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**PRESS RELEASE**

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Release Date: May 19, 2017

Re: Parole Board hearing for Inmate Samuel Gonzales, CDCR #C83163

On May 18, 2017, a Board of Parole Hearing was held at the Mule Creek State Prison in Ione, CA for convicted murderer Samuel Gonzales.

Police were called to the John Nishi Ranch near Davis in northern Solano County in the afternoon hours of June 25, 1983. The body of Angelico Carrillo was found dead with two gunshot wounds from a .22 caliber handgun. Witnesses on the scene indicated that immediately following the shooting Samuel Gonzales fled the scene in his vehicle and Guillermo Valenzuela fled at the same time on foot.

Gonzales's sister indicated that she saw Gonzales shoot the victim, then later changed her story and denied seeing who fired the shot. Valenzuela told the police that Samuel Gonzales and Angelico were friends and were involved in what started as a playful "slap fight" that angered Samuel Gonzales. Gonzales went to his vehicle to retrieve his .22 handgun and then told Angelico "Now you've had it, I'm going to kill you, go away." Mr. Gonzales fired two shots into the ground, and when Angelico did not move, Mr. Gonzales fired two shots into the victim, killing him. Mr. Gonzales then warned Mr. Valenzuela that if he told the police, he would be shot as well. Valenzuela said that prior to this incident all three had consumed substantial amounts of alcohol.

Information from the autopsy showed that Angelico had two gunshot wounds, one of which fatally penetrated both his aorta and lung. Although in his statement to police Gonzales denied owning guns and denied shooting Angelico, a search of his vehicle showed a .22 casing and a live .32 round.

Gonzales was convicted following jury trial of murder in the second degree with enhancements for personal use of a firearm and a prior serious felony conviction. On November 19, 1984, Gonzales was sentenced to serve 22 years to life for that offense. Since his incarceration, Gonzales has subsequently suffered convictions for possessing weapons in prison in San Joaquin and Sacramento Counties.

Garland has had three prior parole board hearings, the last in 2012 resulted in a four year denial of parole. In 2016, he requested and was granted a one year waiver of his subsequent hearing.

Deputy District Attorney William Ainsworth opposed release of Samuel Gonzales on parole based on the unreasonable risk Gonzales would pose to public safety if released. Gonzales requested his release and testified at his parole hearing. The parole board denied release, finding that Gonzales still represents an unreasonable risk of harm to the community. Gonzales will not be eligible for a parole hearing for another three years.