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NEVADA BOARD OF PAROLE COMMISSIONERS

May 14, 2015

To: Richard Combs, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau

From: Connie S. Bisbee, Chairman

RE: Parole Board Quarterly Report of Actions January 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015.

Please find attached the Quarterly Report of Parole Board Actions for the period January 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015. (FY 2015, Quarter 3.) This report is prepared in accordance with NRS 213.10887: "Board to compile, maintain, organize and tabulate information concerning decisions regarding parole."

This report is organized by sections as follows:

- Section 1: Summary of all parole decisions during the reporting period. Parole actions are categorized by discretionary parole decisions, mandatory parole decisions (MPR), and parole violation decisions.
- Section 2: Summary of parole actions based on the parole guideline recommendation.
- Section 3: Summary of parole actions that deviate from the guideline recommendation.
- Section 4: Summary of parole actions by offense group.
- Section 5: Summary of the reasons for parole actions, including reasons for deviating from the parole guideline recommendation. Reasons for actions on individual cases are on file at the Carson City Office of the Parole Board and are available upon request.

Table of Contents

Section 1. Summary of all parole decisions during the reporting period.....	3
Quarterly Totals	3
Percentage of Action by Gender	3
Section 2: Statistics of parole actions based on the parole guideline recommendation.....	4
Section 3: Summary of parole actions that deviated from the discretionary parole guideline	5
Section 4: Summary of parole actions by offense group	6
Section 5: Reasons for each parole action	7
Reasons for Granting Discretionary Parole Release:.....	7
Reasons for Denying Discretionary Parole Release	8
Reasons for Granting Discretionary Parole Release when the Guideline Recommends Denial	9
Reasons for Denying Discretionary Parole Release when the Guideline Suggests Parole Should be Granted	10
Reasons for Granting Mandatory Parole Release	11
Reasons for Denying Mandatory Parole Release (NRS 213.1215)	12
Reasons for Taking No Action	13

Section 1. Summary of all parole decisions during the reporting period

Quarterly Totals

Parole actions are categorized by discretionary parole decisions, mandatory parole decisions (MPR), and parole violation decisions. Hearings that resulted in 'No Action' being taken and hearings resulting in the rescission of a parole as a result of ineligibility are also displayed in the following table.

	Male	Female	Total
Discretionary Parole Hearings	949	185	1134
Discretionary Paroles Granted	518	155	673
Discretionary Paroles Denied	431	30	461
Mandatory Parole (MPR) Hearings	354	50	404
Mandatory Paroles Granted	209	40	249
Mandatory Paroles Denied	145	10	155
Discretionary Parole Violations Hearings	158	26	184
Discretionary Paroles Continued (Reinstated)	53	4	57
Discretionary Paroles Revoked	105	22	127
MPR Release Violation Hearings	32	3	35
MPR Violators Continued (Reinstated)	5	0	5
MPR Violators Revoked	27	3	30
Total Decisions	1493	264	1757
Total Grant/Continued	785	199	984
Total Denied/Revoked	708	65	773
Hearings with No Action	313	19	332
Rescissions (not eligible)	3	0	3
Totals	1,809	283	2,092

Percentage of Action by Gender

Percent of Action by Gender	Male	Female	Total
Percent of Discretionary Parole Granted	54.6%	83.8%	59.3%
Percent of Mandatory Parole Granted	59.0%	80.0%	61.6%
Total Discretionary/MPR Grant Rate	55.8%	83.0%	59.9%

Section 2: Statistics of parole actions based on the parole guideline recommendation

The following charts represent discretionary and mandatory parole actions based on the discretionary parole guideline. The MPR actions appear as reference only. The guideline for consideration for release under NRS 213.1215 (Mandatory Parole) is whether there is a reasonable probability that the prisoner would be a danger to public safety. When an inmate being considered for release under Mandatory Parole is denied, the underlying reason is the determination that there is a reasonable probability that the prisoner would be a danger to public safety if released on parole.

Discretionary Parole Actions by Guideline Recommendation			
	Granted	Denied	% Granted
Parole at Initial	148	24	86%
Parole at 1st or 2 nd Hearing	384	169	69%
Consider Factors	138	191	42%
Deny Parole	2	77	3%
Total	672	461	60%
Mandatory Parole Actions by Guideline Recommendation			
	Granted	Denied	% Granted
Parole at Initial	41	8	84%
Parole at 1st or 2 nd Hearing	113	34	77%
Consider Factors	92	60	61%
Deny Parole	3	53	5%
Total	249	155	62%

Section 3: Summary of parole actions that deviated from the discretionary parole guideline

The following represents the number of inmates who were denied parole when the guideline recommended parole should be granted (denials when the guideline recommends parole be granted at 1st or 2nd hearing would become a deviation when parole is denied at the 2nd hearing):

# of Actions to Deny Parole that Deviated:	24
Total Number of Discretionary Denials:	461
Percent of Deviation:	5.2%

The following represents the number of inmates who were granted parole when the guideline recommended parole should be denied:

# of Actions to Grant Parole that Deviated:	2
Total Number of Discretionary Grants:	673
Percent of Deviation:	0.3%

Section 4: Summary of parole actions by offense group

The following charts represent parole actions by offense group as defined by the Department of Corrections. Offenses appearing in the "Sex" category include offenses such as "Prostitution with HIV," "Pandering" and "Failure to Register as a Sex Offender." Offenses that involved violence during the commission of the offense, but with an actual conviction title that would not by itself appear to be violent will not appear in the "Violence" offense group (i.e., a Burglary conviction that included striking a resident would appear in the "Property" offense group). Offenses appearing in the "Other" offense group includes offenses that can not be readily categorized into one of the other offense groups (i.e., Habitual Criminals, gaming related offenses and Victim over 65 Enhancement which could be a property or violent offense).

	Sex	Violence	Drug	Property	DUI	Other	Total
Discretionary Parole Hearings	57	260	238	450	28	101	1134
Disc. Parole Hearings Granted	24	109	180	290	15	55	673
Percent Favorable	42%	42%	76%	64%	54%	54%	59%

MPR Hearings	19	161	54	108	30	32	404
MPR Hearings Granted	12	76	45	77	23	16	249
Percent Favorable	63%	47%	83%	71%	77%	50%	62%

Total Parole Hearings	76	421	292	558	58	133	1538
Total Parole Grants	36	185	225	367	38	71	922
Percent Favorable	47%	44%	77%	66%	66%	53%	60%

PV Hearings	8	46	47	94	4	20	219
PV's Reinstated	2	17	9	25	0	9	62
Percent Favorable	25%	37%	19%	27%	0%	45%	28%

Total	84	467	339	652	62	153	1757
Total Favorable	38	202	234	392	38	80	984
Percent Favorable	45%	43%	69%	60%	61%	52%	56%

Section 5: Reasons for each parole action

The following provides a summary of the reasons for each decision to grant, deny, continue or revoke parole, including reasons for deviating from the parole guideline recommendation.

When acting to grant or deny parole, more than one reason may be selected. Reasons for each specific case are available upon request in the Carson City office of the Board of Parole Commissioners.

When the "Other" reason is selected, written comments are manually entered. Those comments are also available upon request at the Carson City office of the Parole Board.

Reasons for Granting Discretionary Parole Release:

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
492	The parole guideline recommends that parole be granted, and there are no serious reasons to deviate from the guideline recommendation.
407	There is community and/or family support.
200	The inmate has stable release plans.
145	The inmate has no prior or minimal criminal conviction history.
132	The inmate has participated in programs specific to addressing behavior that led to incarceration.
87	There is a detainer lodged by other jurisdiction.
66	The inmate has successfully completed a prior period of parole or probation.
64	The inmate must serve a consecutive sentence.
47	The inmate has a positive institutional record.
42	Case factors suggest parole may be appropriate at this time.
13	The inmate has adjusted in a positive manner to a work release program or other assignment as community trustee.
2	Other
1,697	Total

Reasons for Denying Discretionary Parole Release

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
241	Repetitive criminal conduct.
231	Prior prison term did not deter future criminal activity.
214	Prior conviction for a violent offense.
187	Significant prior criminal history.
162	Impact on victim(s) and/or community.
93	Risk factors indicate the inmate is a high risk to commit a new felony.
81	Nature of criminal record is increasingly more serious.
60	Parole Guideline recommends parole denial and other factors do not indicate the Board should deviate from the guideline.
44	Crime was targeted against a child or person at greater vulnerability because of age/disability.
40	Inmate does not want parole, and requested to expire sentence.
38	Multiple prior parole/probation revocations.
36	Disruptive institutional behavior, or poor disciplinary record.
34	Inmate was convicted of a new felony while serving a prior period of community supervision.
17	Prior conviction for a sexual offense.
8	The prisoner was assessed in accordance with NRS 213.1214 and was determined to be a high risk, or higher than moderate risk to re-offend.
7	Inmate refused to participate in the hearing process.
5	Other
4	Removal from community supervision program.
1	The extreme or abnormal aspects of the crime.
1	Inmate has indicated an unwillingness to comply with the terms of parole.
1,504	Total

Reasons for Granting Discretionary Parole Release when the Guideline Recommends Denial

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
2	The inmate has participated in programs specific to addressing the behavior that led to incarceration.
1	The inmate has no prior or a minimal criminal conviction history.
1	Prior successful completion of supervision
1	Community and/or family support
1	Stable release plans.
1	Pending CS sentence or detainer
7	Total

Reasons for Denying Discretionary Parole Release when the Guideline Suggests Parole Should be Granted

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
15	Repetitive criminal conduct.
12	Prior prison term did not deter future criminal activity.
12	Significant prior criminal history.
8	Prior conviction for a violent offense.
8	Inmate requested to expire sentence.
4	Impact on victim(s) and/or community.
4	Inmate was convicted of a new felony while serving a prior period of community supervision.
3	Multiple prior parole/probation revocations.
3	Nature of criminal record is increasingly more serious.
2	Other
1	Crime was targeted against a child or person at greater vulnerability because of age/disability.
72	Total

Reasons for Granting Mandatory Parole Release

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
248	The inmate is eligible for release in accordance with NRS 213.1215 and the case factors do not suggest that the inmate would be a danger to public safety if released on parole.
1	The prisoner was under the age of 16 when he committed the crime which resulted in a sentence of life with parole, and the Board is required by statute to grant parole in accordance with NRS 213.1215(2).
249	Total

Reasons for Denying Mandatory Parole Release (NRS 213.1215)

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
73*	The parole guidelines indicate the prisoner is a high risk to re-offend.
58	The prisoner has a history of convictions for violent crimes.
28	Other
7	The prisoner has previously committed crimes while on community supervision.
6	The criminal conduct of the prisoner has increased in severity over time.
4	The prisoner has engaged in violent behavior while incarcerated.
2	The prisoner was evaluated in accordance with NRS 213.1214 and was determined to be a high risk, or higher than moderate risk to re-offend.
2	The prisoner has made statements indicating he/she will refuse to comply with the terms and conditions of parole.
2	The prisoner has demonstrated an attitude or behavior which indicates that the prisoner favors a criminal lifestyle (i.e., gang activities, planning escapes or other criminal activity, etc.)
1	The prisoner has been convicted of multiple felony offenses of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance.
183	Total

* Includes one Rescind and Deny decision

Reasons for Taking No Action

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
62	The inmate is pending new criminal charges. Will be rescheduled once the new charges have been adjudicated.
58	The inmate indicates an interest in aggregating his/her consecutive sentence(s). No Action is taken to allow the inmate time to research and make a determination whether to opt-in.
45	The inmate has a current or prior conviction for an offense listed in NRS 213.1214 and the required assessment was not provided to the Board by the hearing date. A parole hearing will be re-scheduled and conducted once the Board is in receipt of the evaluation.
38	Other
34	Inmate not eligible due to new felony conviction. Inmate will be re-scheduled when eligible.
20	Inmate was moved after hearing date was set. Will be rescheduled upon publication of new eligibility list.
14	The Board did not have access to the NDOC NOTIS database because of networking issues which resulted in a lack of access to information necessary to conduct the hearing or make an action recommendation.
13	No action taken due to lack of information needed to make a recommendation.
10	Inmate not eligible due to change or correction in sentence structure or credits earned/lost per NDOC Records.
9	Inmate was not available at the time of the hearing.
9	Prior action to deny parole.
9	Inmate not eligible for parole for reasons other than new sentence or credit adjustment
7	Inmate or inmate's counsel requested a continuance
7	Conversion problem. Inmate not eligible
5	No PSI, or specific information related to the offense was available to the Board at the time of the hearing.
4	The attorney appointed to represent the inmate during parole revocation proceedings was not present at the scheduled time.
3	Prior action to grant parole.
3	The inmate is in the custody of another jurisdiction and not enough information was provided to make an informed decision to grant or deny parole.
3	Inmate not given proper notice of the hearing.
2	Hearing continued pending outcome of disciplinary charges
2	Inmate expired after being scheduled, but before the hearing took place.
1	The inmate needs an interpreter and one was not available for the hearing.

1	Inmate expired prior to eligibility.
1	The NDOC NOTIS database was not available at the time of the hearing or a database issue resulted in a lack of access to information necessary to conduct the hearing or make an action recommendation.
360	Total

Reasons for Revoking and Reinstating Parole are on file at the Carson City office of the Board of Parole Commissioners

cc: Sheri Brueggemann, Dept. of Public Safety
Julie Strandberg, Department of Administration