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INFORMATION BULLETIN

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019**

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ISAAC BELLINGER DENIED PAROLE

MADERA, CA – Isaac Bellinger, age 72, was denied parole for a period of three years in a hearing that took place on April 10, 2019, at the California Health Care Facility in Stockton, California. The Madera County District Attorney’s Office sent an attorney representative to argue against release. Despite being eligible for “Elder Parole”, the Board of Prison Terms ruled that Mr. Bellinger lacked insight into his life crime and, as such, parole was denied.

On January 10, 1980, Isaac Bellinger entered Joaquin Club Bar on Yosemite Avenue in Madera. He confronted Roy Gaines who was in the bar enjoying the evening with his wife. Upon entry into the bar, the bartender stated to Mr. Bellinger, “You’re not going to cause any trouble tonight, are you?” Shortly thereafter, Mr. Bellinger confronted Mr. Gaines. Mr. Bellinger and Mr. Gaines did not know each other. Evidence indicated that Mr. Gaines was not confrontational and tried to avoid conflict. Mr. Bellinger stepped away from the bar, pulled a gun, and shot the unarmed Mr. Gaines in the chest. Mr. Gaines died of the gunshot wound. He left behind a wife and family. Mr. Gaines was 35 years old when he was murdered. Mr. Bellinger has been in custody since January 18, 1980. He was convicted of Murder in the 2nd degree and was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison.