. The victim told Tapia he did not have any change. At that point Tapia pulled a black handgun from his waistband and pointed it at the victim's head, demanding the victim to give him his car. The victim did so, fearing he was going to get shot. Tapia drove off in the victim's car and was stopped by law enforcement while driving it the next day. Under the driver's seat officers found a pellet gun which was later determined to be the gun used during the carjacking.

That felony strike conviction did not at all slow Tapia down. Rather, while on probation for the strike offense, Tapia was convicted of a misdemeanor violation of Penal Code § 496(a), receiving stolen property in 2012 and felony violation of Vehicle Code § 10851(a), vehicle theft, later that same year. In that case Tapia stole a car from his ex-girlfriend. Tapia and his ex-girlfriend were arguing and Tapia got physical with her. Tapia hit her and slapped her in the face, threw her down on the ground and got on top of her and choked her with his hands. As Tapia had his hands around his ex-girlfriend's neck he told her

she would be better off dead. Tapia's ex-girlfriend was able to escape, but when she came back to her apartment a short time later she realized her car was gone and Tapia had taken it.

In addition to Tapia's many convictions, his criminal history is littered with numerous probation violations. Tapia has not had a single successful probationary term. Mr. Tapia is a very poor candidate for early parole and should absolutely serve his full prison term. His history has proven that his early release would immediately place the citizens of California in harm's way. Releasing a violent, convicted arsonist early would shock and appall the conscience of any decent human being.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lindsey Phillips', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lindsey Phillips
Deputy District Attorney
Sacramento County District Attorney's Office