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California State Senate

SENATOR
CATHLEEN GALGIANI
FIFTH SENATE DISTRICT



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February 24, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Parole of David Weidert CDC # C-39455.

Dear Governor Brown:

We are requesting that you intervene and REVERSE a recent decision by the parole authority granting parole to David Weidert, who was convicted of one of the most savage, torturous murders of which we have ever heard. The murder occurred over several hours, during which Weidert's victim begged for his life.

Weidert stabbed his victim numerous times. When that was not enough to kill him, Weidert beat him with a baseball bat. When that was not enough to kill him, Weidert viciously smashed his head in with a shovel. When smashing his head in was not enough to kill him, Weidert strangled him with a telephone wire. Barely clinging to life, Weidert's victim was forced to dig his own grave so that Weidert could bury him alive. As Weidert's victim lay in his own grave, Weidert could not just let him die – he continued to savagely stab his victim multiple more times in the stomach with the shovel.

Weidert's victim didn't die from his stab wounds, or the beatings to his head – his victim suffocated from being buried alive.

Governor, we know you are asked to consider the reversal of many parole releases. But we ask you to think about the **hours of torture** Weidert's victim had to endure. We ask you to think about how many times Weidert could have stopped before he proceeded to torture his victim again and again. What kind of human being could stand to see this kind of carnage and blood over a period of hours? What kind of human being could endure watching another suffer over such a long period of time? One would imagine that Weidert had to enjoy torturing, stabbing, beating, and strangling Mike Moranti while the man begged for his life.

Governor Brown
Parole of David Weidert
Page 2

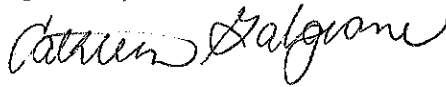
Weidert's actions shock the conscience. Weidert's victim, Mike Morganti, was only twenty years old and developmentally disabled. Developmentally disabled individuals are especially at risk and are one of the most victimized and vulnerable groups in our communities.

It is unimaginable that a human being could be capable of what Weidert did to this developmentally disabled and defenseless young man. The Parole Authority's decision in this case is upsetting beyond belief. **We request that a temporary restraining order be placed, prohibiting his release until you have had adequate time to review the decision by the Parole Authority.**

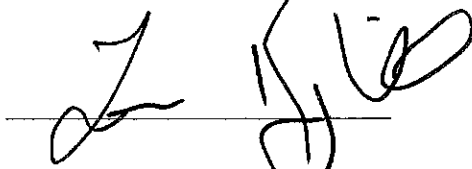
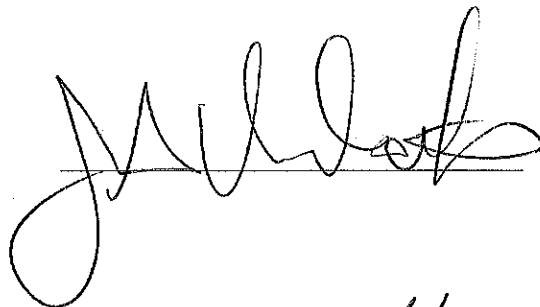
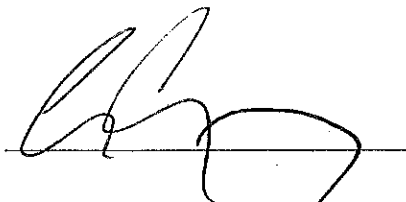
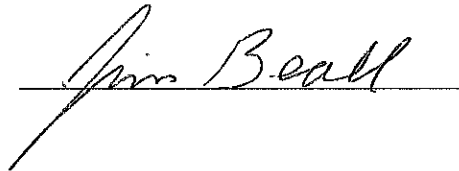
We can teach people to obey the rules within a confined facility, but we cannot teach someone how to have a soul. Weidert's parole would result in a complete miscarriage of justice for the victim's family, as well as for our communities. David Weidert is a danger to all communities, and it is seriously doubtful that any community would be willing to accept him.

For all the reasons stated above, we implore you to return some sanity to our justice system by REVERSING the decision to grant parole to David Weidert and enacting a restraining order to prohibit his release.

Respectfully,



Cathleen Galgiani
State Senator, District 5



CC: Jeffrey Beard, Director, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
Margaret Mims, Sheriff, Fresno County
Lisa Smittcamp, District Attorney, Fresno County

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