



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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March 14, 2021

Non-Violent Parole Review Process
Board of Parole Hearings
Correspondence – NV
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RE: **Ward, Marcus**

CDCR # **V25801**

Court Docket: **19FE004941**

Inmate Ward is a well-established criminal who has consistently shown a disregard for the safety of others, as well as the law and should not be paroled. The circumstances surrounding his current conviction and his prior criminal record shows that he poses an unreasonable risk of danger to the community.

Inmate Ward was on parole when he picked up the case he is currently serving time for. He had several prior serious convictions for robbery, three prior convictions for robbery to be specific. He was sentenced to 16 years state prison for two of them in 2004 out of Oakland, CA, and another 13 years to run concurrent with that sentence for a robbery in 2004 out of Santa Clara, CA. The only thing it appears he has learned from those crimes and lengthy sentences, is how to commit his theft crimes more discreetly while on parole.

In the current case, back on March 18, 2019, Inmate Ward and his co-defendant, Jessica Todd, worked together to steal large amounts of merchandise from Kohls Department Store. Defendant Todd was the actual person who went into the store, while Inmate Ward directed her over the phone. As a conspiracy duo, they stole approximately \$2,600 worth of merchandise. Law enforcement caught Inmate Ward nearby in his car and could see and hear he was on the phone with Defendant Todd as she was taken into custody. A search of Inmate Ward's car revealed some very disturbing items. Inmate Ward was in possession of two-way radios, burglary tools, duct tape, gloves and binoculars. These items are indicative of someone who was going to commit some sort of covert theft crime such as burglary or a home invasion. He was also in possession of a pharmacy of illicit drugs, including, Xanax, ecstasy, marijuana, and heroin. Inmate Ward was also in possession of items indicative of narcotics sales such as a functioning digital scale and packaging materials. Further, there were text messages on his cell phone indicative of narcotics sales. There were also text messages between Inmate Ward and Defendant Todd regarding theft and using credit cards that belonged to other people.

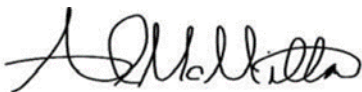
That piece of information is relevant even today, as Inmate Ward's theft crimes may not have ceased while he has been incarcerated. A recent fraud investigation discovered that a claim for unemployment benefits had been submitted to the Employment Development Department ("EDD") in Inmate Ward's name.

Inmate Ward's criminal record spans approximately 23 years over several different cities within the northern California region. He has been convicted of various misdemeanor crimes which include giving false information to a police officer, resisting arrest, and destroying evidence. He has also been convicted of numerous felony crimes to include possession of controlled substances while armed with a firearm, and the three prior convictions for robbery mentioned above. Although the facts of the various robbery incidences are unknown at this time, the fact that Inmate Ward was sentenced to 16 years state prison on the robberies out of Oakland and 13 years on the robbery out of Santa Clara, leads one to believe these were very serious incidences that warranted the time imposed.

Inmate Ward has been given numerous chances to prove he can be an upstanding citizen while on parole and probation and he has squandered that opportunity time and time again. The majority of his crimes were either committed while on probation or parole and he has learned nothing from his previous criminal conduct. Releasing him early will not benefit the community. He has a history of poor performance on parole which shows that he will not succeed, and he will reoffend. His inability to function in society without committing crimes makes him unpredictable and dangerous. Most importantly, his inability to reform his behavior and reintegrate himself back into the community makes him not suitable for early release.

As we are given 30 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 fully comment on Inmate Ward's prison conduct. However, from the record that is available it is clear that Inmate Ward should not be released as he poses a significant, unreasonable risk of danger to the community. Parole should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,



Adrienne J. McMillan
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