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July 27, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Inmate Jason Adam Greenwell (CDCR# [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED]-1989)

Dear Governor Newsom:

This letter is written regarding the grant of parole on April 27, 2023, to Jason Adam Greenwell, convicted in 2013 of second-degree murder and sentenced to 15 years to life. We ask that you exercise your authority pursuant to Penal Code Sections 3041.1 and 3041.2 to review and reverse the grant of parole to inmate Greenwell, as he remains a threat to public safety.

On September 26, 2010, Greenwell was one of four young men and one woman who decided to torture and murder 15-year-old Dystiny Myers. It was apparent they were all heavily involved in the use of methamphetamine. Dystiny was brutally beaten, hogtied, placed in a bag, thrown in the back of a truck, and suffocated with a glove shoved down her throat. She was driven to a remote area, dumped into a shallow grave, and set on fire. Her partially burned remains were discovered by a CalFire employee. Please see the attached photos.

Inmate Greenwell, aged 20 at the time, confessed to police two days later. He testified against two of his codefendants at trial. He was given a negotiated sentence of 15 years to life in May 2013; his codefendants all received *life without the possibility of parole*. At the time of Inmate Greenwell's sentencing in 2013, convicted murderers were not granted any time credits pursuant to P.C. section 2933.2. The People relied upon a sentence of at least 15 years before a parole suitability hearing. We could not foresee that Proposition 57, passed years later, would change those time credits for a brutal murder. The effect is that, as of the April 27, 2023 grant of parole, Mr. Greenwell had served just 12 years and 7 months for this horrific crime.

On March 29, 2022, finding that Mr. Greenwell poses an unreasonable danger to society if released, you reversed a previous decision to parole Mr. Greenwell. Mr. Greenwell was encouraged to develop deeper insight into the causative factors of his crime and a deeper understanding of his triggers for substance use and its nexus to his violent conduct.

Please see the attached Indeterminate Sentence Parole Release Review dated March 29, 2022.

One year later, at the April 27, 2023 parole hearing, Mr. Greenwell showed little in-depth insight into his criminal behavior. Regarding his participation in the murder, Mr. Greenwell attributes that to his desire to be accepted by others, and to his drug use. See attached transcript p. 36.

Mr. Greenwell also claims an abusive childhood growing up with his family contributed to his criminality and drug use. See attached transcript p. 57. Yet, in the 2013 sentencing report, Mr. Greenwell reported having a good childhood with no history of abuse. See attached transcript p. 67. Mr. Greenwell plans to rely primarily on this very family to be a support network if released, even though the issues with his father are not fully resolved. See attached transcript pp. 54, 57-59.

Regarding his continued criminal behavior committed while imprisoned for this murder, namely, multiple uses of methamphetamine, Mr. Greenwell said the most recent instance occurred because methamphetamine was offered to him on his birthday. See attached transcript p. 46.

Mr. Greenwell wrote letters of remorse for this heinous murder *just one month prior to his April 27, 2023 parole hearing*.

It is our position that the parole panel disregarded and gave inadequate weight to the gravity of the crime this inmate committed, the danger he still poses to society, and looked instead only at his behavior in prison. We ask that you review the case carefully and use your authority to reverse this improvident grant of parole.

Sincerely,



Dan Dow,  
District Attorney  
County of San Luis Obispo, State of California

Enclosures