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NEVADA BOARD OF PAROLE COMMISSIONERS

December 16, 2013

To: Members of the Board
FROM: Alan Jordan, Management Analyst III 
Re: Information for consideration for this year's Comprehensive Review

On or before January 1 of each even numbered year, the Board is required to perform a comprehensive review of the standards that the Board uses in determining whether to grant or revoke parole that were adopted pursuant to NRS 2 13.10885(6).

The Board's current standards were implemented on November 1, 2012. After researching the stats, my conclusion and recommendation is that it is too early to tell the results of the Board's recent actions and that the Board take no additional action at this time.

The information in the next three subsections is required by NRS 213.10885 (7):

The number and percentage of the Board's decisions that conflicted with the standards.

Table 1 shows parole actions that deviated from Guideline Recommendation for the quarters after the new Guideline Recommendations were adopted. The Total Hearings figure excludes "No Actions" and Rescissions that were made because an inmate became ineligible for parole.

Table 1: Parole Actions that Deviated - New Guideline Recommendations* #

<i>Quarter</i>	<i>Favorable (Under)</i>		<i>Unfavorable (Over)</i>		<i>Total Hearings</i>
	<i>Actions</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>%</i>	
FY 13 – Qtr 2 (Oct 12 – Dec 12)	10	1.40%	32	5.90%	1,769
FY 13– Qtr 3 (Jan 13 – Mar 13)	1	0.10%	23	4.50%	1,673
FY 13 – Qtr 4 (Apr 13 – Jun 13)	1	0.20%	25	4.20%	1,743
FY 14 – Qtr 1 (Jul 13– Sep 13)	4	0.60%	26	4.90%	1,723
Total or % Average	16	.58%	106	4.88%	6,908

The second quarter of FY13 includes one month of actions under the prior set of guidelines. The second quarter's actions are broken out in Table 2. Differences in %'s in FY13 Qtr 2 and the breakout below are because of rounding.

Table 2: Breakout of FY13, Qtr 2

<i>Quarter</i>	<i>Favorable (Under)</i>		<i>Unfavorable (Over)</i>		<i>Total Hearings</i>
	<i>Actions</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>%</i>	
October 2012 (Prior Guidelines)	4	1.6%	8	4.00%	647
November, 2012	5	2.0%	12	6.40%	611
December, 2012	1	0.50%	12	7.7%	511
Total or % Average	10	1.37%	32	6.03%	1,769

* Quarter 2 of FY13 includes one month of data (October, 2012) that was calculated using the old Guideline Recommendations

Source: Quarterly spreadsheets used to prepare reports submitted for FY13, FY14

Table 3 shows historical data that shows when decisions deviated from Guideline Recommendation for the two years prior to the new Guideline Recommendations adoption.

Table 3: Parole Actions that Deviated - Previous Guideline Recommendations**

<i>Quarter</i>	<i>Favorable (Under)</i>		<i>Unfavorable (Over)</i>		<i>Total Hearings</i>
	<i>Actions</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>%</i>	
FY 11 – Qtr 2 (Oct 10 – Dec 10)	16	1.90%	12	2.30%	1,872
FY 11 – Qtr 3 (Jan 11 – Mar 11)	8	1.00%	12	2.40%	1,792
FY 11 – Qtr 4 (Apr 11 – Jun 11)	14	1.80%	10	2.20%	1,698
FY 12 – Qtr 1 (Jul 11 – Sep 11)	11	1.40%	16	3.10%	1,765
FY 12 – Qtr 2 (Oct 11 – Dec 11)	20	2.30%	19	4.00%	1,797
FY 12 – Qtr 3 (Jan 12 – Mar 12)	4	0.60%	18	3.40%	1,736
FY 12 – Qtr 4 (Apr 12 – Jun 12)	12	1.80%	12	2.50%	1,600
FY 13 – Qtr 1 (Jul 12 – Sep 12)	18	2.60%	14	2.70%	1,686
Total or % Average	54	1.83%	63	3.15%	12,250

Table 4 shows that under the new guidelines the Board now acts more conservatively when taking action. The Board has

- Been about 68% less likely to deviate from the Guideline Recommendations when granting parole.
- Deviated almost 55% more often from the Guideline Recommendations when denying parole than in the previous two years.

Table 4: Comparison of Recent and Historical Deviations

<i>Item</i>	<i>% Favorable (Under)</i>	<i>% Unfavorable (Over)</i>
Recent History	.58%	4.88%
Prior two-year period	1.83%	3.15%
Percentage Change (RH-PP)/PP	-68.3%	54.9%

(b) The results and conclusions from the Board’s review pursuant to subsection 6, whether the standards will be effective in predicting the probability that a convicted person will live and remain at liberty without violating the law if parole is granted or continued.

A decision to parole is usually made three months in advance to allow for appropriate processing. Therefore, inmates who receive favorable decisions that were made in November, 2012 were not released until February, 2013. With about nine months of data, it is too early to tell whether the Board’s actions will result in a lower recidivism rate.

(c) Any changes in the Board's standards, policies, procedures, programs or forms that have been or will be made as a result of the review.

The Board made changes in the Standards of Assessment that it uses. Additional actions will be appropriate after sufficient time has elapsed to evaluate the results of the changes that have made. Therefore, no other changes are proposed at this time.