



# LONG BEACH POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

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March 2019

Board of Parole Hearings  
ATTN: PRE-HEARING CORRESPONDENCE  
P.O. Box 4036  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4036

**Re: John J. Drew – CDCR #D-96556**  
**Parole Hearing Scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2019**

Dear Representative,

I am strongly opposed to the early release of inmate John J. Drew.

On June 21, 1990, at 8:00 p.m., Long Beach Police Officers Ruben Spangenthal and Michael Garner attempted a traffic stop on a two-passenger motorcycle that had just run a stop sign. Instead of stopping, the motorcycle led several officers on a chase throughout the Carmelitos Housing Project. During the pursuit, the driver, John J. Drew, fired several gunshots at the pursuing officers. He and his passenger, Estle Caballero, also threw small baggies of suspected narcotics from their persons in an attempt to destroy evidence.

The suspects' motorcycle eventually overturned after making a wide turn. Immediately after falling off the bike, both Drew and Caballero began firing at pursuing officers. LBPD Officers Spangenthal, Garner, and James Clark all returned gunfire. Both Drew and Caballero attempted to escape on foot, but they were eventually located. When Officer Robert Stuart found John Drew's hiding location, Drew attempted to fire his weapon again. Officer Stuart responded in self-defense, and fired his weapon at Drew, striking him three times. Caballero was located nearby with a wound to his left ankle that was most likely incurred during the initial gun battle with police officers. Numerous civilian witness statements corroborated the account of events provided by the Long Beach Police Officers who were present.

Both Drew and Caballero were charged in a felony complaint alleging four counts of attempted murder. Caballero pled guilty to one count of attempted murder on April 12, 1991. A jury found Drew guilty on all four counts on September 12, 1991.

John J. Drew has shown blatant disregard for human life and the laws of the State of California. He had numerous chances to peacefully surrender, but instead he made multiple independent decisions to shoot at police officers in an attempt to avoid capture and further his criminal activity. I believe John Drew is not suitable for release as he remains a danger to society. He should serve out his term of life in prison as prescribed by the sentencing court. He must be held accountable.

Sincerely,