

WEDNESDAY 12 DECEMBER 2012

JUSTICE PRECINCT OFFICES
160 MARSDEN STREET
PARRAMATTA NSW 2150**MEDIA STATEMENT****Child killer refused parole again**

The State Parole Authority (SPA) has again refused to release convicted child killer Christopher Hoerler on the grounds it is not in the public interest and he needs to complete the Violent Offenders Therapeutic Program.

Hoerler today withdrew his appeal against a decision by the State Parole Authority in May to refuse his release.

He was initially refused parole at a private SPA meeting on 3 May. Hoerler sought a review hearing in an attempt to convince the Authority that he is rehabilitated and no longer a risk to the community.

The 35-year-old was sentenced to 14 years, four months in prison with a non-parole period of ten years, nine months for the manslaughter of a seven-month-old child in Wagga Wagga in 2000.

SPA was concerned Hoerler had not addressed his offending behaviour adequately and needed to participate in the Violent Offenders Therapeutic Program to convince the Authority to release him to parole.

Hoerler, whose visa was cancelled, will be handed over to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) once he is eventually paroled, and then deported to his native Papua New Guinea.

In the New South Wales Court of Criminal Appeal in June 2004, Justice Adams said of Hoerler's case: "This is undoubtedly a very serious case of manslaughter.

"As follows from the post mortem report, the Respondent has seriously assaulted (the victim) in a number of different ways... Where death is caused by such acts, the crime is very grave, even if the result is unintentional and unforeseen."

Hoerler will be next considered for parole in May 2013.

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