

## Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

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

## Re: Deanda, Luis CDCR # BE9834 Court Docket No. 17FE010858

Inmate Deanda is a validated member of a Sacramento criminal street gang – the Norentos. The Nortenos are an extremely organized and violent criminal street gang. The inmate's committing offense was not "violent" in nature but is absolutely gang related. Selling drugs is one of the main ways that Norteno gang members make their money and further their criminal enterprises within our community. Being armed with a firearm is paramount to the Norteno gang. It not only allows their members to feel emboldened to commit crimes but also helps them to act on the offensive when necessary. Releasing this inmate to the community early would be a complete injustice based on his committing offense and the inmate's prior strike offense.

The circumstances surrounding Inmate Deanda's current conviction and his prior criminal record show that he poses an unreasonable risk of violence to the community. On June 10, 2017 the inmate was pulled over in his car. He lies to the officers initially about his name and then admits that he is on probation. When they search the inmate he has one 9mm bullet on him and approximately 19 grams of methamphetamine. They also locate several credit cards on the inmate that are not in his name; including a license for someone else. The officers were unable to confirm whether any of those items were stolen. When they search the inmate's car they locate a loaded 9mm gun at his feet along with a stolen wallet and checkbook.

This offense occurs while the inmate is on a felony grant of probation for his strike offense. The inmate's strike offense case occurred on June 14, 2015. In that case, the inmate is with three other validated Nortenos in a car. The officers pull the car over in the heart of Norento gang territory in Oak Park. The officers search the car lawfully and find a loaded gun underneath a shirt in between the inmate and another gang member. The officers also search the car and find methamphetamine in an area by the gas tank of the car. The inmate pled guilty at the preliminary hearing along with his fellow gang members. The inmate pled to a Felony Strike under Penal Code section 186.22(a) for being an Active Participant in Criminal Street Gang Activity. He was given a year in custody and five years of formal probation. The inmate was released from custody on this offense on January 14, 2016 and was quickly back selling methamphetamine while being Armed with a Firearm. He was sentenced to 7 years State Prison on November 29, 2017 less than a year ago.

There is no doubt that while the committing offense is not a violent felony under the current state of the law, however Inmate Deanda is a validated "Norteno" gang member who has demonstrated that he poses a dangerous risk to society as a whole. His committing offense may not be "violent" per se but the very nature of the facts of his offense are violent. When gang members are committed to being armed regardless of the consequences our society is at risk. While he is relatively young, Deanda has

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demonstrated an inability to follow the rules pertaining to his release. Deanda is a validated gang member who will arm himself with a firearm at any cost and allowing him to get out of custody early would put the community at risk. In other words, Inmate Deanda has yet to show any credible evidence that he has any desire to become a law-abiding *non-violent* member of this community. Instead he has shown through a pattern of criminal activity that he is committed only to his gang.

As the District Attorney's Office is only given thirty (30) days to respond and are not provided with any disciplinary history or other information aside from the one-page notice of parole review, I am unable to comment on Inmate Deanda's prison conduct. However, from the record that is available, it is clear that Inmate Deanda should not be released as he poses a significant, unreasonable risk of violence to the community. Parole should be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

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