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NEVADA BOARD OF PAROLE COMMISSIONERS

August 6, 2014

To: Richard Combs, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau

From: Connie S. Bisbee, Chairman 

RE: Parole Board Quarterly Report of Actions April 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

Please find attached the Quarterly Report of Parole Board Actions for the period April 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014. (Q4, FY 2014.) 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.

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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	992	191	1183
Discretionary Paroles Granted	547	152	699
Discretionary Paroles Denied	445	39	484
Mandatory Parole (MPR) Hearings	451	62	513
Mandatory Paroles Granted	257	47	304
Mandatory Paroles Denied	194	15	209
Discretionary Parole Violations Hearings	183	20	203
Discretionary Paroles Continued (Reinstated)	32	4	36
Discretionary Paroles Revoked	151	16	167
MPR Release Violation Hearings	25	3	28
MPR Violators Continued (Reinstated)	0	0	0
MPR Violators Revoked	25	3	28
Total Decisions	1651	276	1927
Total Grant/Continued	836	203	1039
Total Denied/Revoked	815	73	888
Hearings with No Action	273	20	293
Rescissions (not eligible)	13	2	15
Total Hearings	1,937	298	2,235

Percentage of Action by Gender

Percent of Action by Gender	Male	Female	Total
Percent of Discretionary Parole Granted	55.1%	79.6%	59.1%
Percent of Mandatory Parole Granted	57.0%	75.8%	59.3%
Total Discretionary/MPR Grant Rate	55.7%	78.7%	59.1%

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	152	29	84%
Parole at 1st or 2 nd Hearing	352	172	67%
Consider Factors	187	187	50%
Deny Parole	8	96	8%
Total	699	484	59.3%
Mandatory Parole Actions by Guideline Recommendation			
	Granted	Denied	% Granted
Parole at Initial	39	10	80%
Parole at 1st or 2 nd Hearing	137	50	73%
Consider Factors	115	86	57%
Deny Parole	13	63	17%
Total	304	209	59.6%

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:	31
Total Number of Discretionary Denials:	484
Percent of Deviation:	6.4%

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:	8
Total Number of Discretionary Grants:	699
Percent of Deviation:	1.1%

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	85	309	238	416	41	94	1183
Discretionary Parole Hearings Granted	32	133	182	270	27	55	699
Percent Favorable	38%	43%	76%	65%	66%	59%	59%

MPR Hearings	23	201	58	151	35	45	513
MPR Hearings Granted	12	102	45	94	21	30	304
Percent Favorable	52%	51%	78%	62%	60%	67%	59%

Total Parole Hearings	108	510	296	567	76	139	1696
Total Parole Grants	44	235	227	364	48	85	1003
Percent Favorable	41%	46%	77%	64%	63%	61%	59%

PV Hearings	18	39	44	94	4	32	231
PV's Reinstated	5	9	6	11	0	5	36
Percent Favorable	28%	23%	14%	12%	0%	16%	16%

Total	126	549	340	661	80	171	1927
Total Favorable	49	244	233	375	48	90	1039
Percent Favorable	39%	44%	69%	57%	60%	53%	54%

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>
477	The parole guideline recommends that parole be granted, and there are no serious reasons to deviate from the guideline recommendation.
330	There is community and/or family support.
209	The inmate has participated in programs specific to addressing behavior that led to incarceration.
174	The inmate has stable release plans.
169	The inmate has no prior or minimal criminal conviction history.
108	There is a detainer lodged by other jurisdiction.
86	The inmate must serve a consecutive sentence.
77	The inmate has a positive institutional record.
54	Case factors suggest parole may be appropriate at this time.
45	The inmate has successfully completed a prior period of parole or probation.
16	The inmate has adjusted in a positive manner to a work release program or other assignment as community trustee.
6	Other
1,751	Total

Reasons for Denying Discretionary Parole Release

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
245	Repetitive criminal conduct.
226	Prior prison term did not deter future criminal activity.
214	Prior conviction for a violent offense.
204	Significant prior criminal history.
186	Impact on victim(s) and/or community.
101	Risk factors indicate the inmate is a high risk to commit a new felony.
97	Nature of criminal record is increasingly more serious.
65	Parole Guideline recommends parole denial and other factors do not indicate the Board should deviate from the guideline.
52	Crime was targeted against a child or person at greater vulnerability because of age/disability.
44	Disruptive institutional behavior, or poor disciplinary record.
30	Prior conviction for a sexual offense.
28	Inmate was convicted of a new felony while serving a prior period of community supervision.
26	Multiple prior parole/probation revocations.
18	Inmate does not want parole, and requested to expire sentence.
9	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.
8	Inmate refused to participate in the hearing process.
5	Other
4	The extreme or abnormal aspects of the crime.
1	Inmate has indicated an unwillingness to comply with the terms of parole.
1	Removal from community supervision program.
1	The Board does not have enough adequate information to allow it to make a decision to grant parole.
1,565	Total

Reasons for Recommending Discretionary Parole Release when the Guideline Recommends Denial

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
6	Pending CS sentence or detainer.
4	Community and/or family support.
3	The inmate has been infraction free for two years or more to hearing month.
3	The inmate has participated in programs specific to addressing the behavior that led to incarceration.
2	The inmate has no prior or a minimal criminal conviction history.
1	Positive adjustment to HWH/work release program.
1	Stable release plans.
1	Other Factors.
21	Total

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

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
24	Repetitive criminal conduct.
23	Prior prison term did not deter future criminal activity.
20	Significant prior criminal history.
15	Prior conviction for a violent offense.
4	Multiple prior parole/probation revocations.
3	Impact on victim(s) and/or community.
3	Other
2	Prior conviction for a sexual offense.
2	Inmate was convicted of a new felony while serving a prior period of community supervision.
1	Disruptive institutional behavior, or poor disciplinary record.
1	Sex Offender - high risk to re-offend.
1	Nature of criminal record is increasingly more serious.
1	Inmate requested to expire sentence.
100	Total

Reasons for Granting Mandatory Parole Release

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
304	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.

Reasons for Denying Mandatory Parole Release (NRS 213.1215)

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
87	The parole guidelines indicate the prisoner is a high risk to re-offend.
74	The prisoner has a history of convictions for violent crimes.
64	Other
6	The prisoner has previously committed crimes while on community supervision.
5	The prisoner has been convicted of multiple felony offenses of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance.
4	The criminal conduct of the prisoner has increased in severity over time.
2	The prisoner has made statements indicating he/she will refuse to comply with the terms and conditions of parole.
1	The prisoner has engaged in violent behavior while incarcerated.
243	Total

Reasons for Taking No Action

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
48	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.
46	The inmate is pending new criminal charges. Will be rescheduled once the new charges have been adjudicated.
38	Inmate not eligible due to new felony conviction. Inmate will be re-scheduled when eligible.
37	Other
34	Inmate was moved after hearing date was set. Will be rescheduled upon publication of new eligibility list.
30	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.
19	Inmate was not available at the time of the hearing.
15	No action taken due to lack of information needed to make a recommendation.
8	Inmate not given proper notice of the hearing.
8	Inmate or inmate's counsel requested a continuance.
7	The attorney appointed to represent the inmate during parole revocation proceedings was not present at the scheduled time.
6	Prior action to grant parole.
6	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.
6	No PSI, or specific information related to the offense was available to the Board at the time of the hearing.
5	Hearing continued pending outcome of disciplinary charges
4	Inmate not eligible due to change or correction in sentence structure or credits earned/lost per NDOC Records.
3	Inmate not eligible for parole for reasons other than new sentence or credit adjustment
2	The inmate needs an interpreter and one was not available for the hearing.
2	Inmate expired prior to eligibility.
2	Inmate expired after being scheduled, but before the hearing took place.
1	Inmate needs to be considered by three commissioners, and three were not available at the hearing.
327	Total

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

cc: Mark Teska, Dept. of Public Safety
Julie Strandberg, Department of Administration