



Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

ANNE MARIE SCHUBERT
District Attorney

Rod Norgaard
Chief Deputy

Michael M. Blazina
Assistant District Attorney

September 1, 2022

Non Violent Parole Review Process
Board of Parole Hearings
Correspondence – NV
P.O. Box 4036
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

Re: Gorham, Jason CDC # BE0665 Court Docket: 16FE002920; 16FE019848

Inmate Gorham is a well-established violent felon; he has been convicted of multiple theft and vandalism crimes since receiving a conviction on a “strike” prior. The circumstances surrounding his current conviction and his prior criminal record show that he has no intention of living a crime-free life and thus poses an unreasonable risk of violence to the community.

Inmate Gorham is currently committed on an astounding number of charges spanning three counties. In total, he received an appropriate 16-year sentence for convictions on 10 separate charges coming from Sacramento, Placer, and Nevada Counties. Beginning in January of 2016, Inmate Gorham was seen on surveillance videos breaking into a tire store in Nevada County. He would repeatedly visit the store after hours and break into a vehicle parked in front of the store. One month later, he was identified as a suspect who was using a long cable with a sticky substance to steal deposits from a SAFE Credit Union drop box in Sacramento County. In early June of 2016, he was seen on surveillance videos at a casino in Placer County using a slingshot to break into vehicles parked outside. He would smash the windows of the vehicles before a female accomplice would steal items stored inside. Two weeks later, he was involved in a nearly identical vehicle burglary. He smashed out the window of the vehicle before stealing the victim's credit card from inside. He then proceeded to vandalize a nearby warehouse using a slingshot. Then, in October of 2016, Inmate Gorham and an accomplice came to a neighbor's house with whom he had a prior, contentious relationship. He again used a slingshot to vandalize the windows of the neighbor's RV.

The current convictions are far from Inmate Gorham's first contact with the criminal justice system. In fact, he has five prior adult convictions, [REDACTED] His first adult conviction was for commercial burglary—a charge that is identical to several of his commitment offenses. The very next year, he committed two vehicle thefts and his prior strike offense—an assault with a deadly weapon. For those offenses, Inmate Gorman was sentenced to six years in state prison. Despite the strike prior, and the prior prison term, Inmate Gorman reoffended within five years. In 2013, he was returned to state prison for resisting an executive officer, a violation of Penal Code § 69. Three years later, he was reoffending on the crimes that

make up the current offense. The only time he has spent without committing criminal offenses, are during the periods that he has spent incarcerated.

Additionally, this Board has twice reviewed the merits of Inmate Gorman's case in a nonviolent parole process. Most recently, this Board reviewed the merits in October of last year—just 10 months ago—and chose to deny his release. The Board made that decision based not only on Inmate Gorman's current commitment offense, but also on his insufficient programming while incarcerated. The current offense, as the Board noted, includes violent, assaultive behavior toward victims with use of a slingshot. And while incarcerated, he has not demonstrated a sustained commitment toward rehabilitative programming. The Board accurately concluded that Inmate Gorman posed a current, unreasonable risk of violence to the community. Nothing has changed to this point.

As we are only given 30 days to respond, and we are not provided with any recent disciplinary history or any other information aside from the one-page notice of parole review, I cannot comment on Inmate Gorman's prison conduct since October 15, 2021. However, from the record that is available, it is clear that Inmate Gorman should not be released as he poses a significant, unreasonable risk of violence to the community. Parole should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cody Winchester", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Cody Winchester
Deputy District Attorney
Sacramento County District Attorney's Office