



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE

Tim Ward, *District Attorney*

PRESS RELEASE

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PORTERVILLE MAN DENIED PAROLE FOR 1990 MURDER OF WIFE

Yesterday at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville, a California parole board denied parole for Juan Renaldo Gonzales, age 58, for the stabbing murder of his wife in 1990. Gonzales received 3 year denial and is not eligible for another hearing until 2020.

Around 1:00 a.m. on April 6, 1990, Porterville police officers responded to the Paul Bunyon motel/bar parking lot regarding a disturbance between Gonzales and his wife Teresa, the victim. Teresa's friend was with them. When officers arrived, the victim assured them there had been no assault, though her friend later said Gonzales was jealous and had tried to choke Teresa.

Less than an hour later officers were called to the victim's address regarding a stabbing. Gonzales had dragged his wife out of the car and into the yard, where he stabbed her in the chest while she was on the ground. The victim escaped and ran to the sofa in the house, holding her shirt to her chest, and sat beside her 8-year-old son. The couple's other young sons, ages 4 and 14, were awakened by the commotion. The 14-year-old son asked his father to give him the knife but Gonzales refused and told them all to return to their rooms. However, two of the boys saw their father walk over to their mother, take her shirt away, kneel down and kiss her, then stab her in the chest, twisting the knife and saying "This is how it felt when you were dancing with the other guy." Gonzales stabbed his wife three more times and ultimately stabbed her a total of eight times.

Gonzales was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to 26 years to life in prison. Prior to this crime, Gonzales was convicted of voluntary manslaughter and sentenced to 2 years in prison for killing a man with a pool stick in 1978. In 1985, he was convicted of assault with a deadly weapon for threatening to stab a man in the neck with a ballpoint pen.

This is Gonzales' fourth denial of parole. The District Attorney's Office routinely attends parole hearings and a Supervising Deputy District Attorney argued against the inmate's release in this case.

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