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NEVADA BOARD OF PAROLE COMMISSIONERS

September 15, 2015

To: Richard Combs, Director, Legislative Counsel Bureau

From: Connie S. Bisbee, Chairman

RE: Parole Board Quarterly Report of Actions April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

Please find attached the Quarterly Report of Parole Board Actions for the period April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015. (FY 2015, Quarter 4.) 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	1063	185	1248
Discretionary Paroles Granted	588	151	739
Discretionary Paroles Denied	475	34	509
Mandatory Parole (MPR) Hearings	567	64	631
Mandatory Paroles Granted	317	45	362
Mandatory Paroles Denied	250	19	269
Discretionary Parole Violations Hearings	169	38	207
Discretionary Paroles Continued (Reinstated)	34	10	44
Discretionary Paroles Revoked	135	28	163
MPR Release Violation Hearings	31	3	34
MPR Violators Continued (Reinstated)	4	0	4
MPR Violators Revoked	27	3	30
Total Decisions	1831	290	2121
Total Grant/Continued	8	206	1149
Total Denied/Revoked	887	84	971
Hearings with No Action	298	21	319
Rescissions (not eligible)	14	2	16
Pending PV Hearing	0	1	1
Totals	2142	314	2456

Percentage of Action by Gender

Percent of Action by Gender	Male	Female	Total
Percent of Discretionary Parole Granted	55.3%	81.6%	59.2%
Percent of Mandatory Parole Granted	55.9%	70.3%	57.4%
Total Discretionary/MPR Grant Rate	55.5%	78.7%	58.6%

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	184	27	87%
Parole at 1st or 2 nd Hearing	403	147	73%
Consider Factors	152	233	39%
Deny Parole	0	101	0%
Total	739	508	59%
Mandatory Parole Actions by Guideline Recommendation			
	Granted	Denied	% Granted
Parole at Initial	43	17	72%
Parole at 1st or 2 nd Hearing	197	51	79%
Consider Factors	118	119	50%
Deny Parole	3	82	4%
Total	361	269	57%

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:	28
Total Number of Discretionary Denials:	509
Percent of Deviation:	5.5%

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:	1
Total Number of Discretionary Grants:	739
Percent of Deviation:	0.1%

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 cannot 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	105	281	266	460	23	113	1248
Disc. Parole Hearings Granted	31	109	217	316	12	54	739
Percent Favorable	30%	39%	82%	69%	52%	48%	59%

MPR Hearings	37	219	90	193	38	54	631
MPR Hearings Granted	18	101	64	131	18	30	362
Percent Favorable	49%	46%	71%	68%	47%	56%	57%

Total Parole Hearings	142	500	356	653	61	167	1879
Total Parole Grants	49	210	281	447	30	84	1101
Percent Favorable	35%	42%	79%	68%	49%	50%	59%

PV Hearings	9	49	44	111	0	28	241
PV's Reinstated	4	11	7	22	0	4	48
Percent Favorable	44%	22%	16%	20%	n/a	14%	20%

Total	151	549	400	764	61	195	2120
Total Favorable	53	221	288	469	30	88	1149
Percent Favorable	35%	40%	72%	61%	49%	45%	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>
560	The parole guideline recommends that parole be granted, and there are no serious reasons to deviate from the guideline recommendation.
524	There is community and/or family support.
328	The inmate has stable release plans.
174	The inmate has no prior or minimal criminal conviction history.
118	The inmate has participated in programs specific to addressing behavior that led to incarceration.
99	The inmate has successfully completed a prior period of parole or probation.
85	The inmate must serve a consecutive sentence.
70	There is a detainer lodged by other jurisdiction.
60	Case factors suggest parole may be appropriate at this time.
56	The inmate has a positive institutional record.
7	The inmate has adjusted in a positive manner to a work release program or other assignment as community trustee.
1	Other
2,082	Total

Reasons for Denying Discretionary Parole Release

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
256	Repetitive criminal conduct.
246	Prior prison term did not deter future criminal activity.
231	Impact on victim(s) and/or community.
219	Prior conviction for a violent offense.
187	Significant prior criminal history.
122	Nature of criminal record is increasingly more serious.
108	Risk factors indicate the inmate is a high risk to commit a new felony.
76	Parole Guideline recommends parole denial and other factors do not indicate the Board should deviate from the guideline.
74	Crime was targeted against a child or person at greater vulnerability because of age/disability.
37	Multiple prior parole/probation revocations.
37	Inmate was convicted of a new felony while serving a prior period of community supervision.
33	Inmate does not want parole, and requested to expire sentence.
27	Prior conviction for a sexual offense.
27	Disruptive institutional behavior or poor disciplinary record.
15	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.
10	Other
8	Inmate refused to participate in the hearing process.
5	Removal from community supervision program.
3	Inmate has indicated an unwillingness to comply with the terms of parole.
2	The extreme or abnormal aspects of the crime.
1	The Board does not have enough adequate information to allow it to make a decision to grant parole.
1,724	Total

Reasons for Granting Discretionary Parole Release when the Guideline Recommends Denial

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
1	The inmate has been infraction free for two years or more [prior] to hearing month.
1	The inmate has participated in programs specific to addressing the behavior that led to incarceration.
1	Pending CS sentence or detainer.
3	Total

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

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
21	Repetitive criminal conduct.
15	Prior prison term did not deter future criminal activity.
14	Prior conviction for a violent offense.
14	Significant prior criminal history.
6	Nature of criminal record is increasingly more serious.
4	Other
3	Multiple prior parole/probation revocations.
3	Impact on victim(s) and/or community.
2	Inmate requested to expire sentence.
1	Removal from community supervision program.
83	Total

Reasons for Granting Mandatory Parole Release

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
361	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).
1	Other
363	Total

Reasons for Denying Mandatory Parole Release (NRS 213.1215)

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
122	The parole guidelines indicate the prisoner is a high risk to re-offend.
94	The prisoner has a history of convictions for violent crimes.
58	Other
13	The prisoner has been convicted of multiple felony offenses of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a controlled substance.
8	The prisoner has made statements indicating he/she will refuse to comply with the terms and conditions of parole.
6	The criminal conduct of the prisoner has increased in severity over time.
5	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.
5	The prisoner has previously committed crimes while on community supervision.
4	The prisoner has engaged in violent behavior while incarcerated.
1	The prisoner has made threats against another person and release to the community could jeopardize public safety.
316	Total

Reasons for Taking No Action

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Reason</i>
90	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.
39	Inmate not eligible due to new felony conviction. Inmate will be re-scheduled when eligible.
37	The inmate is pending new criminal charges. Will be rescheduled once the new charges have been adjudicated.
35	Inmate was moved after hearing date was set. Will be rescheduled upon publication of new eligibility list.
23	No action taken due to lack of information needed to make a recommendation.
22	Other
18	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.
12	Inmate was not available at the time of the hearing.
12	Inmate not eligible due to change or correction in sentence structure or credits earned/lost per NDOC Records.
10	No PSI, or specific information related to the offense was available to the Board at the time of the hearing.
9	Inmate not given proper notice of the hearing.
9	Inmate not eligible for parole for reasons other than new sentence or credit adjustment.
6	Prior action to deny 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	Inmate or inmate's counsel requested a continuance
5	The attorney appointed to represent the inmate during parole revocation proceedings was not present at the scheduled time.
5	Inmate expired prior to eligibility.
2	Inmate needs to be considered by three commissioners, and three were not available at the hearing.
2	Inmate expired after being scheduled, but before the hearing took place.
1	Prior action to grant parole.
1	The inmate is a community trustee and did not appear for the hearing at the scheduled time.
1	The inmate needs an interpreter and one was not available for the hearing.

1	Hearing continued pending outcome of disciplinary charges.
1	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.
353	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