

WEDNESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2012

JUSTICE PRECINCT OFFICES
160 MARSDEN STREET
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150**MEDIA STATEMENT****Victor Chang Killer to be Deported**

The man who fired the fatal shot killing heart surgeon Dr Victor Chang will be deported immediately on his release from prison following a State Parole Authority decision today.

The Authority granted Chiew Seng Liew parole at a public hearing on the strict condition the 69-year-old be immediately ejected from Australia.

Liew – who has served 21 years behind bars – is suffering from advanced Parkinson's disease and will be unfit to travel if not deported now.

The NSW Attorney General and interested parties made submissions against parole before today's hearing.

However, the Serious Offenders Review Council (SORC) and the Probation and Parole Service accepted medical advice that Liew will be too sick to travel if his health deteriorates further.

A report submitted by the Serious Offenders Review Council, chaired by the Hon. David Levine AO RFD QC, said, "This offender was not sentenced to die in a NSW Correctional Centre. The overall fragility of his condition cannot be denied."

A Probation and Parole report said, "It is impossible to ignore Mr Liew's deteriorating physical and mental health...there is ongoing concern it will also continue to have a detrimental impact on Mr Liew's capacity to return to Malaysia upon release."

Liew was sentenced to a maximum 26 years in prison for firing the two shots that killed Dr Chang in a failed extortion attempt at Mosman on 4 July 1991.

Liew was refused parole last year when his 20-year non-parole period expired on 12 July.

His partner in the murder and the offender who provided the gun, Phillip Choon Tee Lim, was deported to Malaysia in 2010 after serving 18 years of his maximum 24-year sentence.

Liew will be released directly into the custody of Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) officials who are expected to immediately deport him to Malaysia.

Liew remains incarcerated at Long Bay's Hospital and will be released to DIAC next month.

Media inquiries: 0419 258 290