April 5, 2016

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

RE: Trotter, John A.  CDC: AY2698  Sacramento case: 15F04232

"F*** YOU PAY ME" and "F*** WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH" are the mottoes which Inmate John Trotter has tattooed on his head to brazenly show the world that he has no compassion, and nothing and no one can stand in his way.

On June 7, 2000, Inmate Trotter's [redacted] frantically called 9-1-1 to report that Inmate Trotter was assaulting his girlfriend. When deputies arrived shortly thereafter, they learned that Inmate Trotter was violently assaulting his young girlfriend, pushing her around and then punching her in the face, while she was holding their 8 month old child in her arms. Deputies noted that the young woman was bleeding from her nose and mouth when they arrived. Furthermore, deputies learned that Inmate Trotter began the assault as a result of his girlfriend confronting him about his use of methamphetamine. Inmate Trotter was convicted of felony domestic violence for this offense.

After being released from jail, in June 2001, Inmate Trotter violated the terms of his probation and was arrested for and convicted of possession of methamphetamine. Early the next year, in January 2002, Inmate Trotter was arrested for and convicted of vehicle theft as a misdemeanor. A few months after his release, Inmate Trotter was arrested again for vehicle theft and possession of narcotics, again pleading to a misdemeanor vehicle theft violation and once again receiving a county jail sentence.

Following his release from custody in early 2003, Inmate Trotter moved around California for a couple of years, leaving a trail of drug and theft arrests in his wake. Then, in August 2005, Ripon Police Officers pulled Inmate Trotter over for expired registration, and quickly learned that the vehicle is in fact stolen. As officers attempted to handcuff Inmate Trotter, he escaped their grasp and made a run for it. After being located a short time later, Inmate Trotter informed officers that he ran because he was a wanted parolee with "many" warrants for his arrest. As it turns out, Inmate Trotter had 3 active warrants for his arrest at this time. Not surprisingly, officers found narcotics paraphernalia in the stolen vehicle. It bears noting that officers later learned that Inmate Trotter and his accomplice had also stolen a second vehicle earlier that day. Inmate Trotter was arrested and convicted of misdemeanor violation of Penal Code § 148, resisting arrest, and felony violation of Vehicle Code 10851(a), vehicle theft, and was sentenced to 3 years in State Prison.
Despite his 3 year sentence in state prison from the August 2005 case, Inmate Trotter was back on the street and reoffending again by late 2006. In October 2006, Inmate Trotter was pulled over for expired registration and was discovered to have a significant amount of methamphetamine and a scale in his possession. He was arrested and convicted of felony violation of Health and Safety Code § 11377(a) and sentenced to 2 years in State Prison.

On June 15, 2010, officers responded to an attempted burglary in Sacramento County after a young girl caught two men, identified as Inmate Trotter and [redacted], a validated Norteno gang member, trying to break into her house. When officers arrived, they were directed to an abandoned vehicle and told by witnesses that the two suspects were running on foot towards a local school campus. The School Resource Officer was able to locate and detain Inmate Trotter at gunpoint as he tried to maneuver through the school campus in an attempt to evade arrest. During the ensuing search of Inmate Trotter’s vehicle and the surrounding area, officers located a loaded firearm and burglary tools belonging to the suspects. Inmate Trotter was arrested and convicted of felony violation of Penal Code § 459, first degree burglary, and was sentenced to 2 years in State Prison.

Inmate Trotter was released from State Prison after serving just a portion of the 2 year sentence he received, and found himself back in trouble with the law in short order. In October 2011, Inmate Trotter was arrested for possession of methamphetamine and was convicted of misdemeanor violation of Health and Safety Code § 11377(a), and was sentenced to 270 days in County Jail. Following his release from County Jail, Inmate Trotter was quickly re-arrested when he was found in possession of a stolen debit card, 3 individualized baggies of methamphetamine, heroin, and brass knuckles with spikes on them. Inmate Trotter pled to felony violation of Health and Safety Code § 11378, possession of a controlled substance for sale, and was sentenced to 32 months in State Prison. After his release from State Prison, Inmate Trotter further proved the reckless danger he poses to society when he was arrested for and convicted of a misdemeanor violation of Vehicle Code § 23152(e), driving under the influence of methamphetamine.

In the present case in 2015, just 4 days after being released from County Jail for a parole hold, Inmate Trotter was found to be in possession of a sawed-off shotgun and ammunition. This is the second strike conviction he is currently serving. Inmate Trotter has proven that he shuns the values which most of the rest of us hold and that he presents a risk to public safety. Accordingly, the District Attorney’s Office opposes any early release opportunity for John Trotter.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin B. Shakely
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Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office