## SUBSEQUENT PAROLE CONSIDERATION HEARING STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS

In the matter of the Life Term Parole Consideration Hearing of:	•	ana ana	Numbor	B-41079
nearing or.	)	CDC	Number	D-410/3
BRUCE DAVIS	)			
	_ )			

CALIFORNIA MEN'S COLONY

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 27, 2005

11:58 A.M.

## PANEL PRESENT:

TOM SAWYER, Presiding Commissioner DENNIS SMITH, Deputy Commissioner

## OTHERS PRESENT:

BRUCE SMITH, Inmate

JARED EISENSTAT, Attorney for Inmate

PATRICK SEQUEIRA, Deputy District Attorney

CORRECTIONS TO THE DECISION HAVE BEEN MADE

 No	See	Review	οf	Hearing
 Yes	Trar	nscript	Men	norandum

Ramona Cota

Peters Shorthand Reporting

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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** We are on the
- 3 record.
- 4 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay,
- 5 this is a Subsequent Parole Consideration
- 6 Hearing for Bruce Davis, D-A-V-I-S, CDC number B
- 7 as in boy 41079. Today's date is 9/27/05 and
- 8 the time is 11:58. I'm sorry, 11:58 a.m. and we
- 9 are located at CMC East. The dated received was
- 10 4/21 of 1972 from Los Angeles County, the
- 11 offense was first degree murder, case number
- 12 0267861, count number two, Penal Code Section
- 13 187. The term is life, minimum eligible parole
- 14 date is 12/1 of 1977. Other commitment offenses
- 15 were murder in the first degree, 187, LA, same
- 16 case number, that's count two. This hearing is
- 17 being tape-recorded and for the purpose of voice
- 18 identification each of us is required to state
- 19 our first and last name, spelling our last name.
- 20 When it comes to your turn, Mr. Davis, after you
- 21 state and spell your last name if you'd give us
- 22 your CDC number as well. I'm Tom Sawyer,
- 23 S-A-W-Y-E-R, Commissioner.
- 24 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Dennis Smith,
- 25 S-M-I-T-H, I'm a Deputy Commissioner.
- 26 INMATE DAVIS: Bruce Davis, CDC number
- 27 B-41079.

- 1
- 2 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Spell your last
- 3 name, please.
- 4 INMATE DAVIS: D-A-V-I-S.
- 5 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Thank you. Jared
- 6 Eisenstat, E-I-S-E-N-S-T-A-T, attorney for
- 7 Mr. Davis.
- 8 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ROSE:** Patrick
- 9 Sequeira, S-E-Q-U-E-I-R-A, Deputy District
- 10 Attorney, County of Los Angeles.
- 11 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Thank
- 12 you. We also have a correctional peace officer
- 13 in the room for security purposes. The record
- 14 reflects that you signed a BPT Form 1073, which
- 15 is a Reasonable Accommodation Notice and Request
- 16 in accordance to the provisions of The Americans
- 17 with Disabilities Act. I have this form, it
- 18 says you do not have disabilities, it was signed
- 19 on 10/14 of '04. I'll hand that to your
- 20 counsel.
- 21 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** Thank you.
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** Nothing has changed.
- 23 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Nothing
- 24 changed and that information is current and
- 25 correct? I see you have a -- Do you wear
- 26 glasses, sir?
- 27 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes I do.

- 1 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: You need
- 2 them for reading?
- 3 INMATE DAVIS: Yes.
- 4 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Any other
- 5 disabilities that might have -- Hearing, you can
- 6 hear me okay? Everything is fine with that?
- 7 INMATE DAVIS: I believe so.
- 8 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay, and
- 9 you seemed to walk in under your own power very
- 10 well.
- 11 INMATE DAVIS: Yes sir, no problem.
- 12 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Very
- 13 good. Would you waive the --
- 14 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** The further
- 15 explanation.
- 16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Reading?
- 17 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** Yes, Commissioner, I
- 18 believe he has been reasonably accommodated.
- 19 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay,
- 20 thank you. This hearing is being conducted
- 21 pursuant to Penal Code Sections 3041, 3042, and
- 22 the rules and regulations of the Board of Prison
- 23 Terms governing parole consideration hearings
- 24 for life inmates. The purpose of today's
- 25 hearing is to consider your suitability for
- 26 parole. In doing so we will consider the number
- 27 and nature of the crimes that you were committed

- 1 for, your prior criminal and social history and
- 2 your behavior and programming since your
- 3 commitment. We also have had the opportunity to
- 4 review your Central File and you prior hearing
- 5 transcript. You will be given the opportunity
- 6 to correct and clarify the record. We will
- 7 consider your progress since your commitment and
- 8 since your last hearing. Your updated
- 9 counselor's report and your psychological report
- 10 will also be considered. Any change in your
- 11 parole plans should be brought to our attention.
- 12 We will reach a decision today and inform you
- 13 whether or not we find you suitable for parole
- 14 and the reasons for our decision. If you are
- 15 found suitable for parole the length of your
- 16 confinement will be explained to you. This
- 17 hearing will be conducted in two phases. I will
- 18 discuss with you the crime that you were
- 19 committed for, your prior criminal and social
- 20 history, your parole plans and any letters of
- 21 support or opposition that may be in your file.
- 22 Deputy Commissioner Smith will discuss with you
- 23 your progress since your commitment, your
- 24 counselor's report and your psychological
- 25 evaluation. Once that is concluded the district
- 26 attorney, and your attorney will be given an
- 27 opportunity to ask you questions. The questions

- 1 from the district attorney shall be asked
- 2 through the Chair and your answers shall be
- 3 directed to the panel. Do you understand?
- 4 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 5 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay.
- 6 Before we recess for deliberations the district
- 7 attorney, your attorney and you will be given
- 8 the opportunity to make a final statement
- 9 regarding your parole suitability. Your
- 10 statement should be directed as to why you feel
- 11 you are suitable for parole. We will then
- 12 recess, clear the room and deliberate. Once we
- 13 have completed our deliberations we will resume
- 14 the hearing and announce our decision. The
- 15 California Code of Regulations states that
- 16 regardless of time served a life inmate shall be
- 17 found unsuitable for and denied parole if in the
- 18 judgment of the panel the inmate would pose an
- 19 unreasonable risk of danger to society if
- 20 released from prison. You have certain rights.
- 21 These rights include the right to a timely
- 22 notice of this hearing, the right to review your
- 23 Central File and the right to present relevant
- 24 documents. Has the inmate's rights been met,
- 25 counsel?
- 26 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** Yes, all with the
- 27 exception of the timeliness of this hearing,

- 1 Commissioner. My notes indicate his last
- 2 hearing where he got a one year denial was April
- 3 of last year so this hearing is about five to
- 4 six months late.
- 5 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay.
- 6 You also have the right to be heard by an
- 7 impartial panel. Is there any objection to this
- 8 panel?
- 9 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** No, Commissioner.
- 10 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: You will
- 11 receive a copy of our written tentative decision
- 12 today. That decision is subject to review by
- 13 the Decision Review Unit and by the entire Board
- 14 meeting as a body. It will become effective
- 15 within 120 days, subject to review by the
- 16 Governor. A copy of the tentative decision and
- 17 a copy of the transcript will be sent to you.
- 18 As of May 1st, 2004, there were major changes
- 19 limiting your former right to appeal Board
- 20 decisions and actions directly to the Board.
- 21 The old Board regulations were repealed. The
- 22 current policy is entitled Administrative
- 23 Appeals Correspondence and Grievances Concerning
- 24 Board of Prison Terms Decisions and is available
- 25 at the prison law library. You are not required
- 26 to admit your offense or discuss your offense if
- 27 you do not wish to do so. However, this panel

- 1 does accept as true the findings of the court
- 2 and you are invited to discuss the facts and
- 3 circumstances of the case if you desire. The
- 4 Board will review and consider any prior
- 5 statements you have made regarding the offense
- 6 in determining your suitability for parole. Is
- 7 there any confidential material that will be
- 8 used in today's hearing, Commissioner Smith?
- 9 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** There is
- 10 confidential information but it will not be used
- 11 in today's hearing.
- 12 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay. I
- 13 have the hearing checklist, counsel. Give that
- 14 to Mr. Sequeira.
- 15 DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA: I
- 16 have received the documents, thank you. The
- 17 checklist.
- 18 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: The
- 19 checklist is now with Mr. Eisenstat.
- 20 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** And I have
- 21 everything, Commissioner.
- 22 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY ROSE:** Thank
- 23 you. Any additional documents to be submitted?
- 24 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Other than the
- 25 supplemental letters from Attorney Denny, we'll
- 26 go with the letters that the Board has there.
- 27 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay.

- 1 Any preliminary objections?
- 2 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: None at this time.
- 3 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: And will
- 4 the inmate be speaking with the panel?
- 5 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Yes, but he will but
- 6 he will not be talking about the crime.
- 7 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay,
- 8 would you raise your right hand, sir. Do you
- 9 solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole
- 10 truth and nothing but the truth?
- 11 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes I do.
- 12 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Thank
- 13 you. Okay, I am going to talk about the crime.
- 14 I will be reading from the April 2005 calendar,
- 15 page one. This is a summary, it's a summary of
- 16 the crime.
- 17 "Count One. Victim Gary Hinman's
- 18 body was found in a decomposed
- 19 state in the living room of his
- 20 home on Topanga Road in Topanga
- 21 Canyon on 7/31 of 1969. He had
- last been seen alive on 7/25/1969
- 23 driving a Fiat station wagon. The
- 24 autopsy revealed that a stab wound
- 25 to the chest which penetrated his
- 26 heart killed the victim. The
- 27 autopsy further revealed that he

1	nad suffered other wounds,
2	including a stab wound in the area
3	of his chest, a gash at the top of
4	his head, a gash behind his right
5	ear and lacerations on the right
6	side of his face, which cut off
7	part of his ear or cheek. Inmate
8	Davis was one of the crime
9	partners involved in the murder of
10	the victim. Victim Hinman was
11	kept prisoner in his home for two
12	days, during which time he was
13	stabbed and clubbed before finally
14	being put to death. Count two.
15	Victim Donald Shea was reported
16	missing. An investigation
17	revealed that sometime between
18	August 15 and September 1, 1969
19	Inmate Davis and his crime
20	partners murdered the victim and
21	buried his body in or near the
22	Spahn Ranch. The victim worked at
23	the Spahn Ranch and (inaudible).
24	Inmate Davis and his crime
25	partners were living there.
26	Intensive investigation failed to
27	produce the body of the victim,

1	however, Steve Grogan, one of the
2	crime partners, furnished
3	information to law enforcement as
4	to the location of the victim's
5	body. The body was recovered and
6	Shea was stabbed repeatedly until
7	he died."
8	And then the prisoner's version.
9	"According to Inmate Davis he had
10	been living a life that was fueled
11	with drugs and sex. He was
12	frequently intoxicated with
13	hallucinogenic substances for much
14	of his association with Charles
15	Manson. Manson began preaching
16	about death and destruction; the
17	family began adopting a
18	survivalist lifestyle. Drugs,
19	free sex, poor hygiene, thievery
20	and begging were also promoted.
21	Davis stated that he was unable to
22	make good decisions due to unmet
23	needs. He stated he was trying
24	anything he could to meet those
25	needs and he was looking for
26	acceptance and friendship from
27	Charles Manson and others within

```
the group. Davis said he pursued
1
2
           pleasures of the flesh as long as
           he received those pleasures of the
3
                   He felt he was doing the
4
           flesh.
5
           right thing. In June or July of
           1969 Charles Manson asked Davis to
6
           drive several family members to
7
           the Hinman house. Davis delivered
8
9
           Mary Brunner, Robert Beausoleil
           and Susan Atkins."
10
    That's spelled, Beausoleil, B-E-A-U-S-O-L-E-I-L.
11
12
           "Delivered to the Hinman
13
           residence. When he returned to
14
           the Spahn Ranch after a couple of
15
           days Manson received a call from
16
           one of the family members at Gary
           Hinman's house. The family member
17
18
           said Gary wasn't cooperating.
19
          Davis claimed that he didn't
20
          understand what that was about.
21
          During the interview Davis states,
22
           what I did understand is that they
           went there to rob Gary Hinman.
23
24
           They thought he had money but he
25
           didn't. Manson then asked Davis
           to drive him back to Hinman's
26
```

residence. When Davis entered the

27

1	house Robert Beausoleil was
2	holding Hinman at gunpoint. Davis
3	asked for the gun, which
4	Beausoleil handed to him. Davis
5	states that he had the gun in his
6	possession but that he had not
7	pointed at Hinman as stated in the
8	1996 BPT report. While Davis was
9	standing there with the gun Manson
10	sliced Hinman's ear. Davis later
11	took one of Hinman's cars back to
12	the ranch but claims, Gary was
13	very much alive the last time I
14	saw him. Some time in August 1969
15	Manson decided that Donald Shea
16	was a police informant in the
17	Tate/LaBianca murders. Davis went
18	along with three family members of
19	the Manson family who had asked
20	Mr. Shea to drive them to get some
21	spare car parts. During the
22	interview Davis stated that he
23	knew they were going to kill Shea.
24	He said he knew he wouldn't do
25	anything physical but, I wanted to
26	look like I was going along with
27	Manson so I could maintain his

1	friendship. Shea was driving the
2	car when Charles Watson, who was
3	sitting next to Shea, told Shea to
4	pull the car over. At first Shea
5	wouldn't then Watson pulled a
6	knife on Shea. When he pulled
7	over Steve Grogan, who was sitting
8	behind Shea, hit Shea in the back
9	of the head with a pipe wrench.
10	Watson and Grogan got out of the
11	car and dragged Shea down the
12	hillside into a ravine. Davis
13	remained in the car until Charles
14	Manson drove up in another car,
15	stopped and went down the hill to
16	join Watson and Grogan. A few
17	minutes later Davis went down to
18	where they had the victim. Manson
19	handed Davis a machete and told
20	him to cut his head off. Davis
21	dropped the machete. Davis stated
22	that he couldn't do it. So Manson
23	handed him a knife, which Davis
24	used to slash the victim's
25	shoulder. Davis was sure that the
26	victim was dead by the time he cut
27	him. Davis cut the victim because

- 1 he didn't want to be disapproved
- 2 by the family. Davis stated that
- 3 it took him years before he was
- 4 really able to feel remorse for
- 5 his involvement in these crimes.
- 6 He believes that his inability to
- 7 feel sadness and empathy was a
- 8 result of the heavy drug usage at
- 9 the time. He now experiences
- 10 sadness as he knows the families
- of the victims still suffer to the
- 12 actions of himself and his
- 13 codefendants."
- 14 Okay, let's talk a little about -- You didn't
- 15 have any juvenile history as far as arrests.
- 16 **INMATE DAVIS:** No sir.
- 17 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** And adult
- 18 convictions. You first came to the attention of
- 19 law enforcement 3/9 of 1968, possession of
- 20 marijuana, it was dismissed. 5/2 of '68,
- 21 another possession. Both these charges were
- 22 dismissed. You were arrested on 10/12 of '69
- 23 for receiving stolen property, grand theft auto,
- 24 contributing to the delinquency of a minor.
- 25 These charges were dropped. On 1/2/70, arrested
- 26 for receiving stolen property; no disposition on
- 27 that. And on 3/7/70 arrested for fraudulently

- 1 obtaining a firearm and giving false
- 2 identification to a firearms dealer. What kind
- 3 of gun did you buy?
- 4 INMATE DAVIS: A nine millimeter fully --
- 5 Radon? R-A-D-O something. I don't remember the
- 6 exact spelling.
- 7 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Uh-huh.
- 8 INMATE DAVIS: It was like an automatic.
- 9 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: And what
- 10 was the purpose of buying that weapon?
- 11 INMATE DAVIS: Not everyone at the ranch
- 12 had guns but there were a lot of firearms. And
- 13 they were target practicing and shooting them
- 14 and so --
- 15 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: So you
- 16 just wanted to be cool, huh?
- 17 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well, it was the stupidest
- 18 thing I ever did. Well no, it wasn't.
- 19 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Why did
- 20 you give false identification?
- 21 **INMATE DAVIS:** You know, I didn't have
- 22 any reason. I didn't have a good reason to.
- 23 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** You
- 24 didn't have a record.
- 25 **INMATE DAVIS:** I didn't. I don't know
- 26 what I thought I was accomplishing.
- 27 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: What ever

- 1 happened to the gun?
- 2 INMATE DAVIS: Well the gun turned up in
- 3 my trial.
- 4 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Where was
- 5 it found? In your possessions or?
- 6 INMATE DAVIS: No, no. Charlie -- I
- 7 wasn't there when this happened but I was told.
- 8 Charlie gave it to somebody, just gave it to
- 9 somebody and it turned up, I think, in San
- 10 Bernardino County. Now that's the story I've
- 11 heard and I'm not sure.
- 12 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Out in
- 13 the desert when they captured --
- 14 INMATE DAVIS: No, no, this was some
- 15 person completely, as far as I know, completely
- 16 unassociated with the family that had the gun.
- 17 And I don't know the circumstances of how the
- 18 gun got into the custody of law enforcement.
- 19 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Was it
- 20 used in a crime?
- 21 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well, it shot a, it shot a
- 22 hole in Gary's house under his sink. And that's
- 23 the only shot that I know of that it was, ever,
- 24 you know, in a bad situation.
- 25 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Gary
- 26 Hinman's house?
- 27 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.

- 1 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: So you
- 2 had it with you at that time?
- 3 **INMATE DAVIS:** Bobby had it actually,
- 4 Bobby Beausoleil had it. And that's why I asked
- 5 for it. Because when I heard that he had shot
- 6 the gun I said, give me that gun, because I
- 7 thought somebody could get hurt. I know that
- 8 that kind of thought must have sounded kind of
- 9 crazy. I mean, there they were trying to rob
- 10 the guy.
- 11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Yeah.
- 12 **INMATE DAVIS:** But I was, you know, I
- 13 knew that that was my gun and I didn't want it
- 14 shooting somebody.
- 15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay.
- 16 Under personal factors. Bruce Davis is the
- 17 youngest of two children and the only son born
- 18 to what he describes as a typical, middle-class
- 19 American family. His father and mother are now
- 20 deceased. His father was a pipe fitter and a
- 21 welder who died from a sudden aneurysm when
- 22 Davis was 25 years old. Davis' mother was a
- 23 housewife and homemaker until Davis was
- 24 approximately ten years old. At this time she
- 25 became an accountant and began a career working
- 26 as a working wife and mother. Had she
- 27 remarried?

- 1 INMATE DAVIS: No, not after '68, that's
- 2 when my dad died.
- 3 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay,
- 4 okay. And she died in 1994. Your only sibling
- 5 is a sister who is one year your senior.
- 6 Describes your childhood environment as being
- 7 highly unpredictable and unstable due to his
- 8 father being an alcoholic who was verbally and
- 9 physically abusive towards family members.
- 10 Davis recalls that he received beatings from his
- 11 father several times a month and claims that his
- 12 father was verbally abusive towards him almost
- 13 daily. He also states that although his mother
- 14 was affectionate and supportive she was very
- 15 controlling and protective of him. In later
- 16 years Davis felt angry and betrayed by his
- 17 parents, believing that he had never been given
- 18 the guidance and encouragement in life that he
- 19 needed. Davis reported that he and his sister
- 20 are fairly close when they were growing up,
- 21 although they never discussed any family
- 22 problems. Davis also reported he was molested
- 23 at age 12 by an adult friend. Apparently this
- 24 man who was friendly and attentive to Davis
- 25 sodomized him on two occasions. Davis said he
- 26 never told anyone and the molestation ended when
- 27 Davis stopped being around this man. Davis also

- 1 stated when he was 13 an English teacher raped
- 2 him and again he never told anyone. He
- 3 continued to harbor feelings of embarrassment
- 4 and shame. He reported no particular problem in
- 5 school and claims that he was not a behavior
- 6 problem, even though he was expelled on one
- 7 occasion in seventh grade for stealing money.
- 8 He claims he earned average grades, participated
- 9 in some school activities and peer-related
- 10 activities. He mentioned that he had some
- 11 friends but never really fought with peers. He
- 12 said, however, he did feel close to -- he never
- 13 really did feel close to anyone. He enjoyed
- 14 fishing, stamp collecting and reading historical
- 15 books. He states that he had no goals, no
- 16 direction during his youth. He reports that he
- 17 went along with the other kids as a follower
- 18 because he never had any reason to behave
- 19 differently. Additionally he stated that in
- 20 being a follower it was a way to ensure that
- 21 people would like him. He stated that he became
- 22 sexually involved with a girlfriend when he was
- 23 17 years old and the relationship lasted for
- 24 approximately one year. After graduating from
- 25 high school Davis obtained 48 college units at
- 26 the University of Tennessee. At around age 19
- 27 he lost interest in school, began earning poor

- 1 grades and decided to drop out of school. From
- 2 that point he began wandering around Tennessee
- 3 to the West Coast and back again. He was
- 4 employed in a variety of jobs from waiter to bar
- 5 boy to surveyor. Once again Davis began driving
- 6 around the country. He became highly influenced
- 7 by the Vietnam conflict and identified with the
- 8 hippies' non-materialistic lifestyle. While
- 9 still looking for some sense of meaning and
- 10 direction in life a friend introduced him to his
- 11 soon-to-be mentor, Charles Manson. And in 1985
- 12 he was married for the first time to Beth Davis
- 13 and has one daughter from that marriage who is
- 14 now 11 years old. Is she 11?
- 15 INMATE DAVIS: Yes sir. She'll be 12 in
- 16 November.
- 17 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay.
- 18 And remains intact and states that it's a loving
- 19 and happy marriage. The bright spot of your
- 20 life?
- 21 **INMATE DAVIS:** The best.
- 22 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay. Do
- 23 you still hear from your sister?
- 24 **INMATE DAVIS:** Occasionally.
- 25 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Where
- 26 does she live?
- 27 **INMATE DAVIS:** Raleigh?

- 1 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: North
- 2 Carolina?
- 3 INMATE DAVIS: Yes sir. I guess I
- 4 shouldn't say occasionally, I should say less
- 5 than occasionally. We write maybe every year or
- 6 so. My wife talks to her on the phone so we
- 7 have (indiscernible). But we --
- 8 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: How often
- 9 do you see your wife and daughter?
- 10 **INMATE DAVIS:** Every week.
- 11 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: They're
- 12 right down the road here, huh, Grover Beach?
- 13 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 14 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay.
- 15 Okay, as far as your future plans are concerned
- 16 you state that if you are granted parole you
- 17 will live with your wife in Grover Beach and
- 18 your daughter.
- 19 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes.
- 20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Has she
- 21 got a house or apartment or what?
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** She's got a condo.
- 23 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: A condo.
- 24 And I'll be getting into your letters of
- 25 support. But it indicates here under employment
- 26 opportunities they are expected to be in your
- 27 letters of support. And there is an assessment

- 1 made by your counselor that says, Davis appears
- 2 to have an extensive support system with letters
- 3 encouraging his release, received consistently
- 4 year after year. I would not expect him to have
- 5 difficulty finding employment, even in San Luis
- 6 Obispo or Los Angeles County and through those
- 7 that supported his release in the addition to,
- 8 of course, his daughter. Davis has the moral
- 9 and practical support of his wife of 20 years
- 10 and their daughter. And then your letters of
- 11 support. In your letters I have a letter of
- 12 opposition from the Sheriff's Department of Los
- 13 Angeles County. It's dated March 2, 2004. I'm
- 14 just checking to see if I have any more current
- 15 letters from the Sheriff's Office. No.
- 16 "We received notification that Inmate Davis is
- 17 scheduled to appear before the Board of Prison
- 18 Terms." And this was apparently your last
- 19 appearance was April 8, 2004?
- 20 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** Yes, I believe so,
- 21 Commissioner.
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 23 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay,
- 24 this is an old letter. I do not have anything
- 25 newer than that. Okay, I have a letter here
- 26 from Prison Fellowship dated July 6, 2005 from
- 27 Charles Colson, C-O-L-S-O-N. And this is from

- 1 Lansdowne, Virginia. He talks about here that
- 2 you have demonstrated and continue demonstrating
- 3 on a daily basis that you have immersed yourself
- 4 in the educational process and submitted
- 5 yourself to Christ. Received a master's degree
- 6 and a Ph.D. in theology with an emphasis on the
- 7 bible. Then he talks about -- Have you met
- 8 Mr. Colson?
- 9 **INMATE DAVIS:** No sir.
- 10 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Just
- 11 corresponded and talked to him on the phone?
- 12 **INMATE DAVIS:** I've written to him. My
- 13 wife met him in Belfast and he'd had my letter
- 14 then. So he started -- He started writing in
- 15 80-something I'm not sure when. Probably '85,
- 16 '86, '87, I'm not exactly sure. But we don't
- 17 have like a relationship.
- 18 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: So he's
- 19 just a fan of yours, huh? A supporter.
- 20 **INMATE DAVIS:** I'm a fan of his.
- 21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** You're a
- 22 fan of his. And he's very supportive and talks
- 23 about your family and supportive of you being
- 24 granted a parole date. And I have a letter from
- 25 George V. Denny III, an attorney from Houston,
- 26 Texas. Was he your attorney for a number of
- 27 years?

- 1 **INMATE DAVIS:** He was my attorney in my
- 2 original trial.
- 3 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Oh, your
- 4 original trial?
- 5 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 6 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: He's
- 7 written a letter. Have you seen this letter?
- 8 INMATE DAVIS: Yeah, I saw it but it --
- 9 Yeah, I'm not sure. Did you --
- 10 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** (Inaudible) earlier
- 11 today.
- 12 **INMATE DAVIS:** Okay, yeah. I saw that he
- 13 wrote a letter, I didn't read the letter.
- 14 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay. "I
- 15 cajoled, I have groveled, I have used all my
- 16 persuasive powers to get (indiscernible) a
- 17 positive response, all to no avail." This is a
- 18 letter written to Dennis Kenneally, the
- 19 Executive Officer of the Board Prison Hearings,
- 20 Parole Hearings, dated August 26. "Bruce
- 21 remains in prison despite my best efforts and
- 22 those who have written on his behalf." He is
- 23 indicating in here that for a number of past
- 24 years there is no evidence that Bruce would in
- 25 any way constitute a danger to the community.
- 26 To the contrary, all evidence, including
- 27 psychological/psychiatric reports specifically,

- 1 requested and required by the Board and the
- 2 Department of Corrections, said he would not be
- 3 a danger. A model prisoner for years. He talks
- 4 about your Christian faith, your wife, your 11
- 5 year old daughter. I would be remiss if I
- 6 failed to note the one key element thus far
- 7 omitted from this letter, the fact that Bruce's
- 8 connection to the Manson family, a catchphrase
- 9 coined by the media, which phrase has become
- 10 synonymous with evil in the eyes of people. We
- 11 know little, if anything, about the crimes
- 12 (inaudible) to the members of the family. Bruce
- 13 Davis in no way was involved with the infamous
- 14 Tate/LaBianca killings. For varying reasons
- 15 it's respectfully submitted that panel members
- 16 of the Board presiding at this year's hearing
- 17 found (inaudible) what long ago should have been
- 18 done, grant Bruce Davis a parole date and
- 19 (inaudible) his release from custody on that
- 20 date. Our justice system would be well-served
- 21 if such conduct (inaudible). I have a letter
- 22 from Barbara A. Daggett. It talks about how you
- 23 should be granted a release date. She's a
- 24 friend through your wife.
- 25 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 26 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: She
- 27 mentions your wife. And then a letter -- She

- 1 lives in Florida, Estes, Florida in the winter
- 2 and in summertime lives in Minnesota.
- 3 INMATE DAVIS: Maine.
- 4 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Maine.
- 5 The spelling of her last name is D-A-G-G-E-T-T.
- 6 And I have a letter from Pismo Beach, New Life
- 7 Community Church, September 8, 2005 from Ron
- 8 Salsbury, S-A-L-S-B-U-R-Y. He's known you for
- 9 the last 12 years. He knows you are a man of
- 10 character and commitment, loving and supportive
- 11 family. He's expecting that you would be a
- 12 contributing member of society when released.
- 13 He's certainly supportive. A letter from
- 14 William Clark, it's dated July 6, 2005. This is
- 15 a letter to Margarita Perez, Chairman of the
- 16 Board of Prison Terms. Again, by way of
- 17 introduction, I'm a retired California judge
- 18 having served on the Superior Court in San Luis
- 19 Obispo County. I served in the Court of Appeal
- 20 Second District and the Supreme Court, which
- 21 included a review of Manson issues on appeal in
- 22 '68 and '81. My background, experience in
- 23 (indiscernible) extradition, clemency, parole
- 24 process and legislation while serving as
- 25 Executive Secretary and Chief of Staff to
- 26 Governor Ronald Reagan in '66 to '68. At the
- 27 request of his family and neighbors here in San

- 1 Luis Obispo County I have again reviewed in
- 2 summary form through some of Davis' files
- 3 presently before you. I represent no party or
- 4 interest in the above-captioned matter nor have
- 5 I met the man. This matter constitutes the only
- 6 time I have ever recommended parole for a
- 7 prisoner. However, I conclude Mr. Davis'
- 8 further incarceration beyond his over 30 years
- 9 served could constitute a miscarriage of
- 10 justice. If our parole provisions and processes
- 11 have meaning and purpose, and they do, Mr. Davis
- 12 should be returned to open society where he has
- 13 much to offer our youth, as his file clearly
- 14 reveals. Signed, William Clark. That's quite a
- 15 nice letter.
- 16 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes it is.
- 17 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: I've got
- 18 a letter from Anderson, California from
- 19 Lieutenant David LeMoine.
- 20 **INMATE DAVIS:** LeMoine.
- 21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** LeMoine?
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 23 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Correct
- 24 pronunciation. L-E capital M-O-I-N-E, retired
- 25 from the Alameda City Fire Department. And also
- 26 from his wife, signed with his wife, Tricia
- 27 LeMoine. This is your brother-in-law?

- 1 INMATE DAVIS: Yes ma'am -- Yes sir.
- 2 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: He has
- 3 served ample time, a model prisoner. He has
- 4 served enough time, it's time for you to get
- 5 out. And if I didn't mention it July 1, 2005.
- 6 I have a letter from your daughter, Taylor Jean
- 7 Davis, 11 years old. My father, Bruce Davis,
- 8 has been in prison for 34 years. The man you
- 9 call prisoner is the man I call dad. The man
- 10 you call prisoner is the man my mom calls
- 11 husband. The person I admire most is my dad,
- 12 even though he has made some bad mistakes. I
- 13 still love him just like none of this ever
- 14 happened. I hope you can see how much I love my
- 15 dad. Thank you very much for your time.
- 16 Sincerely, Taylor Jean Davis. A nice letter. A
- 17 letter from your wife. I'm writing -- This is
- 18 dated June 30, 2005. She's writing -- Talked
- 19 about you have been married over 20 years, have
- 20 an 11-year-old daughter. She talks about your
- 21 counseling. Refers to you here as doctor,
- 22 Dr. Bruce Davis. Got your teaching, parenting
- 23 classes. She's got testimony here that you made
- 24 a difference in lives in prison with your work.
- 25 She is here to support you in every way. She
- 26 says you could be part of the community. A
- 27 letter from Robert and Jean Wilson on June 25th.

- 1 And this is your sister-in-law?
- 2 INMATE DAVIS: Brother-in-law and his
- 3 wife.
- 4 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Brother-
- 5 in-law, okay. They believe you have served your
- 6 time, certainly supportive. A letter from March
- 7 14, 2005 from the Reverend Ella E. Moore, M-O-O-
- 8 R-E, talks about you being a great benefit for
- 9 the community. Talks about your family, talks
- 10 about your wife being a loving, solid woman.
- 11 Okay. And this talks about how hard you have
- 12 worked while in custody and society and family
- 13 needs you on the outside. The Outbank Branch in
- 14 Warner Springs, California dated March 12, '05
- 15 from Captain Manfred H. K. Aschemeyer.
- 16 **INMATE DAVIS:** Aschemeyer.
- 17 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: A-S-C-H-
- 18 E-M-E-Y-E-R. He's a licensed master mariner,
- 19 executive director of the Marine Exchange of
- 20 Southern California and the Vessel Traffic
- 21 Center for Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor.
- 22 That's quite a title.
- 23 **INMATE DAVIS:** Long, huh.
- 24 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Yeah,
- 25 very long. You have to have two business cards
- 26 for that one. This is a favorable letter. It
- 27 talks about he's in support of you being given a

- 1 parole date. Should be the poster boy for
- 2 rehabilitation for the prison system. You have
- 3 a fantastic record for public service.
- 4 Recognizes you're married and have a daughter.
- 5 Says you have a good support group on the
- 6 outside. He's got a ranch that he would offer
- 7 lodging in San Diego County. He's outraged to
- 8 see his tax dollars being spent on continual
- 9 incarceration of rehabilitated men like Bruce
- 10 Davis. And he's asking for your release. A
- 11 letter from March 10, 2005 from Roger Keech, K-
- 12 E-E-C-H, PE. What's P-E?
- 13 INMATE DAVIS: Physical Engineer. He's a
- 14 mechanical engineer.
- 15 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: I see,
- 16 thank you. He's retired, he's known you for
- 17 over 20 years. Asking for us to give you a
- 18 date. Another letter from Mr. Clark dated last
- 19 year. Judge Clark, the 25th. And a letter from
- 20 '04 from your attorney, George Denny. And
- 21 March 11, 2004 from your brother-in-law with the
- 22 fire department. (Inaudible). From '04 --
- 23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Commissioner,
- 24 I would think those letters would have been
- 25 addressed at the prior hearing.
- 26 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Yes. I'm
- 27 just making note that they're still in here,

- 1 they haven't been taken out. I didn't want to
- 2 miss any letters.
- 3 DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH: All right,
- 4 thank you.
- 5 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay, a
- 6 nice package of letters in there. Mr. Davis, I
- 7 will not turn it over to Commissioner Smith.
- 8 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Mr. Davis,
- 9 according to your C file you were received by
- 10 the Department of Corrections on April 21, 1972.
- 11 You were received here at CMC East on June 11,
- 12 1980. You have a classification score of 28,
- 13 which is the lowest classification score you can
- 14 attain. Your last hearing was held on April 8,
- 15 2004. That was your 22nd subsequent hearing.
- 16 You received a one year denial at that time.
- 17 You have had three CDC 115s, the last one being
- 18 1/25 of '80 for disobeying orders, and five CDC
- 19 128(a)s, the last one being August of 1992 for
- 20 lying to staff. So you have been virtually
- 21 disciplinary-free for 13 to 14 years. You are
- 22 certainly to be commended for that. This panel
- 23 realizes how difficult it is to remain
- 24 disciplinary-free, not only through an
- 25 individual's own actions and commitment but
- 26 simply the setting can make it very difficult.
- 27 And we understand that. So when I say you are

- 1 to be congratulated for your disciplinary record
- 2 it is with all sincerity. You worked on the
- 3 yard crew, receiving above-average reports.
- 4 Then you worked as a bridging clerk with
- 5 exceptional work reports. What is a bridging
- 6 clerk?
- 7 **INMATE DAVIS:** It's a part of education
- 8 now. They're called the educational department
- 9 all over California, I think. They have what
- 10 they call the bridging program and it's for the
- 11 people that are getting 50 percent, the 50
- 12 percenters and the 85 percenters who they feel
- 13 somewhat obligated to make sure they have a job.
- 14 And they go for one hour a week.
- 15 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And what kind
- 16 of program do they go through.
- 17 **INMATE DAVIS:** It's an educational
- 18 program. They ask them to read -- What you're
- 19 going to do with your life, kind of thing.
- 20 Where have you been, where do you think you are,
- 21 where are you headed. It's got some good
- 22 material in it. Each man comes one time a week
- 23 and he's given a ton of homework and supposedly
- 24 he does some. Because they were just laying
- 25 around mostly on the yard. Still are, except
- 26 for that one hour. Or half a day, I shouldn't
- 27 say one hour. But I had a chance to, you know,

- 1 I talked to the guys and helped them with, you
- 2 know, their reading and they ask you questions
- 3 and just going over the material.
- 4 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Thank you. I
- 5 wasn't familiar with that program. You were
- 6 then assigned as associate services clerk and
- 7 runner and that was in April of 2005 and you
- 8 received satisfactory and above average reports.
- 9 Are you still in that assignment?
- 10 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 11 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And what
- 12 duties does that assignment contain?
- 13 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well actually I'm kind of
- 14 a secretary for the MAC chairmen. There's an
- 15 elected chairman and other members but an
- 16 elected chairman on each quad, four quads. So
- 17 my formal boss is the secretary of the captain,
- 18 the captain's secretary, the facility captain's
- 19 secretary. But practically I work for the four
- 20 inmates who are MAC chairmen.
- 21 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay.
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** I help with their agenda
- 23 and going to their meetings and doing their
- 24 minutes and like that.
- 25 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Did you
- 26 request transfer from the bridging program to
- 27 the current assignment or is that kind of a

- 1 rotational situation?
- 2 **INMATE DAVIS:** No, I was offered the job
- 3 in the current assignment and so I just changed
- 4 jobs.
- 5 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay. Is
- 6 that a paid job?
- 7 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes it is.
- 8 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay. So
- 9 better pay than the other?
- 10 **INMATE DAVIS:** Absolutely.
- 11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay,
- 12 that makes it an easier decision, doesn't it?
- 13 **INMATE DAVIS:** That would help.
- 14 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** You received
- 15 your doctorate in philosophy and religion in
- 16 June of 2002 from the Bethany Bible College and
- 17 Seminary in Dothan, D-O-T-H-A-N, Alabama.
- 18 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 19 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** In looking
- 20 through the prior Board Report it indicated that
- 21 -- I just lost my spot, I apologize. There it
- 22 is. That from September of 2002 to April 2003
- 23 that you were attending and participating in a
- 24 dual diagnosis narcotics 12 step program. And
- 25 that was in October of '02. That you were an
- 26 active member of Yokefellows peer counseling
- 27 program and were the moderator of that group.

- 1 And that was October 2002. And that you taught
- 2 a 16 week course entitled Bible Basic for the
- 3 2002 fall semester for the institution's School
- 4 of the Bible and that you also acted as a
- 5 religious peer educator. And that's based on a
- 6 128(b) that's dated January of '03. And yet in
- 7 reviewing the current post-conviction report
- 8 since your last hearing, and these are dated
- 9 1/14/04 to the current, other than the work
- 10 assignment that it identifies it doesn't
- 11 indicate any involvement in any of these self-
- 12 help programs or any other programs. Did you
- 13 drop out of all these?
- 14 INMATE DAVIS: That's a concern I have
- 15 that there's no documentation there because I
- 16 continued in the Yokefellow program up to the
- 17 time I took this job. Because my work hours
- 18 conflicted so I couldn't go there very often.
- 19 I'm teaching in the School of the Bible, I'm
- 20 teaching a parenting class. I've been teaching
- 21 every semester and I'm involved in the chapel.
- 22 I realize that the chronos have certainly not
- 23 been submitted and that's a concern.
- 24 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Do you know
- 25 why that might be?
- 26 INMATE DAVIS: Well, one of the -- I'll
- 27 give you kind of a shot in the dark. The

- 1 chaplain has been, got transferred to Avenal for
- 2 about, I don't know, a few months just recently
- 3 but he's back now. So things could have gone
- 4 awry in his absence. That's, you know, that's
- 5 the only thing that I know.
- 6 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Even reading
- 7 the narrative in the current Board Report that
- 8 was prepared by your counselor there isn't any,
- 9 any narrative about the current programs. Did
- 10 you discuss this, this report with the
- 11 counselor? Let me correct that. It does
- 12 indicate that there's consistent involvement
- 13 with Narcotics Anonymous, Yokefellows, School of
- 14 the Bible and personal growth seminars.
- 15 **INMATE DAVIS:** Right.
- 16 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And refers to
- 17 the post-conviction progress reports for
- 18 details.
- 19 **INMATE DAVIS:** Right.
- 20 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And of course
- 21 there's nothing in the post-progress report.
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** Okay. There's --
- 23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Did you talk
- 24 to you counselor about this report?
- 25 **INMATE DAVIS:** I thought it was -- Well
- 26 from what our discussion was I thought we were
- 27 pretty current. Because he asked me, he said,

- 1 are you still in Yokefellows? I was up to this
- 2 past April. But I'm still involved in the
- 3 School of the Bible and still involved in the
- 4 program in the chapel. Now the personal growth
- 5 seminars, they have ceased in the institution so
- 6 I'm not involved in that.
- 7 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** So to be sure
- 8 that we have a clear and accurate picture. You
- 9 have been involved in Yokefellows up to?
- 10 **INMATE DAVIS:** When I started this
- 11 assignment it became very erratic, my
- 12 attendance.
- 13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** So
- 14 Yokefellows until about April of this year?
- 15 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 16 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And the
- 17 personal growth seminars, they were
- 18 discontinued.
- 19 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 20 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And you're
- 21 still active with the School of the Bible?
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes I am.
- 23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And you're
- 24 teaching in that program?
- 25 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes.
- 26 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay. How
- 27 many hours a week would you say you're involved?

- 2 teach on Saturday.
- 3 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay. And
- 4 what about Narcotics Anonymous?
- 5 INMATE DAVIS: I haven't been in over a
- 6 year, maybe more.
- 7 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Is there a
- 8 reason for that?
- 9 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well, they don't have,
- 10 they don't have meetings. The ones I was going
- 11 to were in the afternoons. I was working in the
- 12 yard. When I was working on the yard crew on
- 13 third watch then my jobs went all the way
- 14 through until the second watch meetings. They
- 15 weren't the big meetings in the big room, they
- 16 were smaller meetings in another quad. More
- 17 specific stuff. I didn't -- I used to go to the
- 18 big meetings during the week and the weekends.
- 19 I really felt like I wasn't getting anything out
- 20 of it. I haven't been to it for quite a while.
- 21 Maybe I have the misconception that they didn't
- 22 have any more to offer. But I was dealing with
- 23 the same kind of subjects in the smaller groups,
- 24 in the small groups. When I couldn't go anymore
- 25 because of my job that was the end of it. I
- 26 didn't re-up for it.
- 27 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** No thought

- 1 that, you know, if you were to receive a parole
- 2 date that you continue or you would re-involve
- 3 yourself in NA in the community?
- 4 INMATE DAVIS: I think in the community
- 5 it would be a very different thing out there
- 6 than in here.
- 7 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** In what?
- 8 INMATE DAVIS: Well, the people that go
- 9 out there, I think for the most part, maybe not
- 10 everyone, but everybody goes there voluntarily.
- 11 A great percentage of the people that go here
- 12 are coerced for obvious reasons and there they
- 13 are. And so the quality of the meeting suffers
- 14 for pretty obvious reasons, I suppose. So that
- 15 was one of the things sort of discouraging to me
- 16 as far as what I was getting from it.
- 17 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Thank you.
- 18 Have you attained any vocational certifications?
- 19 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes I have. I'm a
- 20 certified structural steel welder. I was
- 21 licensed in the City of Los Angeles in
- 22 structural steel. I'm not currently up to date
- 23 on my license but I'm sure I could reestablish
- 24 it.
- 25 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay.
- 26 INMATE DAVIS: And I finished, I finished
- 27 drafting and was certified as employable.

- 1 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay.
- 3 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** So you have
- 4 those two certificates.
- 5 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes sir.
- 6 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Do you recall
- 7 when you got the welding and the drafting
- 8 certifications?
- 9 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well I got the -- The
- 10 welding was the first, probably '84, maybe '84
- 11 or '85. The drafting probably '89, '90.
- 12 Something like that.
- 13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Before I go
- 14 to the psychosocial evaluation are there any
- 15 other activities that you have been involved in
- 16 since your last hearing in April 2004 that I
- 17 haven't addressed that we should be aware of?
- 18 INMATE DAVIS: No, I don't -- No, not
- 19 that I -- If I have I'm sure getting a blank.
- 20 No, I don't think so.
- 21 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Well if
- 22 something happens to come to mind before the
- 23 conclusion of the hearing let us know.
- 24 INMATE DAVIS: I will. And I don't think
- 25 so. Mostly the chapel program and work.
- 26 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** That's a
- 27 question that I typically ask. But certainly in

- 1 light of some of the discrepancies in the
- 2 reports.
- 3 **INMATE DAVIS:** Right.
- 4 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** I want to
- 5 make sure that we have as clear and accurate
- 6 picture of what your activities have been as we
- 7 can possibly have.
- 8 INMATE DAVIS: You know, I was -- I
- 9 usually make sure that these are -- I can't make
- 10 sure but I can encourage the individuals that
- 11 would be making the chronos to do that. I've
- 12 been rather lazy in that.
- 13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** The
- 14 psychosocial evaluation is dated October 28,
- 15 2003 by Dr. Livingston, L-I-V-I-N-G-S-T-O-N.
- 16 And it would have been referenced at your prior
- 17 hearing so this may be certainly a repeat. But
- 18 again I want it referenced on this record as
- 19 well. I'm referring to the first page. The
- 20 doctor notes that the Board asked that several
- 21 very specific questions be addressed. One being
- 22 your violence potential in the free community,
- 23 the significance of alcohol and drugs as it
- 24 relates to the commitment offense, and an
- 25 estimate of your ability to refrain from the use
- 26 and abuse of drugs and alcohol. The extent to
- 27 which you have explored the commitment offense

- 1 and come to terms with the underlying causes and
- 2 the need for future therapy programs while
- 3 incarcerated. And so rather than going into the
- 4 more specific detail of the evaluation I'm going
- 5 to reference for the record the answers provided
- 6 by the doctor for those four questions. And
- 7 then certainly if you or counsel have any
- 8 comments or would like anything else added I
- 9 would be more than happy to do so. Referring to
- 10 the next to the last page under risk of
- 11 violence. And I am going to address each
- 12 question in the order that it is listed on the
- 13 front page. The doctor writes that in this
- 14 section the risk for future violence in the free
- 15 community is assessed through the utilization of
- 16 objective measures, which utilized both static
- 17 and dynamic factors. Objective measures are
- 18 used to avoid some of the pitfalls that can
- 19 occur when in such cases that there is, on the
- 20 one hand, public interest in a case, and on the
- 21 other hand, a person who has presented a long
- 22 period of incarceration without any disciplinary
- 23 actions and has been able to upgrade himself
- 24 academically as well as vocationally. In
- 25 presenting the outcome for the objective
- 26 assessment a tri-party model was used, that
- 27 being low, moderate or high level of risk for

- 1 future violence. Thus the data indicated across
- 2 (indiscernible) instruments that were used by
- 3 the doctor that a moderate level of risk factor
- 4 for future violence would exist for you in the
- 5 community. And although there might be some
- 6 impetus to try and resolve this to either a low
- 7 or moderate level of risk it's probably more
- 8 accurate to indicate that your level of risk for
- 9 future violence in the free community is at the
- 10 low to moderate level. With regard to the
- 11 second question, substance abuse, the doctor
- 12 writes that: As reported by Mr. Davis, substance
- 13 use was not a significant factor in either
- 14 commitment offense other than the use of illicit
- 15 drugs which brought him into a relationship with
- 16 Charles Manson and the Manson family. He does
- 17 have some prior arrests for the possession of
- 18 marijuana, none of which led to a conviction.
- 19 And in regards to his ability to refrain from
- 20 the use of psychoactive substances it would
- 21 appear, based on his testimony about past use,
- 22 that he would not be a likely candidate for
- 23 substance abuse in the future. With regard to
- 24 the third question it indicates that Mr. Davis
- 25 readily acknowledges the contrast between his
- 26 own family, who was very negative and critical,
- 27 and Charles Manson, who was very affirming and

- 1 reinforcing. He identifies this as the primary
- 2 contributor to his being involved with the group
- 3 and consequently with the offenses. It is not
- 4 clear that further exploration of the commitment
- 5 offense would contribute significantly to his
- 6 being able to parole successfully. However, as
- 7 noted by the doctor, that during the three hour
- 8 interview nothing was said by Mr. Davis
- 9 regarding any feelings he had concerning the two
- 10 victims. And the last question, the need for
- 11 future therapy while incarcerated the doctor
- 12 writes that inasmuch as Mr. Davis is not
- 13 presenting any medical or psychiatric disorder
- 14 there is no indication for the need for any
- 15 psychotherapy. However, any involvement he can
- 16 have with self-help groups as well as other
- 17 relevant workshops and programs would probably
- 18 be to his benefit and/or to help promote
- 19 continued personal growth. And with that, that
- 20 concludes my reflection of the psychosocial
- 21 evaluation, unless Mr. Davis or counsel have any
- 22 specific questions regarding the evaluation.
- 23 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: No. We'll save some
- 24 comments for closing, however.
- 25 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** All right,
- 26 thank you. I'll return it to Commissioner
- 27 Sawyer.

- 1 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Thank
- 2 you. Can you tell me how you -- How did you get
- 3 your doctorate? How did you go about doing
- 4 that?
- 5 INMATE DAVIS: Well, I first started
- 6 college in 1961 and I got a few credits at the
- 7 University of Tennessee, which was largely a
- 8 waste of time on my part. Not the credits
- 9 themselves but I wasn't ready for school. So as
- 10 the record reflects I had a pretty non-academic
- 11 life for a long time. And once I got back --
- 12 And when I got to Folsom I started taking
- 13 college courses whenever they were offered and
- 14 taking all the correspondence courses I could
- 15 take. After I became a Christian then I got
- 16 interested in theology and philosophy, et
- 17 cetera, et cetera, and began to take all the
- 18 courses that I could afford to take that were
- 19 offered. And I took them for the middle '70s
- 20 until, well, 2002 or whatever. Whatever it was
- 21 when I finished, finished my degree. I had a --
- 22 I submitted all my transcripts from several
- 23 different places to Bethany and the said based
- 24 on my transcripts and my record and some things
- 25 that I had written for them that they would,
- 26 they would grant a bachelor's degree once I
- 27 finished my master's. And then they started me

- 1 on a master's program, which was a stack of
- 2 books about as tall as I am and several papers
- 3 that I completed over a couple year period. And
- 4 then when I finished that I applied to be
- 5 accepted in the Ph.D. program and they accepted
- 6 me. Then it was kind of the -- almost the same
- 7 process as the master's. You know, a lot of
- 8 reading and writing and then I wrote a paper at
- 9 the end.
- 10 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: A paper
- 11 or a thesis?
- 12 **INMATE DAVIS:** A thesis.
- 13 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: And what
- 14 was your thesis on?
- 15 **INMATE DAVIS:** My thesis, they asked me
- 16 to write something that had something to do with
- 17 prison. I guess they really understood my
- 18 position. And so what I wrote was I wrote -- I
- 19 think the formal title was something like, a
- 20 spiritual survival manual or something like
- 21 that, for Christians in prison. And I wrote
- 22 about the 12 things I wish I would have known
- 23 first. Like I wish I would have known this
- 24 first, quickly. And I started out -- It's based
- 25 on -- The thesis, the whole outline was based on
- 26 Philippians 2, 11 and 12 where it says God has
- 27 worked certain things in you, number one, now

- 1 you work them out with your internment. So the
- 2 first part was the things that a Christian has
- 3 by position when he becomes a Christian. And
- 4 there were six parts talking about the power in
- 5 your life, the relationship. The different
- 6 things that we receive as the identification in
- 7 Christ and who we are. Kind of the static
- 8 things that are given by God. And then the
- 9 second part of the thesis, chapters five through
- 10 ten I guess, something like, starts off with,
- 11 now that you have this position what do you do?
- 12 And it starts off saying, well basically the
- 13 first and only -- well the first, the first and
- 14 most important thing you receive from God is the
- 15 ability to forgive others. Since you have
- 16 received forgiveness now the first thing you do
- 17 is begin to practice that. And so the first
- 18 chapter in the second part is on forgiveness.
- 19 And then the second part is, what do you do now?
- 20 How can you make an impact in your community?
- 21 And it's about, how do you explain yourself to
- 22 other people and how does that attract them to
- 23 change themselves? So what do you say about
- 24 yourself? And in that I go through an outline
- 25 about how to write your own testimony. I mean,
- 26 how to say what you have to say about yourself
- 27 in a very short way. So when you talk to a

- 1 person about it you don't bore him with a long
- 2 list of incidentals that he cares little about
- 3 but that you can paint him an emotional word
- 4 picture that will attract and hook him, get in
- 5 touch with his emotional history. Begin to show
- 6 him, hopefully by the power of God in his heart
- 7 as you speak, that where he has been and the
- 8 things in his life that contribute to his
- 9 present, and the things that he can do in his
- 10 present to assure or help assure an increased
- 11 state of well-being in his future. So that was
- 12 part of teaching another person how to think
- 13 about and talk about who he is, where he came
- 14 from and where he's going.
- 15 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Did you
- 16 get this published at all?
- 17 INMATE DAVIS: You know, I'm still -- No,
- 18 I haven't yet. I was just talking to a friend
- 19 of mine, my editor. We're still going through,
- 20 going through the process. I believe it's going
- 21 to happen. I've had people say, we want to
- 22 publish this. But I don't know, maybe I should
- 23 just give up trying to perfect it and just give
- 24 it to them. It's hard to say, oh, it's
- 25 finished, you know what I mean? You keep
- 26 dabbling with it. I don't know if I'm improving
- 27 it or hurting it. And so we talk about that.

- 1 Then there's a chapter on there's thorns in the
- 2 rose garden. In the marketplace of ideas
- 3 there's all kinds of things being said. People
- 4 in prison because of their relative
- 5 hopelessness, anxiety, fear and so on and so
- 6 forth, are highly, they're vulnerable to any
- 7 information that tends to make them feel better
- 8 or give them hope. And so therefore they're
- 9 vulnerable to all kinds of stories, scams, myths
- 10 and whatever. And so our job is to really
- 11 review the sources of information and talk about
- 12 the reliability of the information and to try to
- 13 see how the reliability of the information
- 14 stacks up against the world that we experience.
- 15 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** You made
- 16 a comment there, you said, our job. Who were
- 17 you referring to?
- 18 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well I'm talking about --
- 19 I'm sorry, I shouldn't have said that. The job
- 20 of the person who is reading this book.
- 21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay.
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** I'm saying look, we're
- 23 together in this and we are all in this
- 24 exploration. And I am going to tell you some of
- 25 the things that I tripped over maybe you can
- 26 avoid. And so I go through and I talked about
- 27 -- The thorns in the rose garden are the things

- 1 from within and the things from without. And
- 2 there are certain things in what we call
- 3 traditional Christianity that are toxic to
- 4 everyone. In other words, the interpretations
- 5 and what it leads to on the social and
- 6 psychological level with the individual. What's
- 7 right, what's accepted, what we can do to make
- 8 it that way. What ought to be done to people
- 9 that disagree or how should they be treated.
- 10 And those kinds of things when they arise in a
- 11 cultural level -- I mean, we have witch hunts
- 12 and inquisitions and wars and all kinds of
- 13 things happen when the bible, as I understand
- 14 it, is misinterpreted and misapplied. So I'm
- 15 just talking to people in terms of, look, the
- 16 first thing we need to admit is we're ignorant
- 17 about most things. And in the end we'll find we
- 18 might have known -- hopefully we'll know a
- 19 little bit of true knowledge about a few things.
- 20 But we are going to admit our ignorance all the
- 21 time and work hard not to be too impressed with
- 22 our own final decisions and our own final
- 23 opinions and certainly not to require others to
- 24 agree.
- 25 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** It sounds
- 26 like a benefit. I'd like to hear more about it
- 27 but we are on somewhat of a schedule.

- 1 INMATE DAVIS: Anyway, so --
- 2 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: You are a
- 3 preacher, aren't you?
- 4 **INMATE DAVIS:** I'm not as -- I'm
- 5 enthusiastic about this.
- 6 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: I can
- 7 tell, I can tell, thank you. Mr. Sequeira, do
- 8 you have any questions?
- 9 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:** I
- 10 have a couple of questions. The inmate
- 11 indicated that he was molested as a young child
- 12 but never told anyone. When did he reveal to
- 13 anyone that he had been molested?
- 14 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: If you remember the
- 15 first time you discussed it.
- 16 INMATE DAVIS: You know, the first person
- 17 I ever told that to is my wife.
- 18 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** What year
- 19 was that?
- 20 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well, probably about 1985,
- 21 '84; '84 or '85.
- 22 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:** Could
- 23 the panel ask, who were the persons that, what
- 24 are the names of the persons who molested him?
- 25 **INMATE DAVIS:** Let me go back just a
- 26 minute. I may have said something about that in
- 27 counseling before but I don't think so. I don't

- 1 remember. I remember when I talked to my wife
- 2 about it that was the time that it really got me
- 3 good. So that's, that's for me, that's the
- 4 watermark for when I really came out and said,
- 5 well, this is what happened. I'm sorry, you had
- 6 another question.
- 7 DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA: My
- 8 follow-up, my follow-up question was, could the
- 9 panel inquire of the inmate as to the names of
- 10 the two individuals who molested him?
- 11 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes.
- 12 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:** What
- 13 were their names.
- 14 INMATE DAVIS: The guy had a nickname,
- 15 his name was Tinker Kirkland. Kirkland was his
- 16 last name and I don't remember his real name.
- 17 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Mr. Davis,
- 18 you need to respond to us, not the deputy.
- 19 **INMATE DAVIS:** Okay. And the next one
- 20 was my seventh -- eighth grade. My eighth grade
- 21 English teacher in Harriman, Tennessee about
- 22 1957, David Bristow.
- 23 DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA: How
- 24 is the last name spelled?
- 25 **INMATE DAVIS:** Probably B-R-I-S-T-O maybe
- 26 W, maybe E, I'm not sure. I'm not sure.
- 27 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:**

- 1 Additionally the question I would have is where
- 2 was the inmate on the evening of August 9th and
- 3 10th of 1969?
- 4 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: If you remember.
- 5 **INMATE DAVIS:** August 9th and 10th?
- 6 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Of '69.
- 7 INMATE DAVIS: Was that -- Are we talking
- 8 about the Tate/LaBianca?
- 9 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:** Yes.
- 10 INMATE DAVIS: Okay. And I'll tell you,
- 11 this was a remarkable thing in that Susan Atkins
- 12 came to me and she says, we're going to go out
- 13 and do something really crazy tonight. And out
- 14 of my mouth came, well, I'm not going. And I
- 15 felt like Dr. Strangelove whose arm would raise
- 16 up and he couldn't control it. Because I had
- 17 never said no to those guys for anything. And I
- 18 said, no, I'm not going, and I had no idea what
- 19 it was about. I said, no, I'm not going. And
- 20 nobody argued. I thought I was going to get a
- 21 lot of flack. Nobody said -- I think she just
- 22 turned around, okay, boom. The next night in
- 23 the Tate case and the LaBianca's, the same thing
- 24 happened. I had these two flashes of good sense
- 25 almost beyond my, way beyond my normal walking
- 26 around, you know. My making bad decisions. As
- 27 soon as I said no and that was over I reverted

- 1 back to my stupidity and just stayed there at
- 2 the ranch. And then when we killed Shorty Shea
- 3 I was right there for it. Right there caught up
- 4 in it. And absolutely without excuse.
- 5 DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA: I
- 6 have no further questions.
- 7 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Do you
- 8 have any questions, Mr. Eisenstat?
- 9 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** This is a brief
- 10 follow-up to what you asked about, Commissioner.
- 11 Sir, you talked at length about your studies; I
- 12 won't go back into that. But how do you think
- 13 going through this process of five or six years
- 14 of getting your master's and your doctorate,
- 15 aside from whatever knowledge you gained, which
- 16 obviously is quite a bit, how do you think the
- 17 process itself has made you more suitable for
- 18 being paroled?
- 19 **INMATE DAVIS:** Well it's the hardest
- 20 thing I ever did as far as being challenged in
- 21 my mind. And it did let me know that I could
- 22 persist to the end of something. And I found
- 23 out that things worthwhile required a lot more
- 24 than I thought they would going in. And that
- 25 even though I thought I'd bitten of a whole more
- 26 than I could chew several times, that in the end
- 27 it came out that I was able to do this. And it

- 1 let me appreciate too other people that I --
- 2 Like Pastor Salsbury and other people that I've
- 3 -- And Roger Keech who is the engineer. It
- 4 really let me appreciate the kind of sweat they
- 5 had to put in with their lives to get to where
- 6 they were. And so I realized that even though
- 7 in my younger life things came -- I only did the
- 8 things that were easy so I never really had to
- 9 worry about struggling against things that were
- 10 difficult. I learned to weld pretty easy and so
- 11 I had a good job. And so I just didn't try to
- 12 do anything that wasn't easy so I, you know.
- 13 And when things got a little difficult I'd just
- 14 move. That was me. So in this process I
- 15 learned to get focused. Basically I really got
- 16 focused that there is something worthwhile to be
- 17 focused on. So once I was motivated that there
- 18 was something actually worth doing. And
- 19 probably the greatest surprise and happiness for
- 20 me, that I was able to participate in that to,
- 21 you know, a significant degree on my own. That
- 22 was a big step in my life. And I think it's
- 23 helped me to not only exercise myself within but
- 24 to really appreciate the work of others and what
- 25 they do and what it takes to get there. Does
- 26 that make any sense?
- 27 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Very much sir.

- 1 Thank you, sir. I have no other questions.
- 2 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay.
- 3 Mr. Sequeira, would you like to close?
- 4 DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA: Thank
- 5 you. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's
- 6 Office remains adamantly opposed to the granting
- 7 of a parole date for inmate Bruce Davis for the
- 8 following reasons: Mr. Davis, first of all,
- 9 began his criminal history with a pattern of
- 10 unstable social interactions. By his own
- 11 admission he had some difficulty as a child. He
- 12 began wandering about, dropped out of college,
- 13 had some tumultuous relationships with his
- 14 parents, and then adopted a lifestyle where he
- 15 joined a cult group. In a sense at that time a
- 16 domestic terrorist organization. He became one
- 17 of Charles Manson's right hand family members.
- 18 Such as to the point where Manson trusted him to
- 19 drive him and other family members to the scene
- 20 of the first murder of which this inmate is
- 21 convicted. But I think the association with
- 22 Charles Manson and his cult following was
- 23 something that was willingly embraced by this
- 24 inmate. And despite the inmate's descriptions
- 25 of being molested as a child and having been
- 26 beaten at the hands of an abusive father I also
- 27 point out that he went to college. He was a

- 1 student. He was certainly functioning on his
- 2 own as an adult. And yet he made choice. He
- 3 made a choice to drop out of school, he made a
- 4 choice to adopt sort of the anti-war, Vietnam
- 5 War philosophy. Which in and of itself wasn't
- 6 bad except that that gravitated towards the
- 7 extremist element, which of course Charles
- 8 Manson and his family and his adoption of this
- 9 concept of Helter Skelter. Which was basically
- 10 to commit some murder in order to start a race
- 11 war in which thousands of people would be
- 12 killed. This inmate was an integral part of
- 13 that culture, part of that family and supported
- 14 it. By sheer luck and circumstance he was not
- 15 involved in the Tate/LaBianca murders but it
- 16 should also be pointed out that Charles Manson
- 17 carefully selected who was going to follow him
- 18 on the night of the Tate/LaBianca murders. And
- 19 I find nothing in the record to indicate that
- 20 Manson tried to select Bruce Davis to attend
- 21 those particular murders. But the family was
- 22 involved in recruiting members and attempting to
- 23 have those members turn over all their valuable
- 24 possessions to the family once they joined and
- 25 Charles Hinman who fit that description. The
- 26 family felt that he was coming into an
- 27 inheritance, he would have approximately \$20,000

- 1 or \$30,000, and so they wanted him to join the
- 2 family. At a minimum, turn over all those
- 3 possessions to the family. And I might point
- 4 out at that time the family lifestyle consisted
- 5 of, as Mr. Davis has mentioned, drugs, free sex,
- 6 poor hygiene, thievery and begging. So there
- 7 was an aspect of an escalating pattern of
- 8 criminal conduct that was occurring within the
- 9 family. This wasn't just petty thefts and
- 10 taking food from trash cans and things of that
- 11 nature. This family was moving towards much
- 12 more serious crimes, which is evidenced by the
- 13 Gary Hinman murder. Bruce Davis drove Manson,
- 14 Bobby Beausoleil, Susan Atkins and Mary Brunner
- 15 to Mr. Hinman's residence, dropped them off.
- 16 They attacked -- Bobby Beausoleil attacked and
- 17 pistol-whipped Mr. Hinman, demanded valuables.
- 18 Mr. Hinman said he didn't have anything. Bruce
- 19 Davis and Manson were then called back to the
- 20 residence. When they came back to the residence
- 21 Charles Manson came in and sliced off
- 22 Mr. Hinman's ear. Bruce Davis was present and
- 23 he was armed with a gun. I find it somewhat
- 24 incredulous that he said he took the gun away
- 25 from Bobby Beausoleil because somebody might get
- 26 hurt. I find that just an example of some type
- 27 of minimization that he somehow was the good guy

- 1 in all this, when in fact he wasn't. Because if
- 2 you look at his activities after the murders,
- 3 when he drives off with one of Hinman's cars and
- 4 brings it back to the ranch, he completes the
- 5 robbery, the residential robbery and murder.
- 6 Which is what this crime was, it was a robbery
- 7 and murder. And in addition it was a torture
- 8 and kidnapping over a period of a few days. And
- 9 Mr. Davis knew exactly what was going on. I
- 10 noted in his version he says he didn't know what
- 11 was going on other than they were going to take
- 12 money. But when the get calls for Manson and
- 13 Bruce Davis to come back to the residence and
- 14 they burst into the residence when they came
- 15 back, that Hinman wasn't cooperating, Bruce
- 16 Davis knew exactly what was going to happen to
- 17 Mr. Hinman if he didn't turn over the loot.
- 18 Hinman was brutally killed and tortured. And
- 19 this inmate, although he did not slice Mr.
- 20 Hinman's ear, certainly participated as an aider
- 21 and abetter, and of course, was one of the
- 22 people who helped carry away the property of Mr.
- 23 Hinman by driving the car away. It is true that
- 24 Mr. Davis was probably not in the room when Mr.
- 25 Hinman was killed. Because what happened as
- 26 they were leaving, Mr. Hinman was still lying
- 27 and gurgling when the girls went back in, Susan

- 1 Atkins and Mary Brunner, and they put pillows
- 2 over Mr. Hinman's face to suffocate him and
- 3 finally finish him off. Although it is somewhat
- 4 deceiving to say, he was very much alive the
- 5 last time I saw him. He was dying and he was
- 6 being tortured at the time, the last time
- 7 Mr. Davis saw Gary Hinman. That crime in and of
- 8 itself did not deter Mr. Hinman (sic) from
- 9 future criminal activity because, and this is
- 10 where I make the connection to his support of
- 11 this whole concept of Helter Skelter and the
- 12 Tate/LaBianca murders.
- 13 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Excuse me,
- 14 Mr. Sequeira, I need to turn the tapes over.
- 15 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:** Yes,
- 16 certainly.
- 17 (The tape was turned over.)
- 18 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Thank you.
- 19 DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:
- 20 Mr. Davis supported the Tate/LaBianca murders by
- 21 participating in the killing of Donald Shea, who
- 22 was believed at the time to have been a police
- 23 informant and somebody who was likely to snitch
- 24 or basically tell the police that the Manson
- 25 family was involved in the Tate/LaBianca
- 26 murders. So because Mr. Shea was believed to be
- 27 a police informant he was driven out to a

- 1 location. He was brutally stabbed, struck in
- 2 the head with a pipe wrench. Stabbed multiple
- 3 times by different assailants, including
- 4 Mr. Davis, and finally decapitated by Steve
- 5 Grogan. I find it interesting that Mr. Davis
- 6 claims that he unwillingly went along with it.
- 7 That he only stabbed the victim after the victim
- 8 was dead and the reason he knew the victim was
- 9 dead was because the victim wasn't bleeding.
- 10 Well that's completely ludicrous because unless
- 11 the victim had been lying there for a
- 12 significant period of time and the blood had
- 13 completely drained out of his body, the stab
- 14 wounds certainly would have caused death.
- 15 That's just a medical fact. So the fact that he
- 16 says that he thought the victim was dead at the
- 17 time that he stabbed him was a minimization of
- 18 this crime and an attempt to somehow put himself
- 19 in a minor role, when in fact he was in a major
- 20 role in this crime. Now, additionally this
- 21 still did not deter the inmate. Because as the
- 22 panel questioned the inmate regarding his arrest
- 23 for possession of a weapon, that occurred after
- 24 both the Hinman and the Shea killings. And 1
- 25 find it interesting that Mr. Davis today said,
- 26 well he didn't know why he gave false
- 27 identification. But he knew darn well why he

- 1 gave false identification at the time. Because
- 2 he was worried about being a suspect in the Shea
- 3 murder and the Hinman murder. Because that gun
- 4 had been used and had been shot at the Hinman
- 5 house. And I find it somewhat deceiving that he
- 6 attempts to tell the panel, well I don't know
- 7 why I gave false identification. Because he was
- 8 worried about being implicated in those murders
- 9 because at that time he had not been arrested or
- 10 charged in either of those two crimes. The
- 11 pattern of minimization of his crime and the
- 12 lack of remorse is also reflected in the last
- 13 psychological report when Dr. Livingston said
- 14 that it was noted that there was nothing said by
- 15 the subject with regards to any feelings that he
- 16 had regarding the two victims. And I think
- 17 that's a valuable portion of the evaluation of
- 18 this inmate is how much remorse does he have.
- 19 He has chosen not to speak regarding the crime,
- 20 which of course he is not obligated to. But the
- 21 fact that he doesn't speak about the crime
- 22 leaves a void. It leaves a void in this hearing
- 23 in terms of how this panel can truly gauge how
- 24 much remorse and how much understanding and
- 25 insight he has into the commission of these
- 26 crimes. All we are left with is his version.
- 27 And as I pointed out, his version appears to be

- 1 a minimization of his involvement and shows a
- 2 lack of understanding and true insight into the
- 3 causative factors that made him commit this
- 4 crime. This inmate, there is something in this
- 5 inmate, as is evident in many of the other
- 6 family members, there is something in this
- 7 inmate that caused them to join this cult and to
- 8 participate in these murders. And there is a
- 9 similarity. Leslie Van Houghton gave the same
- 10 statement about, well, when I stabbed one of the
- 11 victims in the Tate/LaBianca she was already
- 12 dead. It's the same excuse. How difficult is
- 13 it to come to grips with the fact that you
- 14 stabbed someone with the intent to kill them,
- 15 which is what he is denying. Both of these
- 16 crimes in and of themselves if they were
- 17 committed today, of course, would make him
- 18 eligible for the death penalty or life in prison
- 19 without the possibility of parole. And actually
- 20 individually each of these crimes would have
- 21 made, on today's date, this inmate, Bruce Davis,
- 22 eligible for a minimum sentence of life in
- 23 prison without possibility of parole. The first
- 24 one was a robbery/murder. Actually kind of a
- 25 kidnapping/imprisonment/murder. The second one
- 26 is the killing of a potential witness, which is
- 27 a special circumstance, which would also make

- 1 him eligible for a minimum sentence of life in
- 2 prison without the possibility of parole or the
- 3 death penalty. So I think in weighing all of
- 4 the factors of suitability with respect to this
- 5 inmate, the commitment factors alone, the
- 6 escalating pattern of violence, the non-
- 7 supportive psychological evaluation all far
- 8 greatly outweigh any factors of suitability.
- 9 Therefore this inmate should be denied parole
- 10 and I would ask for at least a two year denial,
- 11 thank you.
- 12 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Thank
- 13 you. Would you like to close?
- 14 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Yes, thank you,
- 15 Commissioner. Obviously I'm in complete
- 16 disagreement. And it's interesting when you
- 17 become an attorney you take an oath to defend
- 18 your client or represent your client. But when
- 19 you become a district attorney you take another
- 20 oath, and I believe Mr. Sequeira will correct me
- 21 if I'm wrong, that one of the things you are
- 22 doing because you are working for the people,
- 23 you take an oath to uphold the law as well. To
- 24 prosecute and faithfully uphold the law, or
- 25 words to that effect. And in listening to his
- 26 remarks, and not his personally but on behalf of
- 27 his office, it strikes me as that what the

- 1 People's position throughout this process of
- 2 many, many years, of decades has been, is not to
- 3 uphold the law but to argue in a way that's
- 4 popular, might appeal to your instincts, to your
- 5 emotions, but not the law. Because the main
- 6 point that Mr. Sequeira closed on was if this
- 7 happened today this would be a death penalty
- 8 case or it would be an LWOP, a life without
- 9 parole case. And I think ultimately what the
- 10 People are arguing is that, you know what, we
- 11 don't like the law. We don't like the fact that
- 12 my client has the opportunity to be paroled. So
- 13 what we're asking the Board to do is subvert the
- 14 law with a wink and a little nod. We all know
- 15 this is a bad case. We all know that terrible
- 16 things have happened. We don't think he
- 17 deserves to get out but the law says otherwise.
- 18 And that is what I am going to be in part
- 19 arguing about is that it is your duty, as you
- 20 gentlemen have also taken an oath, to uphold the
- 21 law. Now that may not be politically popular,
- 22 and I certainly have no doubt that if my client
- 23 did not have this connection with this
- 24 completely horrific set of circumstances, you
- 25 wouldn't have a special DA just for this case,
- 26 as opposed to all the other LA cases that you're
- 27 going to have later on. We wouldn't have -- The

- 1 notoriety that surrounds this case puts it in a
- 2 situation that is different but that does not
- 3 change the law. If the District Attorney's
- 4 Office doesn't like the law they certainly have
- 5 the wherewithal to try to change it, they
- 6 certainly have the wherewithal then to try and
- 7 induce whatever they could at that time to have
- 8 it changed. But they are stuck with the law.
- 9 And as opposed to subverting the law and saying,
- 10 this is why, what they're really saying is that
- 11 this should be an LWOP case or it should be a
- 12 death penalty case. But that's not what the law
- 13 says and that is not what your function is.
- 14 Your function is to apply the law fairly without
- 15 prejudice. And essentially what the People's
- 16 position is throughout, is let's appeal to the
- 17 baser instincts. But when you do that, when you
- 18 subvert the law, not only is my client not
- 19 protected but we lose those protections as well.
- 20 So I think it is very important to understand,
- 21 as you started in the very beginning of the
- 22 hearing, Commissioner, that you should not be
- 23 paroled unless you are not an unreasonable risk.
- 24 And virtually none of the argument that was put
- 25 forth by the People has to deal with an
- 26 unreasonable risk. I note that he did talk a
- 27 little bit about the last psych report but I

- 1 don't think it's any coincidence, as I was
- 2 looking through these, that I believe as far
- 3 back as 1991, and I was reviewing the psych
- 4 reports, they talked about my client's not being
- 5 a risk. One report says he is no risk, one said
- 6 he's below average. One says, 1994, undoubtedly
- 7 below average, 1991, below average. And it
- 8 seems to me that if the people were trying to
- 9 follow the law that just as a matter of fairness
- 10 they would bring up those matters as well. And
- 11 none of that, of course, was brought up. And
- 12 even though the Board Reports no longer allow
- 13 for an assessment of dangerousness I note that
- 14 the last three reports all indicate below
- 15 average. None of that is mentioned. Again,
- 16 essentially what the people are trying to do is
- 17 to re-litigate this case so they can say, this
- 18 is a horrible thing, it's really notorious. We
- 19 can't let this notorious man go free, even
- 20 though he has done absolutely everything that
- 21 this Board and the previous Board and the Board
- 22 before that and the Board before that has
- 23 requested. Every time they said, this is what
- 24 we want you to do. We want you to remain
- 25 disciplinary-free. Commissioner Smith went into
- 26 great detail about not only his minimal history,
- 27 but I believe the last serious violation was

- 1 over 23 years ago if my memory serves. So
- 2 that's done. The Board wanted him to upgrade.
- 3 Well, my client has a variety of vocations.
- 4 Commissioner Sawyer, you went into great length
- 5 asking him about what it took to get the
- 6 position he did in terms of his doctorate and
- 7 what was involved in that. It wasn't some fly-
- 8 by-night operation. He's prepared a thesis,
- 9 he's written it, it may ultimately be published.
- 10 But again, those are all the things that for
- 11 whatever reason the People decided not to talk
- 12 about. Clearly the facts of this case will
- 13 never change. The facts of his upbringing will
- 14 never change. The question becomes, based upon
- 15 what he has done, what you as the State have
- 16 asked of him, what he's done while in custody
- 17 has that made him a person who is now a
- 18 reasonable, or not an unreasonable risk to be
- 19 allowed in the community. Because the law does
- 20 not require, as it does in a criminal trial,
- 21 beyond a reasonable doubt. It doesn't say that
- 22 he has to be no risk. It says he has to -- As
- 23 long as he is not an unreasonable risk. And I
- 24 don't think I heard anything in the People's
- 25 closing that talks about why he is an
- 26 unreasonable risk other than the fact that 30-
- 27 some odd years ago, I think I was eight years

- 1 old when these things happened, that he did
- 2 terrible acts. Which clearly he did. He's
- 3 never denied that. I also would note that in
- 4 both the psych reports and in the Board Reports,
- 5 not just this one, they do talk at length at
- 6 various times, and I would invite the Board to
- 7 look through those as part of its deliberations.
- 8 He does talk about his remorse. He does talk
- 9 about how badly he feels. He talked today about
- 10 those poor decisions that he made then. And
- 11 again, there is no excuse. And one of the
- 12 things I think it was Commissioner Smith was
- 13 talking about was NA and AA. My client was
- 14 talking about, well, it's been helpful. And I
- 15 wish it was more helpful because he understood
- 16 that some of the people here are here because
- 17 the Board has said, you must do this. Well he's
- 18 doing it not because the Board is saying he must
- 19 do it, he's doing it to become a better person.
- 20 And that's one of the reasons he feels that when
- 21 he does go to those hearings -- not hearings --
- 22 those meetings in the outside world that they
- 23 will actually even have greater impact. Again
- 24 he could have just kind of toed the party line.
- 25 Oh, it was wonderful, it was perfect, oh yeah, I
- 26 learned a lot. Instead he again showed the
- 27 reflection in talking about how not that it

- 1 wasn't bad but how it could be better. So I do
- 2 think that -- And that does go, I think, hand in
- 3 glove with being remorseful in terms of having
- 4 the ability to reflect. Now, if we were doing
- 5 this hearing at his minimum eligibility date I
- 6 think he probably would have given a different
- 7 answer. Then it probably didn't mean that much.
- 8 But that minimum eligibility date occurred 20,
- 9 almost 30 years ago, 28 years ago if my math is
- 10 right. And I would submit that that was the
- 11 portion in which, perhaps, the People's argument
- 12 about how bad the crime was may have been
- 13 relevant then because the MEPD date has to deal
- 14 with the punishment aspect. And if what the
- 15 people are arguing about is he hasn't been
- 16 punished enough, then again the law says
- 17 otherwise. And again that comes back to what
- 18 your job is, part of your job is, is to follow
- 19 the law. Because once he is past the minimum
- 20 eligibility date he is eligible at that point.
- 21 And that's where the Board has to take into
- 22 account the other factors, is he suitable? We
- 23 know he has tremendous family support. We know
- 24 he has tremendous job potential. We know that
- 25 he has tremendous social support. We know that
- 26 he has a stick-to-it-iveness and ability to
- 27 follow things through that he did not have when

- 1 he came here. And one of the things that struck
- 2 me, not only the letter, of course, from Judge
- 3 Clark, which was a complete anomaly in terms of
- 4 his recommendation. As he mentioned, it's the
- 5 first time he's ever done that. But one of the
- 6 other things that again struck me was this
- 7 division of resources. Where are we going to
- 8 spend our resources as a society? The People,
- 9 the District Attorney's Office felt it was a
- 10 worthwhile use of their resources to send a
- 11 special person up here, as opposed to perhaps
- 12 working on other cases. We all know that there
- 13 is a tremendous cost in keeping my client
- 14 incarcerated and I know we spoke about this
- 15 briefly yesterday in another case. But it seems
- 16 to me that one of the issues as to, that goes
- 17 into the mix is not only is he an unreasonable
- 18 risk but is he safe to be returned to society?
- 19 Because are we going to spend the money that it
- 20 costs to incarcerate Mr. Davis on him or are we
- 21 going to put it someplace where it really is
- 22 needed in terms of making this a better and
- 23 safer society. Because every time you keep a
- 24 person like Mr. Davis in that's another program
- 25 for people who need more rehabilitative
- 26 services, or psychiatric services or supervision
- 27 is not going to happen. And I would submit that

- 1 keeping people like Mr. Davis in has the exact
- 2 opposite intended effect. It does not make
- 3 society safer. It, in fact, weakens society
- 4 because we are spending money on something that
- 5 is not necessary. It's like barring the door
- 6 when the horse has left the barn. It's a
- 7 useless act that may look good, it may have good
- 8 political window dressing, but it has no real
- 9 purpose. It doesn't make -- I will not sleep
- 10 safer and better at night knowing that Mr. Davis
- 11 is here and I don't think anyone else will. I
- 12 don't think it will have any effect whatsoever
- 13 in that regard. So I would ask the Board to go
- 14 over not just this most recent report, which I
- 15 believe is not powerfully written, but go over
- 16 the history, the totality. Because as I say,
- 17 from my reading of the reports going back for
- 18 approximately 15 years, all the psychiatrists
- 19 say he is not a risk. All of them talk about
- 20 that. Going back, again, to the last century
- 21 the Board Reports say he is not a risk. I think
- 22 we are at a point where the Board needs to
- 23 determine what we are going to do with people,
- 24 not just Mr. Davis but people like Mr. Davis,
- 25 who have done everything you have asked them to
- 26 do. There is not only a legal contract but
- 27 there is a social contract here. You have

- 1 requested of him certain things. You said, we
- 2 want you to do these things. He has done those
- 3 things. I believe that the Board in good faith
- 4 has to follow-up on its end of the bargain, if
- 5 you will. That once we request these things,
- 6 discipline-free, good trades, higher education,
- 7 good programming, helping others, and you have
- 8 done a sufficient amount of time. And I would
- 9 submit he has done well more than a sufficient
- 10 amount of time because that elapsed in 1977. I
- 11 think the Board has to follow through on its
- 12 and. And for those reasons I would request that
- 13 the Board grant a date and submit.
- 14 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Thank you.
- 15 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Thank
- 16 you. Mr. Davis, this is your opportunity to
- 17 tell us, from you, why you feel you are suitable
- 18 for parole at this time.
- 19 INMATE DAVIS: Well, I believe from kind
- 20 of a rough start to sort of a most abstract
- 21 reason is that from all I can tell from what I
- 22 have seen, by what was told to me when I was
- 23 sentenced and when I first came to the Parole
- 24 Board, that there were going to be certain
- 25 requirements of time and my energy directed in a
- 26 way that they recommend and they said, you do
- 27 these things. And the spirit of the rules under

- 1 which I was then in 1977 said, you're going to
- 2 do X amount of years for the murders absolutely.
- 3 And then if you do the rehabilitation things in
- 4 an acceptable way then you are going to get
- 5 consideration for not doing a whole lot more
- 6 than that. But if on the other hand, if you
- 7 don't cooperate with the CDC and do the right
- 8 thing and keep aggravating your time you could
- 9 do forever. So I began to put that together in
- 10 my head over a period of time and saw that, you
- 11 know, it really is in my best interest to do the
- 12 right thing. And I had a lot of motivation for
- 13 doing the right thing by that part of the '70s.
- 14 And I started doing it as well as I could. And
- 15 I've worked to meet all the requirements and to
- 16 go beyond that. I wanted to do it for -- It
- 17 started out, well I'll do it because they want
- 18 me to, okay. And it was and I was pretty, I was
- 19 kind of feeling like a big victim, right. Oh,
- 20 these people, blah, blah, blah, Well, I
- 21 got over that. I began to see that, you know,
- 22 this is a whole lot better than -- They are
- 23 recommending to me the things that are really
- 24 going to help me. And just because it's hard is
- 25 no reason for me to resist it. And that had
- 26 been my pattern. But once I got into it and
- 27 started to see that the things that were being

- 1 recommended to me actually were helping me I
- 2 began to wake up to that and said, okay, I'm
- 3 beginning to see it. Now you don't have to give
- 4 me a lot of motivation. For many years now I
- 5 haven't needed a lot of external motivation to
- 6 do the things that I was told that were required
- 7 of me in the beginning. So I've done what I
- 8 could. I prepared myself with the grace of God
- 9 to be the best I can be with what I have. I
- 10 wish that if there's something else I need to do
- 11 that I could take control of and take
- 12 responsibility for I'm open to hear it. So, you
- 13 know, I don't know. I don't know what else I
- 14 could do. I've done everything that I, that I
- 15 could think would be worthwhile. And mostly I
- 16 just want to do the right things. And I found
- 17 out that that's good. You know, I've changed a
- 18 lot. I mean, when I look back at the person
- 19 that did the crimes I did. Oh, it was me,
- 20 absolutely. And I did it and I knew what I was
- 21 doing and I wasn't duped or victimized by other
- 22 people. I was self-centered and stupid and
- 23 indifferent to the life of Gary Hinman and
- 24 Donald Shea. But I've seen past that. I've
- 25 seen me grow to a person that is horrified by
- 26 what I did. And I don't know. When I think,
- 27 well, what else could I do? I don't know. I

- 1 can't see anything other than just keep on doing
- 2 what I'm doing. Do I deserve to be paroled? I
- 3 don't suppose so, in the sense of deserve. I
- 4 can't -- I can't -- I don't know what is
- 5 required. If somebody were to have said, we
- 6 want you to do just this much time and do just
- 7 these things then maybe we could get down to
- 8 where I could say, okay, I did that much time
- 9 and I did just those things, like that in a very
- 10 specific way. Then I could say, okay, I've
- 11 gotten there so now I can say (inaudible).
- 12 You're very specific. I've only satisfied in a
- 13 very general way so it's hard to quantify
- 14 (inaudible). I'm sure I don't deserve mercy. I
- 15 hope to have some but I don't deserve it. I
- 16 believe I would be a productive part of society
- 17 and I look forward to it. I know I'm needed by
- 18 my daughter and my wife. And in my own way I
- 19 want to be out there. I've missed over half my
- 20 life because of my own acts. (Inaudible). The
- 21 district attorney did make a -- I'm sure he
- 22 didn't do this on purpose but Gary Hinman was
- 23 not decapitated. There may or may not -- I'm
- 24 sure that's an (inaudible). I had a special
- 25 circumstance when I (inaudible). Later on it
- 26 was found -- When his body was (inaudible)
- 27 decapitated, et cetera. And so the special

- 1 circumstances were taken off. That was about
- 2 1976. And the gun I bought with the phony ID I
- 3 bought way before any of this happened and I
- 4 still have no excuse for that. But I'm just
- 5 saying, just to get the calendar right here.
- 6 The fact is I didn't stab Gary. I cut him with
- 7 the tip of the knife and that was it. On his
- 8 shoulder through his clothes. And I did say --
- 9 And I didn't think he was -- I thought he was
- 10 dead because he wasn't bleeding. And I admit at
- 11 that point it was saying, well, that's
- 12 minimization, yeah, I was not accepting
- 13 responsibility for it. However, the truth is
- 14 the truth. I didn't stab him like a thrust of
- 15 the knife. I cut him on the shoulder to -- I
- 16 mean, they were standing there, I had to do
- 17 something and I did that. And I was weak and I
- 18 wish I hadn't done it, but I did. And I don't
- 19 mean for that to say, well, because you did that
- 20 you weren't involved. I was involved. I could
- 21 have -- I didn't -- I didn't physically resist
- 22 when they said, let's go. You know, there was
- 23 probably several things I could have done and I
- 24 didn't do it. So I sure am guilty for what I
- 25 did, absolutely. So does all that add up that I
- 26 should get a parole? Well yes, from my point of
- 27 view, yes. I look forward to it. My wife was

- 1 telling me, she said, I hate it when you go. I
- 2 get all built up and think and then I'm
- 3 disappointed. Well, I can identify. But I know
- 4 that I'm the one that got myself into this. If
- 5 I ever get out it would be the grace of God.
- 6 I'm sort of at, I'm on the mercy of the court so
- 7 to speak and I realize that. I believe I'll do
- 8 well with whatever happens. I have a great
- 9 future without regard to what anybody else does.
- 10 I just hope I can spend it out there with my
- 11 family and get a chance to maybe do something
- 12 material to show that I have remorse and that I,
- 13 that I have rethought it all and to get a chance
- 14 to give it back. You know, I didn't realize for
- 15 a long time what a bad deal the Tate/LaBianca
- 16 and the Manson thing had caused until my wife
- 17 said, you know, you ought to read Helter
- 18 Skelter. And this was in '85. And I had always
- 19 gone through the, well, I just didn't want to
- 20 look at it. And I would always say, I was
- 21 around those guys, I know what happened, blah,
- 22 blah, blah. And so I didn't really have to deal
- 23 with it the way everybody else did. So I read
- 24 this book and it was, oh man. I was reading it
- 25 and it was right on. I mean, I was going, oh
- 26 man. And there was something about it that
- 27 really brought it home to, this is bigger than

- 1 you thought. This was bigger than you have ever
- 2 been willing to look at. About a year ago an
- 3 officer sitting on our floor, I was going out
- 4 the door and he said, hey Davis, come here a
- 5 minute. He said, were you involved with Charlie
- 6 Manson there? And said, yeah. He said, I was
- 7 only six years old. And he started telling me
- 8 about the fear that it caused, he was living in
- 9 LA, and just all kinds of stuff. And it really,
- 10 you know. So my picture is becoming more and
- 11 more complete of the destruction and the loss
- 12 and all the kinds of things that I was involved
- 13 in doing. And all that to say, I really, I
- 14 really pray for a chance to rectify that so to
- 15 whatever degree that my life allows from this
- 16 day forward. And I appreciate your attention.
- 17 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Thank you,
- 18 Mr. Davis.
- 19 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Thank
- 20 you.
- 21 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Thank you,
- 22 Commissioners.
- 23 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: We are
- 24 going to recess for deliberations and the time
- 25 is 1:49.
- 26 R E C E S S
- 27 **--000--**

- 1 CALIFORNIA BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS
- 2 DECISION
- 3 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** We are back
- 4 on the record. Everyone previously identified
- 5 is back in the hearing room.
- 6 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay, the
- 7 time is 2:23. The panel has received all of the
- 8 information from the public and relied on the
- 9 following circumstances in concluding the
- 10 prisoner is not suitable for parole and would
- 11 pose an unreasonable risk of danger to society
- 12 or a threat to public safety if released from
- 13 prison. The offense, the commitment offense,
- 14 the victims in this case, both Mr. Gary Hinman
- 15 and Donald Shea were beaten, certainly abused
- 16 and mutilated during the commission of these two
- 17 different offenses. The motive for this
- 18 particular crime was money, property. It was
- 19 certainly robbery in the Hinman case, a kidnap
- 20 in the Hinman case, torture in the Hinman case
- 21 as well as torture in the Shea case. The crimes
- 22 were done in an especially cruel and callous
- 23 manner by the defendant's people. Mr. Davis
- 24 does not have an extensive rap sheet. His pre-
- 25 convictions dealt with minor crimes, primarily
- 26 marijuana, receiving stolen property. He was
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 1 09/27/05

- 1 arrested for receiving stolen property, grand
- 2 theft auto, contributing to the delinquency of a
- 3 minor. Those were all dropped. He was arrested
- 4 for another case for receiving stolen property,
- 5 no disposition in some of these. And then
- 6 arrested for fraudulently obtaining a firearm by
- 7 giving false information to a firearms dealer,
- 8 for which he had a warrant up until 1998 that
- 9 has been rescinded. But most of his unstable
- 10 and tumultuous relationship was in the cult
- 11 itself, in the Manson family cult, leading up to
- 12 these particular crimes. Leading up to and
- 13 during and after these particular crimes. A
- 14 life geared towards sex, drugs, poor hygiene,
- 15 thievery and begging was the promoted lifestyle.
- 16 And that certainly -- He was just out of
- 17 control. It's probably more of a haze than
- 18 facts, specific facts to remember during that
- 19 period of your life, Mr. Davis, because of the
- 20 abuse that you were doing to yourself. Your
- 21 institutional behavior, sir, has been
- 22 outstanding. There is just no question about
- 23 it. Currently working as a bridging clerk. You
- 24 have been a rec aide. You're teaching bible and
- 25 parenting classes, personal growth seminars.
- 26 Yokefellows, you're involvement in Yokefellows
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 2 09/27/05

- 1 has been noted many times. You have received
- 2 since you've been down a welder, you have
- 3 received certification in welding in the past as
- 4 well as a drafting certificate and feel that the
- 5 drafting and welding are employable skills.
- 6 Without a doubt, clearly, receiving your
- 7 doctorate in 2002 was something I know I'll
- 8 probably use in subsequent hearings. When
- 9 somebody says to me they can't get their
- 10 education while they are in custody I'm going to
- 11 hold you up sir to say, not by name, but I will
- 12 hold you up and say, I know a guy who's got his
- 13 master's. And I know what can be done and you
- 14 have proved it. And I enjoyed, I enjoyed
- 15 speaking with you and listening to you today. I
- 16 think you had some interesting things to say
- 17 about the institution. Your three 115s, many
- 18 years ago, the last one in 1980. The five 128s
- 19 in 1992, you have distanced yourself from those
- 20 sufficiently to where there's no question about
- 21 that you have got a good handle on your behavior
- 22 and it's hard to do. As my partner said, you
- 23 clearly are and that's very hard to do. You
- 24 should be commended in that area. The
- 25 psychological done by Joe Livingston on 10/28 of
- 26 '03. I'm just going to give you the last half
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 3 09/27/05

- 1 of the sentence in the last part. It's probably
- 2 more accurate to include that this is under risk
- 3 of violence. It's probably more accurate to
- 4 include that this subject's level of risk for
- 5 future violence in the free community is low to
- 6 moderate level. There's always this question
- 7 about, what is, is? What is low to moderate
- 8 when a psychologist says that? We're not quite
- 9 sure at this point. If we're going to say
- 10 something we're going to say it's probably a
- 11 good psych, a good psych report. You're low to
- 12 moderate according to the psychologist. In the
- 13 area of parole plans. You desperately want to
- 14 -- and it tears my heart out, sir. You
- 15 desperately want to live with your wife and
- 16 daughter. And I can hear that in your voice and
- 17 I see that in your face and I certainly can
- 18 understand that. They're currently living in a
- 19 condominium in Grover Beach in San Luis Obispo
- 20 County. And there was an indication in the file
- 21 that said as far as your future plans it said,
- 22 employment, letters of support for and
- 23 employment opportunities expected to be in the
- 24 Central File or this file. There wasn't any for
- 25 the employment areas but I did go back in a
- 26 couple of your -- I did go back in the last
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 4 09/27/05

- 1 couple of years and extracted the Marine
- 2 Exchange in Los Angeles to work there. I have a
- 3 Campbell-Taylor Insurance Company to work there.
- 4 And I saw somewhere and I couldn't find it,
- 5 that's what was taking me so long, I couldn't
- 6 find it and I'm going to ask you. You had an
- 7 offer for an associate pastor job at a church
- 8 here?
- 9 INMATE DAVIS: Last year Pastor Salsbury,
- 10 he wrote a letter. He had some health problems
- 11 and he didn't get into a long letter here.
- 12 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: As far as
- 13 you know does that offer still stand?
- 14 INMATE DAVIS: Well I couldn't speak for
- 15 him but I wouldn't say -- I don't know.
- 16 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER:** Okay.
- 17 **INMATE DAVIS:** I just don't know.
- 18 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: A strong
- 19 I don't know.
- 20 **INMATE DAVIS:** Things can happen.
- 21 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Okay, all
- 22 right. Things weren't prepared adequately
- 23 enough this time. I had to go search for your
- 24 job. That needs to -- For your next hearing in
- 25 a year you're going to need to kind of firm up
- 26 the, firm up the plans. And quite frankly given
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 5 09/27/05

- 1 this, you're eligible for social security. Not
- 2 a lot of money. You and I are. And so that's
- 3 one source.
- 4 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yeah.
- 5 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: And you
- 6 can make note of that too if somebody doesn't
- 7 figure that out. And the other is, because
- 8 we're in our sixties now, you know, we're facing
- 9 retirement in the face and that's another
- 10 option. So then I'd need to know a little bit
- 11 more about your wife's ability to support you.
- 12 So that's an area that --
- 13 **INMATE DAVIS:** For next year.
- 14 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Yes, yes
- 15 sir.
- 16 **INMATE DAVIS:** Will do.
- 17 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: The Los
- 18 Angeles District Attorney's Office, represented
- 19 by Mr. Sequeira, was in opposition. I again
- 20 want to commend you, sir, for your doctorate,
- 21 your master's degree, all the other education
- 22 leading up to that. The Yokefellows, teaching
- 23 bible and parenting classes. Doing service
- 24 internally. God's got some plans for you and
- 25 he's using you from the looks of it.
- 26 **INMATE DAVIS:** Sure.
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 6 09/27/05

- 1 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Your job
- 2 as a bridging clerk and rec aide and your other
- 3 skills. Again to be commended on your
- 4 disciplinary. However this crime, this crime
- 5 sir, was horrific. As you mentioned, and I
- 6 found it interesting when you read Helter
- 7 Skelter. You mentioned that how terrified Los
- 8 Angeles was. How much impact the Manson cult
- 9 had on Los Angeles from these horrific murders.
- 10 It affected a lot of lives. I was a cop for two
- 11 years when that went down. I was in the
- 12 neighborhood. I worked the freeways, I worked
- 13 I-5 in the Los Feliz area. I grew up in the San
- 14 Fernando Valley by Chatsworth so I related very
- 15 well to all of this going on. And I worked with
- 16 Mr. Grogan's brother.
- 17 **INMATE DAVIS:** He's a CHP right?
- 18 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: That's
- 19 right. I was on the CHP. And so we're going to
- 20 deny one year, sir. Tune it up, good luck to
- 21 you. The standard recommendations: Stay
- 22 discipline-free, you know how to do that.
- 23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** We were also
- 24 going to ask for a brand new psychosocial
- 25 evaluation since the last one was in 2003.
- 26 **ATTORNEY EISENSTAT:** Yes, we would
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 7 09/27/05

- 1 request that Commissioner as well, thank you.
- 2 **INMATE DAVIS:** Another psych report?
- 3 ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Yes.
- 4 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Yes, sir.
- 5 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Which I
- 6 wouldn't anticipate you would have any trouble
- 7 with. I would be very surprised if there was
- 8 one that was negative. But having one more
- 9 current is in your best interest. And I would
- 10 also like to say, to trail on Commissioner
- 11 Sawyer, you have been married for 20 years and
- 12 maintaining a marriage relationship for 20 years
- 13 is kind of like establishing a disciplinary-free
- 14 history. It's not easy and you are to be
- 15 commended for that. But even with that being
- 16 said, the two of you have never had the
- 17 opportunity and the joy of being able to live
- 18 together. Which I'm certainly not doubting your
- 19 success, but that creates a whole other set of
- 20 situations for you, as are aware.
- 21 **INMATE DAVIS:** Yes.
- 22 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** And should a
- 23 worse situation occur and you find yourself
- 24 living alone, your history tells us that up
- 25 until '72 you didn't do well making decisions
- 26 living alone. That's part of the reason why the
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 8 09/27/05

- 1 Commissioner said, we need something a little
- 2 bit more firm about what you are going to be
- 3 doing in the community. Where you are going to
- 4 be working. We know where you are going to be
- 5 living, and we trust that will be the case. But
- 6 where are you going to be working? Because the
- 7 last thing we would want to see would be you to
- 8 be on your own without employment, just based on
- 9 your history. And that's a question that not
- 10 only we ask of ourselves, but if you're granted
- 11 a date, and although it's been certainly a very,
- 12 very long time that you have been incarcerated,
- 13 I do believe you are getting close to a date.
- 14 Those kinds of questions, we grant a date or
- 15 another panel grants a date, those are the kinds
- 16 of questions that are going to be asked by legal
- 17 staff and the Governor's Office. And if we
- 18 haven't adequately asked those questions and
- 19 provided those answers they're simply going to
- 20 rescind your date. Once you get a date we'd
- 21 like to have it hold.
- 22 **INMATE DAVIS:** Absolutely.
- 23 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH:** Okay. So I
- 24 wish you well.
- 25 **INMATE DAVIS:** I appreciate your
- 26 recommendations.
- 27 BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 9 09/27/05

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1
          DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH: Okay. Good
2
   luck to you, sir.
3
          PRESIDING COMMISSIONER SAWYER: Good luck
 4
   to you, sir.
5
          DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH: Counsel,
6
  thank you.
7
          INMATE DAVIS: Thank you both.
8
         ATTORNEY EISENSTAT: Thank you.
          DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SMITH: Mr. Sequeira,
10
  thank you.
11
          DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SEQUEIRA:
12
  (Overlapping).
13
                         --000--
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
   PAROLE DENIED ONE YEAR
24
   THIS DECISION WILL BE FINAL ON: Jan. 25, 2006
25
   YOU WILL BE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED, IF PRIOR TO THAT
```

DATE, THE DECISION IS MODIFIED.

BRUCE DAVIS B-41079 DECISION PAGE 10 09/27/05

26

27

## CERTIFICATE AND DECLARATION OF TRANSCRIBER

I, RAMONA COTA, a duly designated transcriber, PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING, do hereby declare and certify under penalty of perjury that I have transcribed tape(s) which total one in number and cover a total of pages numbered 1 - 89, and which recording was duly recorded at CALIFORNIA MEN'S COLONY, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, in the matter of the SUBSEQUENT PAROLE CONSIDERATION HEARING OF BRUCE DAVIS, CDC NO. B-41079, ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2005, and that the foregoing pages constitute a true, complete, and accurate transcription of the aforementioned tape to the best of my ability.

I hereby certify that I am a disinterested party in the above-mentioned matter and have no interest in the outcome of the hearing.

Dated October 17, 2005, at Sacramento County, California.

Ramona Cota Transcriber

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