



COUNTY OF FRESNO

Lisa A. Smittcamp
District Attorney

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 6, 2021

Battle Over Public Safety Continues as Lawsuit to Stop the Early Release of Over 76,000 State Prisoners Heads Back to Court

On May 26, 2021, Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp joined with Sacramento District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert, and 39 other elected District Attorneys across California, in filing a civil lawsuit against the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). The lawsuit seeks to stop CDCR from using emergency regulations to award additional time credits to over 76,000 state prison inmates. The use of these emergency regulations by CDCR will flood our streets with convicted felons who've served only a portion of their intended sentence. The next hearing on the District Attorneys' attempt to stop CDCR from granting these early releases is scheduled to be heard tomorrow in the Sacramento Superior Court.

In preparation for litigation, the Fresno County District Attorney's Office filed a Public Records Request with CDCR to help identify prisoners sentenced in the Fresno County Superior Court that will be released early due to CDCR's actions. The data received from CDCR are still being fully analyzed in conjunction with internal office data.

Tomorrow's court hearing will be critical in stopping CDCR from abusing the regulatory framework to shorten the prison sentences of some of our most dangerous criminals. The Fresno County District Attorney's Office will continue to update the public on early prison releases that put every member of the community at risk.

Please direct any inquiries to FCDAMedia@fresnocountyca.gov.
