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PAROLE REVOKED AFTER 1984 MURDER SUSPECT ARRESTED ON NEW CHARGES

Santa Cruz County District Attorney Jeffrey S. Rosell announced today that parole was revoked for convicted murderer Gary Randolph Gray. Gray, who was convicted of murdering Raul Lopez in 1984, had been granted parole over the District Attorney's objections in February 2018. He was released from prison by the Board of Parole to a drug treatment program, but left the program after a few months. His whereabouts were unknown until he was arrested for a new offense in Oregon. At the hearing yesterday, the Board of Parole revoked his parole and returned Mr. Gray to prison to continue serving his life sentence.

Assistant District Attorney Charlie Baum represented the District Attorney's Office at the hearing. "Mr. Gray should never have been released," he said. "His offense in 1984 was brutal - he robbed the victim of his groceries and then threw him off a bridge, even though the victim was totally cooperative and was begging for his life. He received a life sentence for this heinous crime, and that should have meant life." Baum also noted that Gray had no post-release plans or skills, which put him at a high risk to re-offend.

Mr. Gray will be eligible for reconsideration for parole in one year.