

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Alex Barajas

In 2005, 21-year-old Alex Barajas shot Arthur Gomez, a rival gang member, and Joseph Avila. On May 31, 2007, the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, sentenced Mr. Barajas to 15 years to life each for two counts of attempted murder with two 25-year-to-life firearm enhancements—a total prison term of 80 years to life.

Mr. Barajas is now 35 years old and has been incarcerated for almost 14 years. He earned his GED in 2019 and has completed vocational training and self-help programming. Since 2015, Mr. Barajas has been assigned to the Delancey Street Honors Unit at Solano State Prison, a housing unit teaching job and life skills to inmates in preparation for release. Mr. Barajas credits Delancey Street with helping transform his life, writing in his application, "Realizing that I solely possess the power to steer my life, I have taken advantage of many opportunities that have been presented to me while in prison." He continued, "One of the greatest opportunities afforded me has been the Delancey Street Honors Program. I have willingly accepted all that Delancey has to offer."

Through his positive attitude and behavior, Mr. Barajas has earned the respect of prison staff who interact with him regularly. The Delancey Street Honors Unit Manager commended Mr. Barajas on his commitment to the program and noted that over the past four years, Mr. Barajas has "worked hard at changing his own self-destructive behaviors." A Delancey Street Foundation staff member commended Mr. Barajas for serving as a mentor to other inmates and for his work organizing groups and functions for other inmates. The staffer wrote regarding Mr. Barajas, "[S]ince the beginning, I've witnessed him not only make huge changes personally, but also guide others in making similar changes themselves, regardless of ethnicity or previous affiliations." The staffer concluded, "It is my belief that Alex will be an asset in whatever community he finds himself a part of and has been a great example of the rehabilitative side of our prison system." A college coordinator wrote in 2018, "Mr. Barajas is a highly respected model prisoner who truly deserves a second chance to serve the community." In the event of his release, Mr. Barajas has support and resources to help him transition back into the community.

Mr. Barajas committed a senseless crime at a young age, severely injuring two men. During the years since then, Mr. Barajas has demonstrated his commitment to becoming a productive citizen. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct over the past fourteen years. I have concluded that Mr. Barajas merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Barajas does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Alex Barajas to make him eligible for parole consideration during his 15th year of incarceration. Mr. Barajas remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Allen Burnett

In 1992, 18-year-old Allen Burnett and two crime partners carjacked Joseph Kondrath. While discussing their next steps, Mr. Burnett refused to shoot Mr. Kondrath. One of the crime partners then shot and killed Mr. Kondrath. On July 29, 1994, the Superior Court of California, County of Orange, sentenced Mr. Burnett to life without the possibility of parole for murder.

Mr. Burnett is now 45 years old and has been incarcerated for 27 years. He has expressed deep remorse for his role in this crime, dedicating himself to his rehabilitation despite serving a sentence with no expectation of release from prison. Mr. Burnett has participated in numerous self-help programs, including classes on developing insight and anger management. He has also facilitated groups for his peers, encouraging them to pursue positive change in their lives. Mr. Burnett has lived for years on the Progressive Programming Facility (PPF) honor yard, and is enrolled in the California State University, Los Angeles bachelor's degree program.

Mr. Burnett has been commended by many members of the prison staff for his positive behavior and attitude. In 2019, an associate warden recommended him for a commutation and wrote, "I have been privy to few offenders who have managed such remarkable personal growth as Mr. Burnett." In 2018, a correctional officer who has known Mr. Burnett for almost two decades "strongly" supported his commutation, and wrote, "Inmate Burnett is an asset to the PPF and I would like to commend him for his accomplished rehabilitative efforts, encouraging him to continue along this positive path." Another officer who has known Mr. Burnett for 19 years wrote, "Inmate Burnett is to be commended for the way he has carried himself. . . . He participates in numerous other self-help groups and peer to peer classes, working to improve himself while providing a positive example to his fellow inmates." Another officer wrote, "I would recommend that serious consideration be given to allow Inmate Burnett to return to society. I believe he will be an asset to any community." A correctional lieutenant praised Mr. Burnett's "determination and desire to lead a better life," and said, "I believe if ever released back to the community, Burnett has the work ethic and skill set to keep him employed, ensuring that he would have something to offer society."

Mr. Burnett participated in a very serious crime that resulted in Mr. Kondrath's death. He expresses sincere remorse for the crime, and has demonstrated his maturity and growth. Mr. Burnett has devoted himself to his own rehabilitation and setting a positive example for others. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Burnett merits the opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Burnett does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Allen Burnett to 27 years to life. Mr. Burnett remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



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COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Jaime Cabrales

In 2007, Jaime Cabrales drove his car near a group of four men on a porch, and his crime partner, a passenger in the car, shot at them, injuring Jose Ocampo. On May 28, 2010, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Mr. Cabrales to 7 years to life for attempted murder and 25 years to life for a firearm enhancement—a total prison term of 32 years to life.

Mr. Cabrales has now been incarcerated for more than 12 years. Over the past decade, Mr. Cabrales has demonstrated his commitment to his rehabilitation. Mr. Cabrales has taken self-help courses and received above average to exceptional work ratings from his supervisors. He is currently taking college correspondence courses. Mr. Cabrales has earned commendations from the prison staff who interact with him regularly. In 2019, a correctional officer wrote that Mr. Cabrales “has always been respectful to staff and other inmates. I have observed Inmate Cabrales mentoring and counseling other inmates that might struggle with the aspects of prison life. Inmate Cabrales has maintained honesty and commitment to change while being a leading example of a person that has not allowed his past to define his present, nor dictate his future.” The officer concluded, “Inmate Cabrales has displayed sincere effort to improve himself as well as help and uplift others.” Also in 2019, two correctional officers commended Mr. Cabrales on his respectful attitude and willingness to help other inmates. One of the officers wrote that Mr. Cabrales “is always willing to go out of his way to help fellow inmates who wish to better themselves and point them in the right direction.” A Native American spiritual leader commended Mr. Cabrales for his work as a Meso-American inmate minister.

Mr. Cabrales has expressed sincere remorse for his role in the shooting of Mr. Ocampo and has demonstrated that he has used his time in prison to make amends and become a better person. Mr. Cabrales has proven through his actions in prison that he is sincere in his commitment to change. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of Mr. Cabrales' conduct in prison and have concluded that he merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Cabrales does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize Mr. Cabrales' transformation since.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Jaime Cabrales to make him eligible for immediate parole consideration. Mr. Cabrales remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



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COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Cristina Chavez

In May 2008, 21-year-old Cristina Chavez acted as a driver while her crime partner burglarized a vehicle. When the car owner's brother Sergio Perez came outside, Ms. Chavez shot at him with a BB gun, missing him. On December 9, 2008, a woman approached a man waiting in his car at a fast food drive-thru and fired several shots, injuring him. Ms. Chavez was tried for both crimes together, and on October 13, 2010, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Ms. Chavez to 2 years for burglary of a vehicle and 8 months for vandalism for the first incident, and 7 years to life for attempted murder with a 25 year-to-life firearm enhancement for the second incident. The court imposed a total prison term of 34 years and 8 months to life.

Ms. Chavez is now 33 years old and has been incarcerated for almost 11 years. She has completed extensive self-help programming and has earned commendations from prison staff. In 2019, a self-help sponsor commended Ms. Chavez on her continued participation in Narcotics Anonymous, writing that "[Ms. Chavez] always has a positive attitude and [is] willing to lend a helping hand when called upon." The sponsor continued, "She is dedicated to taking advantage of the rehabilitation programs offered to positively improve her life." Ms. Chavez continues to pursue her education by participating in GED classes. In 2019, an instructor in the adult education program who has worked with Ms. Chavez for several years wrote that she has "consistently demonstrated the following characteristics: kind, even-tempered, hardworking, present and punctual, willing attitude and honest."

This act of clemency recognizes the work Ms. Chavez has done to transform herself in prison. I have carefully considered and weighed her impressive record in prison and have concluded that Ms. Chavez merits an earlier opportunity to make her case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether she is suitable for parole.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Cristina Chavez to make her eligible for immediate parole consideration. Ms. Chavez remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



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COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Andrew Crater

In 1995, 20-year-old Andrew Crater and his crime partner committed a string of armed robberies. During the final robbery, Mr. Crater's crime partner shot and killed James Pantages. On June 20, 1997, the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, sentenced Mr. Crater to life without the possibility of parole for murder plus 14 years and 8 months for attempted robbery and multiple counts of robbery with firearm and bodily injury enhancements.

Mr. Crater is now 43 years old and has been incarcerated for 24 years. He had no criminal history prior to his participation in these robberies and has expressed deep remorse for his involvement in these crimes.

Despite serving a sentence with no expectation of release from prison, Mr. Crater has dedicated himself to his rehabilitation. He has consistently participated in self-help programming, including serving as a facilitator for various groups.

Mr. Crater has worked as a clerk for many years and has garnered commendations from prison staff. In 2017, a correctional captain commended Mr. Crater for his work ethic and "exemplary conduct and mentorship" among the inmates in the prison. The captain wrote, "I have assessed him to be polite, respectful and professional in the administration of his job and in his interactions with all staff members into which he has come into contact with." The captain concluded, "It is evident that Inmate Crater is trying to become a productive citizen by striving towards rehabilitation, showing a willingness for self-development and interacting with others in a respectful and positive manner."

Two wardens who have supervised Mr. Crater recommended him for clemency. In 2019, one warden wrote, "Since his arrival, inmate Crater continues to demonstrate positive programming behavior and has excelled in his assignment" as a clerk. The warden continued, "Crater maintains a great rapport with staff and many have commented on his positive interactions, his attitude, work ethic and programming well with other inmates." He noted that Mr. Crater "has clearly taken advantage of the opportunities the Department [of Corrections and Rehabilitation] offers to participate in rehabilitative programs."

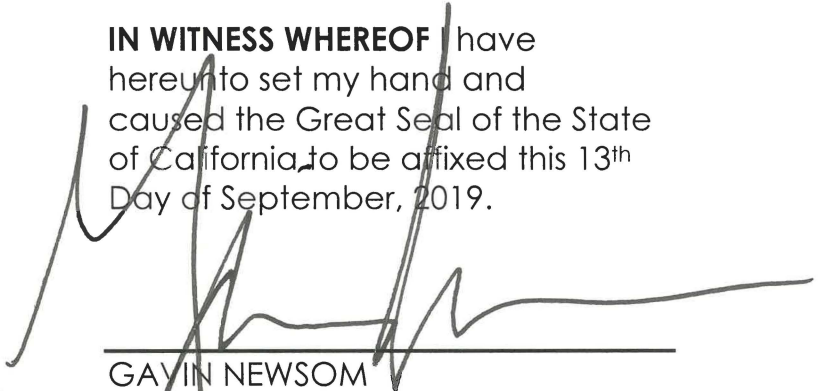
Mr. Crater participated in several serious crimes, including the one that took the life of Mr. Pantages. Over the past two decades, Mr. Crater has distinguished himself through his exemplary conduct in prison and demonstrated his commitment to becoming a productive citizen. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of Mr. Crater's conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Crater merits the opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Crater does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused his victims, their families, and their communities. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Andrew Crater to 25 years to life. Mr. Crater remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



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COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Keefe Dashiell

In 2007, 19-year-old Keefe Dashiell, riding in a friend's car, shot at two women traveling in another car. He struck and injured Alexis Carter. He committed the offense, which was gang-related, shortly after his step-brother's murder by gang members. On March 5, 2009, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Mr. Dashiell to 9 years for attempted murder with 10-year firearm and gang enhancements, plus 1 year for possession of a controlled substance for sale—a total prison term of 30 years.

Mr. Dashiell is now 31 years old and has been incarcerated for almost 12 years. During his time in prison, Mr. Dashiell has disassociated from gangs and demonstrated a commitment to rehabilitation. He wrote in his commutation application, "I have grown up in prison. Moreover, prison has taught me how to live a normal and productive life and has corrected the error of my ways." Mr. Dashiell continued, "I want to contribute something positive to the community I once harmed. I have changed, and I believe I am ready to become a productive member of society. I have so much more to offer than the harm I once caused."

Mr. Dashiell's record in prison is a testament to his transformation. He earned his associate degree and has participated in myriad self-help programs. Mr. Dashiell has served as a facilitator for several of those programs. In 2019, an Alternatives to Violence program coordinator commended Mr. Dashiell for his work as a facilitator and team coordinator, writing that he "takes the responsibility seriously," and "has the perspective and aptitude to grasp what is needed and to act on it." In 2018, an instructor commended Mr. Dashiell on his "consistently vigorous efforts to advance his education," noting that he "clearly demonstrated that he was a serious student. Aside from his educational achievements, Mr. Dashiell invariably displayed a respectful attitude in his interactions with both inmates and staff."

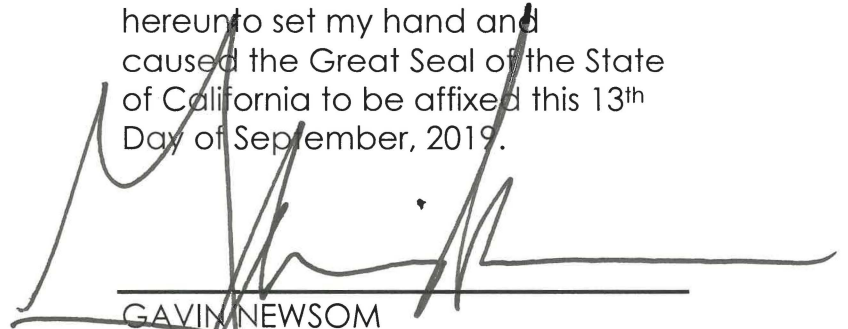
As a young man, Mr. Dashiell committed a serious crime. He has expressed sincere remorse for his actions that day. Mr. Dashiell has turned away from a life involving gangs and violence and committed himself to mentoring other inmates. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct in prison and concluded that Mr. Dashiell merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Dashiell does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Keefe Dashiell to make him eligible for immediate parole consideration. Mr. Dashiell remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



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Leonía Esteem

In 2005, 47-year-old Leonía Esteem and her boyfriend Mitchell Andrews got into an argument, during which Ms. Esteem shot Mr. Andrews multiple times, injuring him. On May 3, 2010, the Superior Court of California, County of Riverside, sentenced Ms. Esteem to 7 years to life for attempted murder plus a 25-year-to-life firearm enhancement—a total prison term of 32 years to life.

In her clemency application, Ms. Esteem wrote, "It has become clear to me, from the work I have done to better myself in programs while I've been in prison, that I was brought up to consider abuse a normal part of life. I have since changed my perspective on abuse and violence and have worked hard to remove both from my life. . . . I have spent my 13 years of incarceration working on healing myself from a lifetime of trauma and developing coping and life skills that have helped me become a productive and contributing member of the community here at CIW. I want to continue to be of service and bring a peaceful presence to the world outside of prison."

Ms. Esteem has no prior criminal history and has never been disciplined for misconduct during her 13 years of incarceration. She is now 61 years old and has devoted herself to her rehabilitation. Ms. Esteem has participated in self-help programs, including those addressing domestic violence and anger management. She completed vocational training and routinely received above average work ratings from her supervisors.

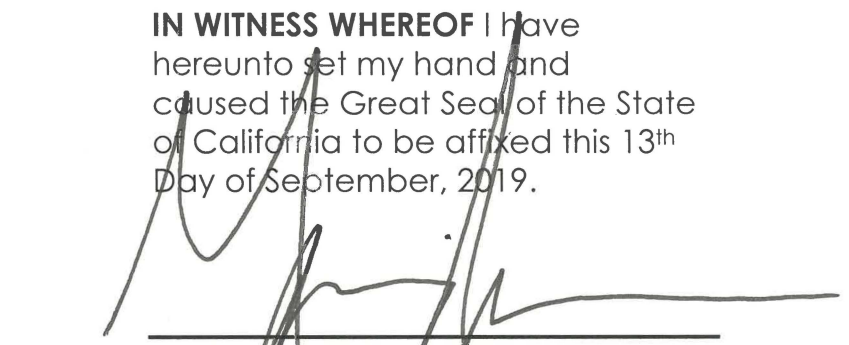
Ms. Esteem is sincerely remorseful for her crime. Over the last decade, Ms. Esteem has distinguished herself by her model conduct in prison and her commitment to rehabilitation. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of her conduct in prison, and I have concluded that Ms. Esteem merits an earlier opportunity to make her case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether she is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Ms. Esteem does not minimize or forgive her conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work she has done since to transform herself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Leonia Esteem to make her eligible for immediate parole consideration. Ms. Esteem remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



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Jacoby Felix

In 1993, 18-year-old Jacoby Felix and his crime partners attempted to rob Richard Harper. Mr. Felix approached Mr. Harper and demanded his car. Mr. Harper refused and ran. As Mr. Felix and his crime partners chased Mr. Harper, Mr. Felix shot and fatally injured him. On August 25, 1995, the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, sentenced Mr. Felix to life without the possibility of parole for murder with a 1-year firearm enhancement.

Mr. Felix is now 43 years old and has been incarcerated for nearly 26 years. In his application for clemency, Mr. Felix described his commitment to rehabilitation and wrote, "Maturity, knowledge, and wisdom converged giving me the strength to make the needed changes. Through these changes I began to understand the importance of community, honor, integrity, morals, and values. These things have awakened a desire in me to be a part of the solution versus the cancerous lifestyle I was a part of."

Mr. Felix has shown a notable commitment to self-development and living a productive life despite serving a sentence with no expectation of release from prison. Mr. Felix earned his GED and an associate degree in social science. He has participated in extensive self-help programming. Mr. Felix is currently working as a teacher's aide and has facilitated several classes.

As a teenager, Mr. Felix committed a senseless crime that took the life of Mr. Harper. He has shown sincere remorse for his crime. Since his incarceration, Mr. Felix has worked hard to take the necessary steps toward self-improvement and rehabilitation. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Felix merits the opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Felix does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Jacoby Felix to 26 years to life. Mr. Felix remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.


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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Dimitri Gales

In 2011, 19-year-old Dimitri Gales and his crime partner confronted two men in a gang-related incident. Mr. Gales's crime partner shot at the victims, injuring Luis Diaz. On October 17, 2014, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Mr. Gales to 15 years to life for shooting at an inhabited dwelling and 3 years for attempted voluntary manslaughter—a total prison term of 18 years to life.

Mr. Gales is now 26 years old and has been incarcerated for more than seven years. While in prison, Mr. Gales has demonstrated a commitment to his self-improvement and rehabilitation. He has also demonstrated exceptional conduct—he has never been disciplined for misconduct during his incarceration. Mr. Gales lives on the Progressive Programming Facility, an honor yard, where inmates can access educational, vocational, and rehabilitative programs. He earned his GED and completed vocational training in construction. Mr. Gales has participated in many self-help programs. He has been commended by staff for his open-minded attitude and for providing a positive example to his fellow inmates. In 2018, a correctional sergeant wrote, "It is important that the positive actions of inmates incarcerated within the institutions of CDCR be recognized and inmate Gales qualifies as one of those inmates that have changed for the better and is deserving of such recognition. His efforts to remain disciplinary free are paramount as well as his productive contributions to the success of the Facility –A Progressive Programming Facility."

Mr. Gales participated in a very serious crime that injured Mr. Diaz. He is sincerely remorseful for his crime. Mr. Gales has become a positive role model for other inmates and has worked hard to better himself. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Gales merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Gales does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Dimitri Gales to make him eligible for parole consideration during his 10th year of incarceration. Mr. Gales remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



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Secretary of State

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Theodore Gray

In 1999, Theodore Gray and his crime partners committed a series of robberies. During the last robbery, Mr. Gray and his crime partners broke into Vincent Fontecchio's home and exchanged gunfire. Mr. Fontecchio was shot multiple times and died from his injuries. On April 18, 2000, the Superior Court of California, County of Shasta, sentenced Mr. Gray to 25 years to life for murder with a 10-year firearm enhancement, plus 5 years for robbery—a total prison term of 40 years to life.

Mr. Gray was 22 years old when he committed these crimes. He is now 42 years old and has been in prison for almost 20 years. While incarcerated, Mr. Gray has turned his life around. In 2016, Mr. Gray earned a bachelor's degree. In 2018, he became a certified alcohol and drug counselor. Mr. Gray has participated in numerous self-help programs, and has facilitated many classes. He participated in a juvenile diversion program in which he talked to students about how his choices, beliefs, and behavior led to his incarceration. Mr. Gray has received commendations from correctional staff. In 2019, a correctional lieutenant praised Mr. Gray for being a positive role model to other inmates and wrote, "He is a true example to other inmate participants in the self-help groups offered [at the prison]. Mr. Gray has a positive attitude that complements his leadership. I have observed Gray to take full advantage of every opportunity to better himself and others. Mr. Gray will be a positive influence when he is ultimately reconnected with his family and the community."

Mr. Gray committed several serious crimes, including the one that took the life of Mr. Fontecchio. He has expressed sincere remorse for his crimes. Mr. Gray has dedicated himself to rehabilitation and has worked hard to set a positive example for his peers. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Gray merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Gray does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Theodore Gray to 25 years to life. Mr. Gray remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



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Secretary of State

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COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Crystal Jones

In 1999, Crystal Jones stabbed James Randall during a drug-related crime; afterward, his crime partner shot Mr. Randall, killing him. On October 5, 2001, the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, sentenced Mr. Jones to life without the possibility of parole for murder with a 1-year deadly weapon enhancement.

Mr. Jones expressed sincere remorse for this crime, writing in his clemency application, "I've had time to reflect and understand the magnitude of pain I, Crystal E. Jones, caused Mr. James Earl Randall, his family, and my community." Mr. Jones also noted that he has strived for rehabilitation since his incarceration.

Mr. Jones was 20 years old when he committed this crime. He is now 41 years old. Despite serving a sentence with no expectation of release, Mr. Jones dedicated himself to his rehabilitation. He resided on an honor yard for several years, earned his GED, and is currently enrolled in college courses. Mr. Jones participated in the Inmate Peer Education Program and various self-help courses. Mr. Jones works as a palliative care provider to other inmates in hospice. In 2018, a registered nurse noted that Mr. Jones' participation in the program required "extensive dedication of time and energy," and that Mr. Jones' level of participation in the program "evidences a deep and abiding commitment to positive and productive behavior."

Mr. Jones has earned commendations from prison staff. In 2017, a correctional officer commended Mr. Jones on his "exceptional behavior and good work ethic." The officer wrote, "I have observed Jones to be a dedicated worker that completes his assigned tasks with little or no supervision. Jones' familiarity with the job and motivation to achieve at every level of performance allows staff to take care of their duties without having to look over their shoulders. Jones has earned the respect of his co-workers and of staff."

Mr. Jones's application was reviewed by the Board of Parole Hearings, which voted at an en banc meeting to recommend a clemency grant. The California Supreme Court also made a recommendation for a clemency grant, a process required by the California Constitution for cases in which the applicant has been convicted of more than one felony.

Mr. Jones participated in a serious crime that ended the life of Mr. Randall. He acknowledges the immense harm he caused. Mr. Jones has committed himself to his rehabilitation and proven his desire to become a productive citizen. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of Mr. Jones' incarceration. I have concluded that Mr. Jones merits the opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Jones does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Crystal Jones to 25 years to life. Mr. Jones remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



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Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Marcus McJimpson

On May 4, 1988, Marcus McJimpson shot and killed Vernon Clark and Scott Walker during an argument. On October 5, 1990, the Superior Court of California, County of Fresno, sentenced Mr. McJimpson to two consecutive terms of life without the possibility of parole for two counts of murder.

Mr. McJimpson wrote in his application for clemency, "I senselessly took both of these men's lives. I was 21 years old at the time and have had 30 years to reflect and take responsibility for this horrible act." He continued, "I don't excuse my actions nor do I minimize these horrible crimes I committed, but rather take accountability." Mr. McJimpson wrote, "That person all those years ago no longer exists. I truly believe I can make a major contribution to that same community, as well as others, that I once did so much damage to."

Mr. McJimpson is now 52 years old and has been incarcerated for 31 years. He has resided on the Progressive Programming Facility, an honor yard, for over a decade. Correctional staff have recognized Mr. McJimpson's transformation in prison, calling him "an exceptional inmate," and commending him for his "accomplished rehabilitative efforts." In 2018, a correctional officer who has known Mr. McJimpson for 20 years praised him for "conducting himself in a positive manner on the Progressive Programming Facility, where he has done a tremendous amount of maturing over the years." The officer continued, "His character and conduct have been exemplary with staff and inmates alike."

In 2019, an officer praised Mr. McJimpson for his "self-motivation, adaptability, reliability and maintenance of a positive attitude under difficult circumstances, which has served him well over many years." The officer noted that Mr. McJimpson is a founding member of Paws for Life, a dog training program, and currently serves as Assistant Program Leader. In this role, the officer wrote, Mr. McJimpson "has effectively employed both communication and leadership skills" to work "tirelessly" with the warden, associate warden, and staff. The officer commended Mr. McJimpson for "being directly responsible for saving the lives of more than 161 dogs and advancing the rehabilitation of an even greater number of inmates." The officer praised Mr. McJimpson for mentoring his trainers and teaching them "essential life-skills such as patience, personal responsibility, dedication, preparation and forethought, and compassion."

Mr. McJimpson committed a very serious crime that took the lives of Mr. Clark and Mr. Walker. He is sincerely remorseful for his crime. Mr. McJimpson has demonstrated over the last three decades that he is committed to being a productive citizen. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. McJimpson merits the opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. McJimpson does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Marcus McJimpson to 35 years to life. Mr. McJimpson remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Adonis Muldrow

In 2012, 15-year-old Adonis Muldrow, under the direction of his 26-year-old crime partner, Jonathan Wilbanks, committed a string of armed robberies. During the final incident, Mr. Wilbanks shot and killed Rory Park-Pettiford. As they fled, a police car followed them. Mr. Wilbanks and Mr. Muldrow fired at the pursuing officer, who did not sustain any serious injury. Mr. Muldrow was held in juvenile hall until May 9, 2016, when he was sentenced in the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, to 11 years for voluntary manslaughter, 4 years for multiple counts of robbery, 2 years for assault with a firearm on a peace officer with 10 years of firearm enhancements—a total prison term of 27 years.

Prior to his involvement in these crimes, Mr. Muldrow experienced a difficult childhood, exposed to abuse and neglect at a young age. Mr. Muldrow has stated that he is seeking a commutation so he can return to his community and give guidance and mentorship to youth in foster care and group homes like the ones where he was raised.

During Mr. Muldrow's seven years in custody, he has worked to better himself and demonstrated a genuine commitment to rehabilitation. He has never been disciplined for misconduct. Mr. Muldrow earned his high school diploma and has participated in many self-help programs. He is currently enrolled in the Delancey Street Honors Unit, a housing unit teaching job and life skills to inmates in preparation for release. In 2018, a representative from the Delancey Street Foundation commended Mr. Muldrow on his commitment to the program and wrote, "He's shown himself to be serious about changing his life and open to the sometimes very difficult ways we go about it." The representative continued, "It is my feeling that he has been a valuable member of the community here at Solano, with its many barriers, and would only be more of the same, in whatever community he finds himself a part of in the future."

As a very young man, Mr. Muldrow participated in several serious crimes, including the one that ended the life of Mr. Park-Pettiford. Mr. Muldrow has expressed sincere remorse for his role in these crimes. He has turned away from violence and committed himself to his rehabilitation. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct over the past seven years. I have concluded that Mr. Muldrow merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Muldrow does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Adonis Muldrow to make him eligible for parole consideration during his 10th year of incarceration. Mr. Muldrow remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Maurice Nails

In 2007, 21-year-old Maurice Nails shot and killed Robert Benjamin after an altercation outside a nightclub. On April 16, 2010, the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, sentenced Mr. Nails to 15 years to life for murder with a 25-year-to-life firearm enhancement—a total prison term of 40 years to life.

Mr. Nails is now 32 years old and has been incarcerated for 11 years. In his application for clemency, he emphasized his growth since coming to prison, and his desire to continue becoming a better person. He wrote, "I am requesting this commutation because I'm ready to prove to myself, my family, and my community that I'm no longer the problem, but will be the solution."

During his incarceration, Mr. Nails has devoted himself to his rehabilitation. He earned two vocational certifications and is currently taking college classes. Mr. Nails has also participated in self-help programs. He earns excellent ratings from his work supervisors, including one who wrote that Mr. Nails "consistently demonstrated a positive attitude, good work, and safety ethics, and attention to detail in the performance of his work." Since 2017, Mr. Nails has been assigned to the Delancey Street Honors Unit at Solano State Prison, a housing unit that teaches job and life skills to inmates in preparation for release. Mr. Nails credits Delancey Street for making a profound difference in his life, and plans to continue his involvement with the program in the event of his return to the community.

Mr. Nails committed a very serious crime. He has expressed sincere remorse for his actions that day. Mr. Nails has distinguished himself through his dedication to his rehabilitation. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of Mr. Nails' conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Nails merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Nails does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Maurice Nails to make him eligible for parole consideration during his 15th year of incarceration. Mr. Nails remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Alladin Pangilinan

In 1995, 19-year-old Alladin Pangilinan and his crime partners committed a string of gang-related crimes. During the last incident, Mr. Pangilinan's crime partner shot and killed Sonny Ago. On October 18, 2000, the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, sentenced Mr. Pangilinan to 50 years to life for murder as a second strike and 19 years and 8 months to life for discharging a firearm at an inhabited dwelling, terrorist threats, and participating in a street gang, with two firearm enhancements—a total prison term of 69 years and 8 months to life.

Mr. Pangilinan is now 42 years old and has been incarcerated for more than 23 years. During his time in prison, Mr. Pangilinan has disassociated from gangs and demonstrated a genuine commitment to rehabilitation. He has been disciplined four times in over two decades in custody. Mr. Pangilinan earned his GED and has participated in several self-help programs. He is enrolled in vocational training. Mr. Pangilinan has consistently received above average work ratings from his supervisors. In 2018, Mr. Pangilinan was commended for his work ethic by his prison supervisor, who wrote, "In the time that Mr. Pangilinan was my student, through his current position as a Peer Tutor, I have observed him to have a helpful, courteous and respectful demeanor. He is a man who is well-respected by staff and inmates alike."

In his teens, Mr. Pangilinan committed several serious crimes, including the one that ended the life of Mr. Ago. He now acknowledges the significant harm he caused. Mr. Pangilinan has turned away from a life involving gangs and violence and committed himself to his rehabilitation. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct in prison over the last two decades. I have concluded that Mr. Pangilinan merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings.

This act of clemency for Mr. Pangilinan does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Alladin Pangilinan to make him eligible for parole consideration during his 25th year of incarceration. Mr. Pangilinan remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Doris Roldan

Doris Roldan was convicted of hiring two men to shoot and kill her husband, Fernando Roldan. On February 25, 1983, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Ms. Roldan to life without the possibility of parole for murder.

Ms. Roldan has now been incarcerated for 38 years. She is 80 years old and uses a wheelchair for mobility. Ms. Roldan has shown a strong commitment to self-improvement. Ms. Roldan routinely received exceptional work ratings and founded a volunteer program that helps veterans. She has participated in numerous self-help programs.

A warden recommended Ms. Roldan for a commutation. She has also earned commendations from other correctional staff members for her positive attitude and behavior. In 2018, a correctional officer wrote, "Roldan has worked diligently to apply the self-help principles she has learned to her daily routine. . . . If given the opportunity, I believe Roldan is long overdue to enter back to society." Another officer who has known Ms. Roldan for 17 years praised her "exemplary behavior" and said, "Roldan has dealt with the issues that lead her to prison and I believe she is ready to reestablish a successful life in society." Another correctional officer wrote that Ms. Roldan "encourages her peers to be model inmates and also mentors the younger generation of inmates. . . . It is my opinion that Roldan will be a positive presence in the community if granted release."

During her lengthy incarceration, Ms. Roldan has committed herself to rehabilitation and proven her desire to become a productive citizen. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of her conduct in prison. I have concluded that Ms. Roldan merits the opportunity to make her case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether she is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Ms. Roldan does not minimize or forgive her conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work she has done since to transform herself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Doris Roldan to 38 years to life. Ms. Roldan remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Bryant Salas

In 2007, 18-year-old Bryant Salas participated in a gang-related fight. During the fight, Mr. Salas' crime partners stabbed Kevin Fu and Christopher Cheng, killing Mr. Fu and injuring Mr. Cheng. On February 14, 2008, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Mr. Salas to 32 years to life for murder and attempted murder with a gang enhancement.

Mr. Salas is now 30 years old and has been incarcerated for 12 years. In his application for clemency, he described the steps he has taken to turn his life around. Mr. Salas wrote, "I take full responsibility for my actions and am not asking for a free pass, but an opportunity to show that I am not the same person I was back then...I am willing to give back to the community in any way possible as paying my debt to society."

Since coming to prison, Mr. Salas has demonstrated a serious commitment to his rehabilitation. He dropped out of the gang and earned his GED. He has participated in multiple self-help programs. He lives on an honor yard and participates in Paws for Life, a dog training program. In 2019, Mr. Salas was commended for his work in the program by an associate warden, Paws for Life's founder, and its director. They wrote, "By training a service dog, Salas is directly contributing to society by providing highly sought-after service dogs which are in great demand by veterans worldwide." In 2017, a work supervisor praised Mr. Salas for his positive outlook and strong work ethic, and wrote, "I am confident that Mr. Salas will continue to be a dedicated worker and a positive role model in order to be successful in life."

Mr. Salas participated in a very serious crime that took the life of Mr. Fu and injured Mr. Cheng. He has demonstrated sincere remorse for his involvement in the offense and has taken active steps toward self-improvement and rehabilitation. It is clear that he is focused on making amends for his past and contributing to society. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of his conduct over the past decade. I have concluded that Mr. Salas merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Salas does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Bryant Salas to make him eligible for parole consideration during his 15th year of incarceration. Mr. Salas remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Lazaro Tanori

In 2006, 19-year-old Lazaro Tanori tried to rob a pawn shop. He had a gun and fired one shot at a glass display case. No one was injured and no property was damaged during the crime. On December 8, 2006, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Mr. Tanori to 1 year and 4 months for attempted robbery, plus an additional 20 years for a firearm enhancement—a total prison term of 21 years and 4 months.

Mr. Tanori is now 32 years old and has been incarcerated for 13 years. In his application for clemency, he emphasized how much he has changed and matured since committing this crime. He wrote, "I am no longer that reckless, impulsive, and self-centered teen I used to be. I understand the impact of my crime and the families that I have affected." Mr. Tanori described the progress he has made in prison, and laid out his plans for becoming a contributing member of the community upon release.


During more than a decade in prison, Mr. Tanori has maintained a positive record and taken concrete steps to turn his life around. He earned his GED and regularly receives exceptional work ratings from his supervisors. Mr. Tanori has participated in numerous self-help programs.

Mr. Tanori committed a reckless and dangerous crime when he was a teenager. He has taken responsibility for the harm he caused the employees of the pawn shop and has demonstrated a commitment to becoming a productive community member. I have carefully considered and weighed his conduct while in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Tanori merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Tanori does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

The Great Seal of the State of California is a circular emblem with a serrated, sunburst-like border. The outer ring contains the text "THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF" at the top and "CALIFORNIA" at the bottom. Inside the ring, the word "EUREKA" is inscribed at the top. The central scene depicts a grizzly bear standing on a rocky outcrop in the foreground. Behind the bear, a miner is shown in a dynamic pose, holding a pickaxe and standing next to a large, multi-tiered mine structure. The background features a landscape with mountains and a body of water.

hereunto set my hand and
caused the Great Seal of the State
of California to be affixed this 13th
Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM

ATTEST:

Alex Zell

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Marsi Torres

In 2007, 18-year-old Marsi Torres shot and injured Christian Rodriguez, a rival gang member with whom she had been in prior altercations. On December 10, 2007, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Ms. Torres to 15 years to life for attempted murder with a 25-year-to-life firearm enhancement and a 10-year gang enhancement—a total term of 50 years to life.

Ms. Torres is now 30 years old and has been incarcerated for more than 12 years. Ms. Torres has consistently worked to better herself, completing extensive vocational training, working towards her GED, and participating in self-help programs. A sponsor for Compassionate Companions, a program Ms. Torres has worked with that supports inmates facing serious illness, wrote that Ms. Torres is “competent, congenial, hardworking and motivated at all times to go above and beyond.” In 2019, a program sponsor for Convicted Women Against Abuse commended Ms. Torres on her active participation in the group, noting that she translates for Spanish speaking participants “without hesitation” and “continuously assists others when in need of help or translation.”

Ms. Torres has also earned excellent work ratings. In 2019, a supervisor commended Ms. Torres on her work ethic and professional attitude, noting that she is a “very disciplined, respectful person,” who shows a “great desire for personal growth [and] knowledge.” The supervisor concluded that, if released, Ms. Torres would be a “valuable asset to any organization.” In 2018, a correctional officer who has known Ms. Torres for three years commended her on her work ethic and wrote, “She takes the initiative to help staff and peers and her attitude is always optimistic and constructive.” The officer noted that Ms. Torres “seems to have dealt with the issues that lead her to prison and I believe she is ready to re-establish a successful life in society.”

As a young woman, Ms. Torres committed a serious crime. She has acknowledged the harm she caused and has expressed sincere remorse for her actions that day. She has turned away from a life involving gangs and violence, and committed herself to her rehabilitation. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of her conduct in prison. I have concluded that Ms. Torres merits an earlier opportunity to make her case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether she is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Ms. Torres does not minimize or forgive her conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work she has done since to transform herself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Marsi Torres to make her eligible for parole consideration during her 15th year of incarceration. Ms. Torres remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:


ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Antonio Toy

In 2009, Antonio Toy broke into Justin Matthews's apartment and fired two shots at Mr. Matthews, injuring him. On January 25, 2011, the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, sentenced Mr. Toy to 14 years to life for attempted murder as a second strike with a 25-year-to-life firearm enhancement—a total prison term of 39 years to life.

Mr. Toy was 23 years old when he committed this crime. He is now 33 years old and has been incarcerated for almost 10 years. While in prison, Mr. Toy has shown a significant commitment to his self-improvement. He lives on the Progressive Programming Facility, an honor yard where inmates can access educational, vocational, and rehabilitative programs. Mr. Toy is currently enrolled in the Paws for Life dog training program and has participated in multiple self-help programs. He has been praised by several staff members for his positive attitude and behavior. In 2018, a correctional officer wrote that Mr. Toy "understands the value of education as it relates to rehabilitation, he encourages inmates to do better and actively promotes education as a way to motivate his fellow inmates." The founder of WordsUncaged also commended Mr. Toy for his personal growth and wrote that he "demonstrated an in-depth understanding of causative factors, triggers, positive coping mechanisms and the importance of developing pro-social relationships. His ability to be open and vulnerable about such personal matters amongst his peers and the Cal State Professors and students is a clear indicator of his growth, maturity, and ability to be a productive contributor to any community."

Mr. Toy committed a very serious crime, for which he is sincerely remorseful. Mr. Toy has made a genuine commitment to his rehabilitation while encouraging other inmates to do the same. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of Mr. Toy's conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Toy merits an earlier opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Toy does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Antonio Toy to make him eligible for parole consideration during his 15th year of incarceration. Mr. Toy remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COMMUTATION OF SENTENCE

Luis Velez

On March 22, 1991, Luiz Velez shot and killed Harold Payne, an armed transport guard, during a robbery. On January 12, 1993, the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento, sentenced Mr. Velez to life without the possibility of parole for murder plus 12 years for robbery, a firearm enhancement, and a prior felony enhancement.

Mr. Velez is now 55 years old and has been incarcerated for more than 28 years. Mr. Velez has made a concerted effort toward rehabilitation despite serving a sentence with no expectation of release from prison. He has only been disciplined for misconduct once during nearly three decades of incarceration. Mr. Velez participated in multiple self-help programs. He resided on the Progressive Programming Facility, an honor yard, for several years. In 2018, a correctional officer praised Mr. Velez for his positive attitude and behavior while living on the honor yard, writing, "I could attest that Velez has always presented himself well-mannered showing respect toward staff and other inmates. I have never seen him participate in any negative activities. . . . The way Velez conducts himself leading by example shows to the youthful offenders here at [the prison] a good example. I commend inmate Velez for exhibiting positive attitude as a responsible individual. I believe inmate Velez is a good candidate for a second chance."

Mr. Velez's application was reviewed by the Board of Parole Hearings, which voted at an en banc meeting to recommend a clemency grant. The California Supreme Court also made a recommendation for a clemency grant, a process required by the California Constitution for cases in which the applicant has been convicted of more than one felony.

Mr. Velez committed a serious crime that ended Mr. Payne's life. Mr. Velez expressed sincere remorse for his crime. While incarcerated, Mr. Velez has distinguished himself by his exemplary conduct in prison and his genuine commitment to rehabilitation. I have carefully considered and weighed the evidence of Mr. Velez's conduct in prison. I have concluded that Mr. Velez merits the opportunity to make his case to the Board of Parole Hearings so it can determine whether he is suitable for parole.

This act of clemency for Mr. Velez does not minimize or forgive his conduct or the harm it caused. It does recognize the work he has done since to transform himself.

THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby commute the sentence of Luis Velez to 28 years to life. Mr. Velez remains subject to all statutory authorities applicable to the parole consideration hearing process.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 13th Day of September, 2019.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:



ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State