

Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole
Post Office Box 94304, Baton Rouge, LA 70804
Tel 225.342.6622
Fax 225.342.2289
<http://www.doc.la.gov/contact-pardons-and-parole>



ANNUAL REPORT

CY 2015

This report was prepared for review of performance of the Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole during calendar year 2015.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

A message from the Board Chair _____	1
Board and Committee Members	2
Strategic Highlights	5
Operating Highlights	9
Looking Ahead	13
Facts and Statistics _____	14
Contact Information _____	23

A message from the Board Chair



The Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole is pleased to submit its Annual Report for 2015. The year has been very productive with continued improvement in board operations. Training was once again a primary focus throughout the year. Each board and committee member received over forty hours of education and exposure to innovations in parole.

During its strategic planning process in 2015, the board updated and revised its mission statement to recognize the importance of an offender's need to adequately prepare for community supervision; to appropriately use Department of Corrections and community resources to facilitate an offender's successful reentry; and to strive to be a continuously learning organization.

A significant accomplishment this year was that of accreditation by the American Correctional Association in May of 2015, joining only eight other state paroling authorities to achieve this status. This is indicative of the board and staff's commitment to national standards.

The Board continues to work closely with the Department of Corrections management to improve the process of preparing eligible offenders for parole and improving the involvement of victims in the parole process. We share the desire to enhance public safety in Louisiana's communities and we are committed to providing the citizens of Louisiana with an independent, well-informed, just, and careful clemency and parole process.

Sheryl M. Ranatza
Board Chair
sranatza@doc.la.gov

BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS



SHERYL M. RANATZA, Board Chair

Mrs. Ranatza held the position of Deputy Secretary of the Public Safety & Corrections from January 2008 until her retirement in September 2011. Her 30+ year career in the DOC included serving as Deputy Warden of the Louisiana State Penitentiary for 14 years. Mrs. Ranatza was the first female in Louisiana to achieve the designation of Certified Corrections Executive by the American Correctional Association and is a member of several corrections affiliated organizations. She was appointed as Chairperson of the Louisiana Board of Parole in February 2012 and Chairperson of the Pardon Board in August 2012, when the Board of Pardons and the Board of Parole merged into one entity.



JIM WISE, Board Vice-Chairman

After studying criminal justice at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and completing the Calcasieu Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy, Mr. Wise served as a Deputy in the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff's Office for 18 years as supervisor over all uniformed divisions. He served as an Investigator at Louisiana State Penitentiary after having completed the Corrections Training Academy. Mr. Wise was first appointed to the Louisiana Board of Parole in 2004 and was appointed to the Pardon Board in August 2012 and serves as Vice-Chairman.



MATTHEW "RICKEY" HARDY

After achieving his paralegal degree, Mr. Hardy served as a member of the Lafayette Parish School Board for 13 years. In 2007, he was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives and served the citizens in that capacity for 4 years. As a legislator Mr. Hardy served on the Education, Judicial, and Appropriations Committees. He was appointed to the Pardon Board in January 2012 and now also serves as a member of the Parole Committee.



CORNEL H. HUBERT

After obtaining his master's degree from Xavier University in New Orleans, Mr. Hubert began a 37 year career with the Department of Corrections. He served in both the juvenile and adult corrections system, retiring from Elayn Hunt Correctional Center in 2011. Mr. Hubert has also served as a Corrections Consultant to the American Correctional Association, auditing prisons around the country that are seeking accreditation. Mr. Hubert was appointed to the Board of Pardons and Committee on Parole in March 2014 and serves as the advocate for victims.



GRETA W. JONES, At-Large Member, Committee on Parole

Mrs. Jones is a native of Union Parish and has devoted her life to community service activities on the national, state, and local level. She is an honor graduate of Bish Mathis Institute. Her continuing education includes courses in Psychodynamics and Mediation and she is a certified Parliamentarian. Mrs. Jones served as Vice-Chairman of the Tourism Development Commission as well as a member of Ouachita Expressway Authority. Mrs. Jones was appointed to the Louisiana Parole Board in 2008 by Governor Jindal and she now serves as an at-large member of the Committee on Parole.



JERRIE LeDOUX, At-Large Member, Committee on Parole

Mrs. LeDoux received her B.A. in Communications Arts from Louisiana College in Pineville, Louisiana. In 2014 she obtained a Masters Degree in Business/Organizational Communications from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She has served on the Governor's Commission for Marriage and Family and as a volunteer lobbyist for Louisiana Family Forum. For the past 17 years Mrs. LeDoux has served as an educator and the State Coordinator for the National TeenPact Leadership Schools. Governor Jindal appointed Mrs. LeDoux to the Parole Board in 2010 and in 2012 serves as an at-large member of the Committee on Parole.



HENRY "TANK" POWELL

Mr. Powell received his degree in social work from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana. Mr. Powell has long been affiliated with Prudential Insurance, having been "Agent of the Year" and also "Man of the Year". He is a former member of the Southwood Academy School Board in Hammond, serves as member of both the Hammond and Ponchatoula Chambers of Commerce as well as the Economic Development Foundation of Tangipahoa Parish. Mr. Powell served the citizens of Louisiana for 12 years as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives. He was appointed by Governor Jindal to the Louisiana Pardon Board in 2008 and now also serves as a member of the Parole Committee.

Our Mission

To serve the citizens of Louisiana through informed decision-making, thereby promoting public safety, addressing the needs of crime victims, and to facilitate successful reentry for offenders who have appropriately prepared for community supervision.

Our Vision

The Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole, guided by evidence based principles, shall:

- Render just determination in regard to parole release and revocations, thereby maximizing the restoration of human potential;
- Ensure crime victims have a voice in the decision-making process;
- Use appropriate Department of Corrections and community resources to facilitate an offender's successful transition from confinement to the community;
- Impose reasonable conditions of release consistent with the goal of structured reintegration of the offender;
- Hold accountable those offenders who violate the conditions of release;
- Foster a positive relationship with all stakeholders;
- Administer the clemency process with recommendation to the Governor fully commensurate with public safety and due consideration;
- Strive to be a continuously learning organization

Our Values

We value Ethics, Integrity, Equity and Innovation

STRATEGIC HIGHLIGHTS

In 2013, the Board adopted the National Parole Resource Center's 10 Practice Targets for risk reduction. At that time the board began a self assessment process to determine training needs for 2014 and to establish goals and objectives for 2015. The ten practice targets that were adopted:

Ten Practice Targets

1. Use good, empirically-based actuarial tools to assess risk and criminogenic needs of offenders.
2. Develop and use clear, evidence-based, policy-driven decisionmaking tools, policies, and guidelines that reflect the full range of a paroling authority's concerns (e.g., punishment, victim issues, community safety, etc).
3. Maintain meaningful partnerships with institutional corrections and community supervision (and others) to encourage a seamless transition process and the availability of sound, evidence-based programs.
4. Use their influence and leverage to target institutional corrections and community resources to mid and high risk offenders to address their criminogenic needs.
5. Consider for release at the earliest stage possible -- in light of statutes and other sentencing interests -- offenders assessed as low risk.
6. Use the parole interview/hearing/review process as an opportunity to, among other goals, enhance offender motivation to change.
7. Fashion condition setting policy to minimize requirements on low risk offenders, and target conditions to criminogenic needs of medium and high risk offenders.
8. Develop policy-driven, evidence-informed responses to parole violations that incorporate considerations of risk, criminogenic needs and severity, assure even-handed treatment of violators, and utilize resources wisely.
9. Develop and strengthen case-level decision making skills/capacities in these areas.
10. Develop and strengthen agency level policy making, strategic management and performance measurement skills/capacities.

The table below identifies the practice targets the Board identified as warranting the most attention during 2015 and the progress achieved during the year toward the goals and objectives established.

Goal	Objective		Progress 2015	Notes
Case Work Due Diligence	1.1	Review interview process for possible enhancement	ongoing	Each board member has worked to improve their own skill in this area
	1.2	Strengthen performance measurement/skills capacities	ongoing	The adoption of evidence based principles has assisted in the decision making process
	1.3	Explore possible new risk/needs/responsivity tool	100%	This tool is currently in the development with testing expected in summer 2016
Support System Change	2.1	Perform continuous review of policies, procedures, practices	complete	This is an ongoing requirement of accreditation and was accomplished in 2015.
	2.2	Pursue ACA accreditation	complete	Accredited status was awarded May 2015
	2.3	Ensure staggered terms for board members	continued to 2016	This requires a constitutional amendment. It has been suggested as possible legislation for 2016 under the new Administration.
Training	3.1	Strengthen case-level skills/capacities	ongoing	Training opportunity for 2016
	3.2	In-depth training on structured decision making	ongoing as RNR tool is developed	In depth training will be provided to board members prior to testing and implementation of the RNR tool.
	3.3	Motivational Interviewing training	ongoing	Training was provided in 2015 and has been identified as a training opportunity for 2016.
Build Effective Relationships with Key Stakeholders	4.1	Continue to foster good relationship with staff and board	100%	This work was ongoing during 2015.
	4.2	Continue to foster good relationship with DOC leadership	100%	The relationship with all DOC leadership has strengthened over the past 2 years.
	4.3	Build effective relationships with field staff	100%	Board and staff continue to reach out to field staff. Each board member participated in a ride-along with a field agent. Staff visited with field staff in their field offices.
	4.4	Educate key legislators	ongoing, continue to 2016	2014 annual report was disseminated to key legislators, educational outreach is planned for 2016
	4.5	Build relationships with other criminal justice players	ongoing	Educational outreach for prosecutors is planned for 2016

Accreditation by the American Correctional Association (ACA)

Since the early 1980's, the American Correctional Association (ACA) has been involved in a program for measuring compliance with published and field tested professional standards, with emphasis on evidence based practices. The ACA standards recognize current case law, and endeavor to be clear, relevant, and comprehensive.

The Board of Pardons & Parole entered a contract with ACA in July 2013, agreeing to accept the criteria for accreditation and to strive at all times to achieve and/or maintain the accreditation status. Over a two year period, staff worked toward achieving compliance with ACA standards. This process involved self-evaluation activities which entailed reviewing the applicable standards, agency operations, and policies and procedures to assess compliance levels, identifying activities necessary to meet the requirements of the process, and completing a self-evaluation report. Staff worked together on the development and implementation of policies and procedures to ensure operations are consistent with the ACA standards requirements, staff training activities, and the preparation of documentation and materials to demonstrate compliance.

On May 30, 2015, the Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole was awarded accreditation by the American Correctional Association, achieving a compliance score of 96.6%. The accreditation certificate is displayed prominently in the Board offices and the Board hearing room as a small symbol of the enormous dedication and commitment demonstrated by each and every member of the Board and staff to the accreditation process.

Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole Awarded Accreditation Certificate May 30, 2015 in Columbus, Ohio



Pictured l to r: Marina Cadreche, Accreditation Panel Commissioner, Sheryl Ranatza, Chair/LA Board of Pardons & Parole, Tom Stickrath, Accreditation Panel Chairman, Denise Robinson, Accreditation Panel Commissioner. *Photo Courtesy of American Correctional Association*

Parole Quality Assurance

Focus on evidence-based practice in the area of parole has been increasing in recent years and is included in the mission statement of Louisiana's Board of Pardons & Parole. Given the large number of offenders that are involved in the criminal justice system, it is critical that paroling authorities employ decision-making strategies that will give the probability of reducing recidivism. Past research has shown that when evidence based correctional practices are used, it is possible to reduce recidivism by up to 30% (Andres & Bonta, 2006).

In 2015, the Board participated in a survey regarding board member competencies. The survey was administered by the National Institute of Corrections. The purpose of the survey was to examine aspects of paroling authorities and how they function in order to better define high quality paroling systems. The results of this survey are intended to inform characteristics and skills purported to be important in order to be an effective Parole Board member. The results will be important in terms of selection criteria for new Board members and their training. This research is being conducted by Carleton University. The results of the survey will be shared with participating agencies, as well as comparative information regarding other paroling authorities.

Mission Statement

During its strategic planning process in 2015, the board updated and revised its mission statement to recognize the importance of an offender's need to adequately prepare for community supervision; to appropriately use Department of Corrections and community resources to facilitate an offender's successful reentry; and to strive to be a continuously learning organization.

Board Member Training

A primary goal identified in the Board's strategic plan for 2015 was training opportunities for board members, particularly regarding strengthening case level skills/capacities. We recognize that decisions made by board members require individual judgment and the discretion of individual decisionmakers is critical.

During the year training opportunities were provided to board members to guide them through routine aspects of their work in a systematic manner in an effort to ensure that similarly situated offenders facing similar circumstances encounter somewhat consistent responses. It is also important for board members to be skilled in interacting with offenders so we worked together to improve our own individual interview techniques. Activities undertaken to work toward this goal:

- routine board discussion regarding the use of the Louisiana Risk Needs Assessment (LARNA) tool
- motivational interviewing training was provided by DOC and community supervision staff
- standardization of information found in case files and familiarization with the material
- participation in the Justice Reinvestment Initiative Implementation Steering Team

OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS

Outreach Activities

- Engaged in new service to expand capability for interpretive services by video through the Louisiana Supreme Court
- Continued to participate in the DOC's Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Initiative
- Continued to strengthen the relationship with DOC
- Board members presented at Offender Pre-Release classes at Elayn Hunt Correctional Center
- Board Chair worked with law students of the LSU School of Law Parole Clinic
- Participation in the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association annual conference
- Participation in the Louisiana Correctional Association annual conference
- Participation in the DOC Secretary's Management meetings
- Participation in the Division of Probation & Parole District Administrator meetings
- Participation in the Louisiana Sentencing Commission meetings
- Board members spoke to various civic organizations about Parole in Louisiana
- Board's Victim's Advocate addressed attendees at the DOC's National Crime Victims Week activities
- On-site hearings were conducted at prisons so that each board member had the opportunity to participate in a "live" parole hearing
- Staff visited field offices of the Division of Probation & Parole
- Board members participated in a ride-along with Probation & Parole officers
- Board members served as panelists at the Trial Lawyers annual conference
- An invitation was extended to key legislators to observe parole and /or pardon hearings

Board members met on-site at Rapides Detention Center for live parole hearings, followed by board member training session. Pictured: Front row l-r: Jim Wise, Jerrie LeDoux, Sheryl Ranatza, Greta Jones; Back row l-r: Henry "Tank" Powell, Cornel Hubert, Matthew "Rickey" Hardy



Legislation

The significant measure of the 2015 legislative session regarding parole was Act 299. Previously, only 1st technical violators could be sanctioned up to 90 days in jail in lieu of return to prison for the remainder of their sentence. Act 299 expands penalty provisions for parole violators on the 2nd and subsequent technical violation of the conditions of supervision, allowing up to 90 days incarceration.

The provisions of Act 340 of the 2014 legislative session became available to offenders on December 20, 2014, after promulgation of rules for implementation by the DOC and the Board. This law identifies offenders eligible for ameliorative penalty consideration. The offender must submit an application to the DOC for determination of eligibility. If the offender is deemed eligible for such consideration in accordance with the law, the application is referred to the Committee on Parole for consideration. If the Committee makes a favorable recommendation based on established criteria, the matter is referred to the Board of Pardons. At that point the offender must also qualify for consideration under rules governing the clemency application process.

Transparency

The Board and staff conducted an annual review of all policies and directives and made revisions to accurately reflect current practice. All policies and directives are posted on the Board's web page so that they are available to criminal justice agencies and the general public. The policies have also been made available to the offender population.

Victims Services

The Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole has responsibility to victims of crime as defined by statute and policy. Louisiana law mandates that crime victims be given advance notice of and the opportunity

to attend meetings of the Board of Pardons & Parole in which the status of the prisoner convicted of the crime against the victim is considered. They also have the right to comment, in writing or in person, prior to action taken by the Board.

The Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole recognizes the importance of victim participation in our pardon and parole process. Probation & Parole field officers ensure victim notification on parole matters and board staff ensure victim notification on clemency matters. The Board is very pleased to be able to coordinate with the DOC Crime Victims Services Bureau on victim issues. With the collaboration that exists between the Board and the DOC we will continue to see that the rights of victims are protected and this population is served in such a way so as to reduce the trauma of victimization. The Board is working toward expanding its service to crime victims and will begin to track its performance in this area in 2016.

Reentry

The Board is committed to the DOC reentry initiatives. During the parole interview process, board members learned that many offenders housed in local jail facilities had take classes to earn their High School Equivalency diploma, but were unable to afford the cost to take the test. The matter was brought to the attention of the DOC Education Director, who worked with the Louisiana Community and Technical College system to establish a mechanism whereby indigent offenders could apply for a scholarship for the cost of the test.

Business Processes - Improved Efficiencies

- With the support of the DOC, three Investigative Specialist positions were established in the areas of clemency, parole eligibility/verification/release processing/victim notification, and parole violations. Two of these positions were filled with internal promotions with the third position filled by a DOC employee transfer.
- The Board modified the pre-parole investigation requirements for non-violent, low risk offenders. This initiative reduced the investigative burden for field officers.
- The Board worked with the Division of Probation & parole to terminate unsatisfactory cases where an offender has deferred to revocation hearing due to pending charges when that offender has gone past his full term date and the charges are still pending. This reduced workload for both DOC staff and field officers.
- Staff continued to participate in testing and development of the DOC's Offender Management system.
- The process whereby district attorneys are notified of upcoming parole hearings was modified in collaboration with the Louisiana District Attorneys' Association so that all district attorneys are notified on the 1st of the month of the following month's parole dockets.

Training

In addition to the annual training curriculum developed in collaboration with the DOC, board members also attended:

- Strategic Planning to Address the Challenges of Continuity Facing Paroling Authorities (3 members attended this training through a scholarship funded by the National Institute of Corrections)
- Setting Sensible Parole Conditions and Responding Effectively to Violations: A Training Event for Parole Board Members on Enhancing Public Safety (1 member and the Executive Director attended this workshop through a scholarship funded by the National Parole Resource Center)
- Association of Paroling Authorities International Annual Training Conference. Workshops included Human Trafficking; Mentally Ill Offenders-Parole Decision Making and Supervision; Enhancing Parole (Quality Assurance); Developments and Special Considerations for Parole Determinations for Individuals Who Entered the Adult Criminal Justice System as Youth; Research on Risk, Dosage, and Recidivism; Risk Assessment and Managing Low Risk Offenders (3 members attended and were required to provide a summary overview and discussion of their conference experience)
- All board members participated in motivational interviewing training provided by Probation & Parole trainers.

Continuity

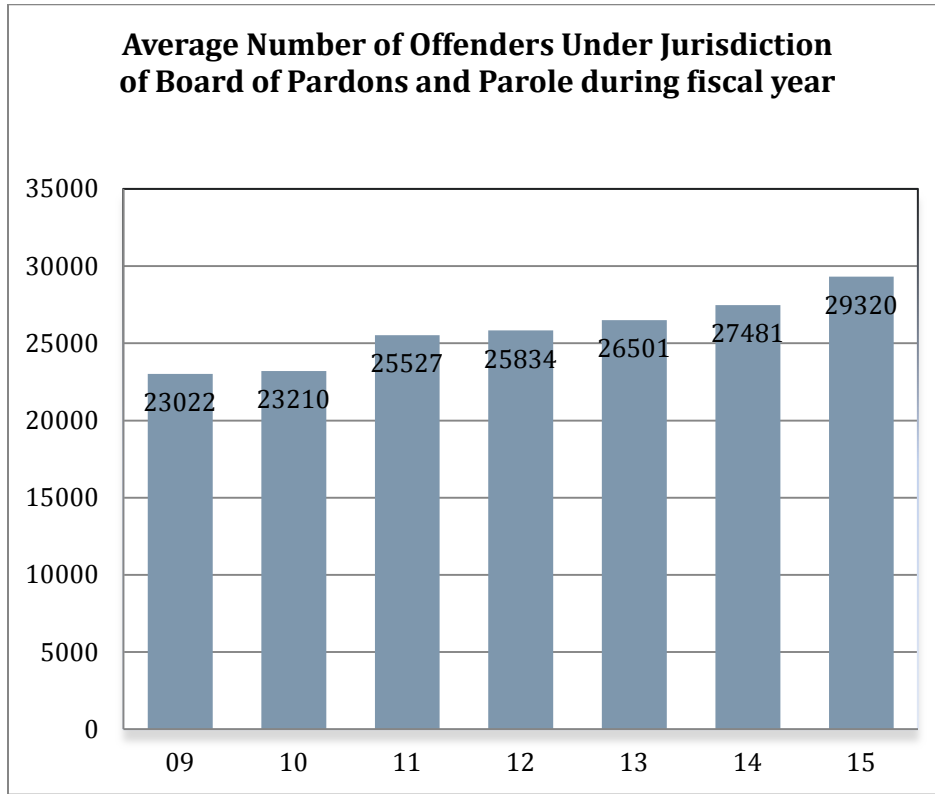
When a long term career employee retired over the summer, job duties were re-distributed to existing staff. This provided the opportunity to create a new classified position, Executive Director. With the support of the DOC, the position was approved by the Department of Civil Service and was filled in October. The Executive Director is responsible for the overall management of day to day operations of the Board, allocating resources to achieve mandated and strategic objectives of the Board. Currently the members of the Board serve at the pleasure of the governor. We believe the establishment of this position will ensure long term sustainability and effectiveness of the Board. The Executive Director will ensure activities and operations are performed in compliance with state regulation, and will work collaborative with the Board members to ensure overall goals and objectives are met or exceeded.

LOOKING AHEAD

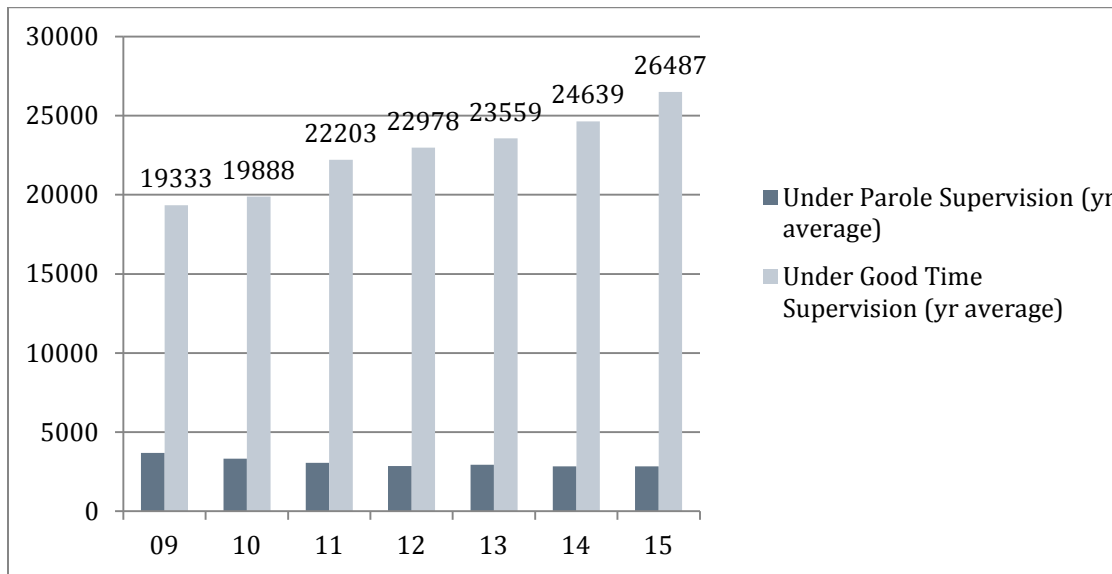
2016 Goals and Objectives

Goal		Objective	
1	Case Work Due Diligence	1.1	Limit the number of cases on each docket to allow ample time for case review
		1.2	Strengthen performance measurement/skills capacities
		1.3	Measure caseload versus decisions
2	Support System Change	2.1	Maintain ACA accreditation
		2.2	Pursue staggered terms for board members
		2.3	Continue to develop improved efficiencies of operations
3	Training	3.1	Build training dates into the annual schedule
		3.2	In-depth training on structured decision making
		3.3	Collaborate to determine training needs/opportunities
4	Build Effective Relationships with Key Stakeholders	4.1	Develop educational outreach program to include police, community corrections, corrections, victims
		4.2	Educate key legislators
		4.3	Build relationships with other criminal justice players

Facts and Statistics



The chart above reflects the average number of offenders under the jurisdiction of the Board beginning with Fiscal Year 2009 through Fiscal Year 2015.



The chart above illustrates offenders under the Board's jurisdiction who are released on parole after being granted parole by the Board (discretionary release), as compared to those who are released by diminution of sentence (mandatory release) but who are on community supervision.

Administrative Sanctions

Performance Grid: Administrative Sanctions	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Count of Parolees authorized for Admin Sanctions (AS)	26667	27723	29329
<i>Number of administrative sanctions imposed for Parolees</i>	1606	2440	2346
<i>Level 1 Action - Community Service Work</i>	55	81	54
<i>Level 1 Action - Jail Sanction (1-3 days)</i>	181	338	324
<i>Level 2 Action - Community Service Work</i>	75	81	64
<i>Level 2 Action - Curfew</i>	138	190	176
<i>Level 2 Action - Ordered Services</i>	103	157	214
<i>Level 2 Action - Ordered Treatment</i>	416	621	600
<i>Level 2 Action - Day Reporting Center</i>	124	113	190
<i>Level 2 Action - Jail Sanction (3-7 days)</i>	329	521	473
<i>Level 3 Action - Electronic Monitoring</i>	12	22	38
<i>Level 3 Action - Inpatient Treatment without Detention</i>	38	45	84
<i>Level 3 Action - Arrest/Detain with Inpatient Treatment</i>	37	67	71
<i>Level 3 Action - Jail Sanction (7-10 days)</i>	98	204	58
	1606	2440	2346

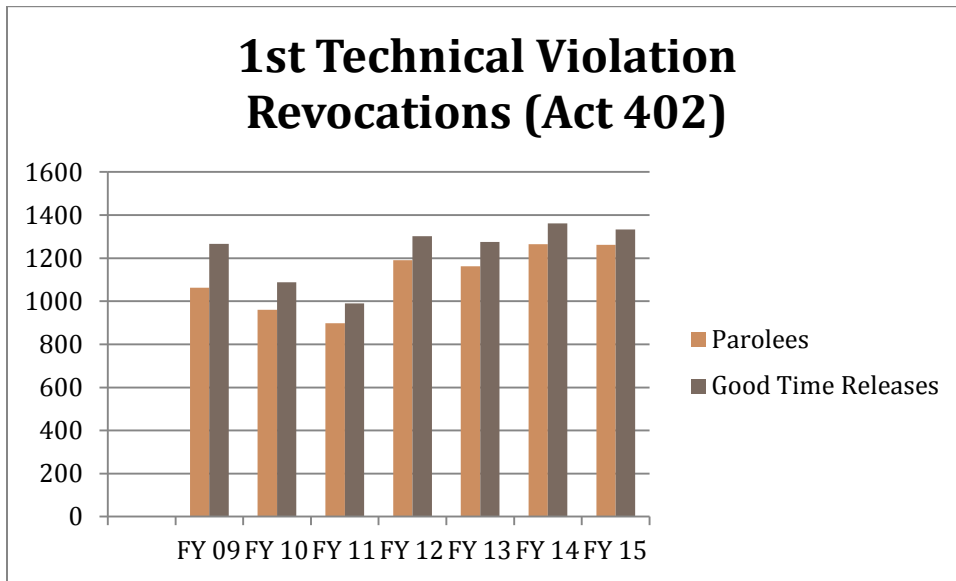
Research indicates that swift, certain and proportionate sanctions for technical violations can improve compliance with the rules and reduce the number of violators sent to costly prison cells. Delayed responses to violations can give offenders the sense that they don't really have to play by the rules. To maximize the certainty and swiftness of sanctions, in 2012 the Board authorized parole officers the use of administrative sanctions, including imposing short stays in jail, in accordance with established policy, without having to send the matter to the Board for approval. The chart above illustrates the administrative sanctions imposed beginning with Fiscal Year 2013 through Fiscal Year 2015.

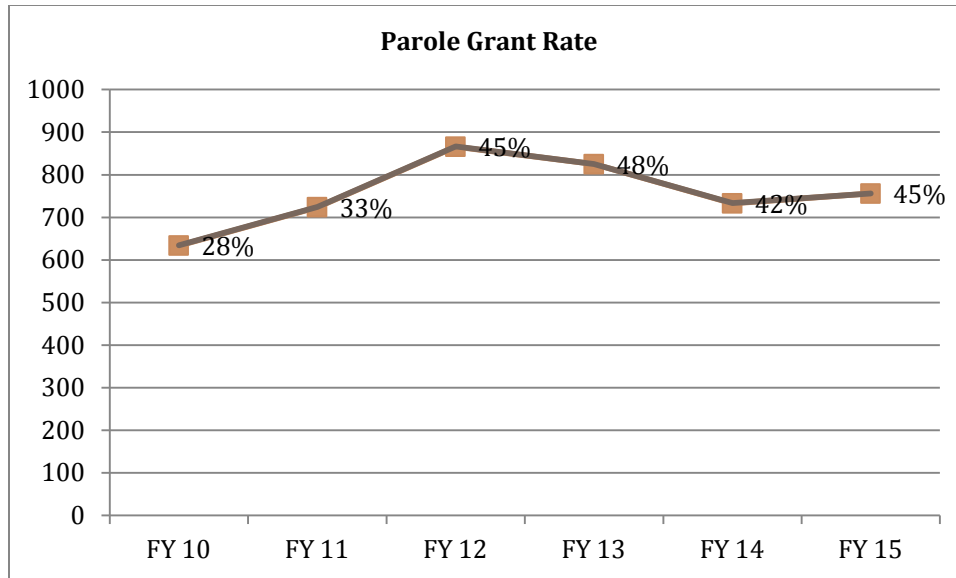
Revocation

The chart below provides revocation information for those offenders released on parole supervision, good time release, and those who were sanctioned with up to 90 days jail time for a 1st technical violation of the conditions of parole (Act 402 Revocations-ILR). We have seen a marked reduction in the parole population since Fiscal Year 2010, primarily due to DOC's awarding of educational good time credits for completion of rehabilitative and educational programs. We also note that the revocation rate is drastically lower for those offenders who were released on parole supervision when compared to those who released on good time supervision.

Fiscal Yr	Parole			Good Time Release			Act 402 Revocation-ILR		
	Total Pop	Revoked	% Revoked	Total Pop	Revoked	% Revoked	Total Pop	Revoked	% Revoked
2010	3322	190	5.7%	19888	2104	10.6%	23210	1574	6.8%
2011	3054	153	5.0%	22203	3283	14.8%	25257	1156	4.6%
2012	2880	159	5.5%	23281	3670	15.8%	25806	1244	4.8%
2013	2942	179	6.1%	23559	3881	16.5%	26501	1283	4.8%
2014	2842	140	4.9%	24640	3870	15.7%	27482	1418	5.2%
2015	2834	130	4.6%	26487	4112	15.5%	29320	1333	4.5%

The chart below is the breakdown of the "Act 402 Revocations-ILR" shown in the chart above, illustrating the comparison of parole releases versus good time releases.





The parole grant rate shown in the chart above is calculated by dividing the total number of offenders granted parole during the fiscal year divided by the total number of offenders whose case was considered for parole during the fiscal year. The increase in the parole grant rate since FY 10 is a direct result of the Board's focus on training.

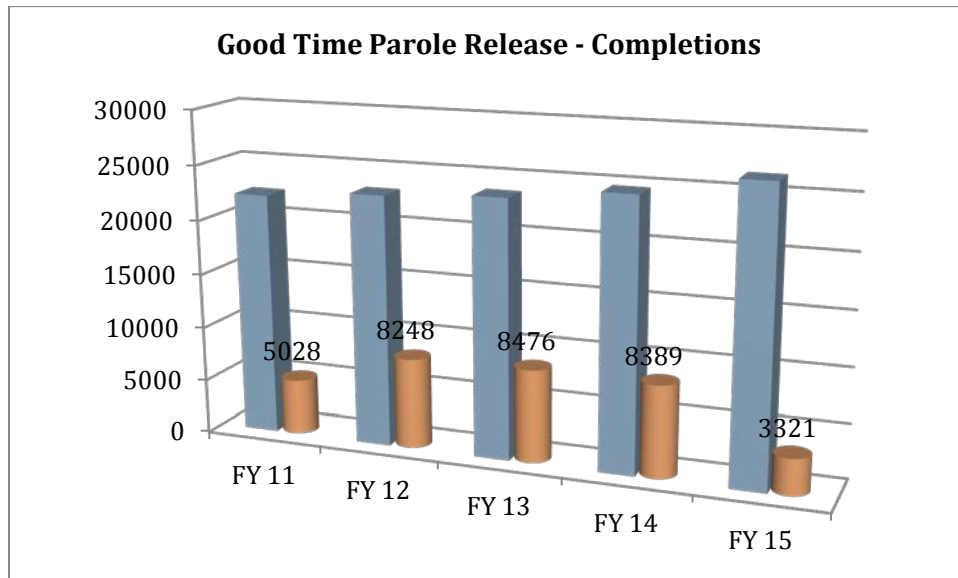
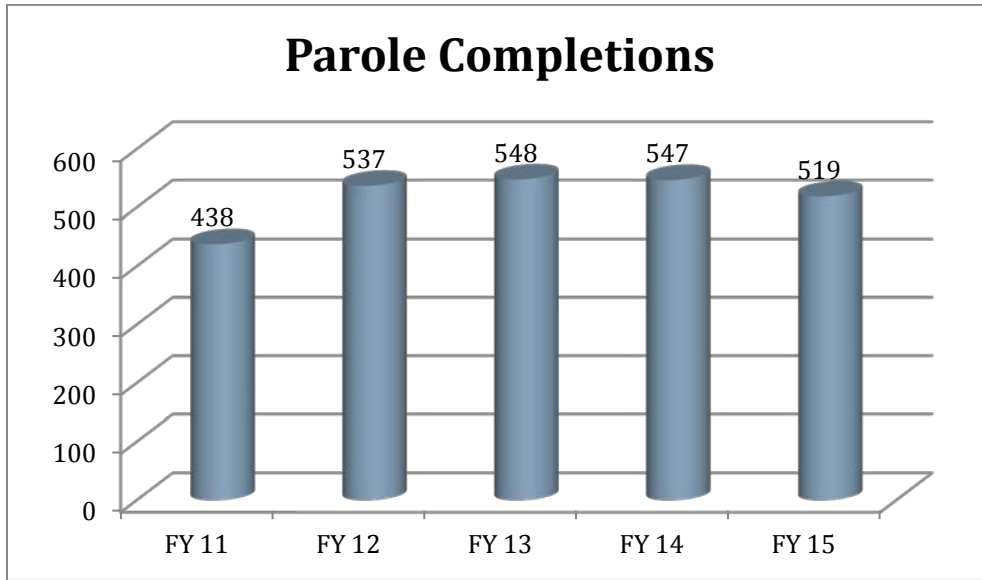
The below is an illustration of the number of offenders who were granted parole with a contingency that they must first complete an educational or rehabilitative program prior to release.

Granted with Contingencies							
Fiscal Yr	TWP	SA	GED	Pre-Release	Total Granted Parole	Total Granted With Contingency	% Granted With Contingency
2012	86	168	15	0	673	269	40.0%
2013	150	120	8	14	671	292	43.5%
2014	125	101	17	20	610	263	43.1%
2015	91	93	7	10	516	201	39.0%

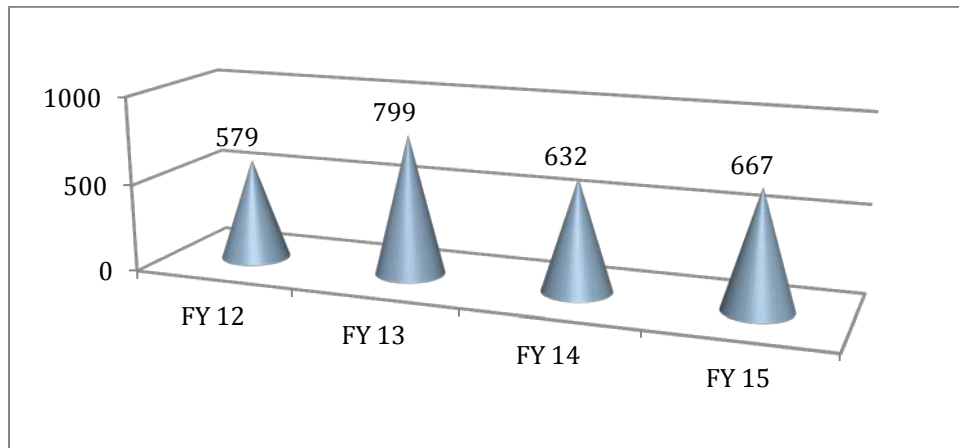
Other Actions

	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
New felony conviction - Automatic revocation	782	682	641	703
Waived final revocation hearing	3,802	3,635	3,734	3,984
Deferred Preliminary Hearing	1,792	1,710	1,929	2,284
Unsatisfactory Termination of Supervision	646	831	806	934
Warrants	7,428	7,474	7,291	7,886
Reprimands	1,500	1,329	1,213	1,221
Add/Remove Special Conditions	1,656	1,569	1,183	1,164
Total Single Member Actions	18,686	18,304	17,777	19,055

The charts below reflect the number of offenders who completed community supervision.



Parole Releases



Recidivism

Recidivism: Return to custody following conviction for a new felony or technical revocation after having been released from incarceration through completed sentence, release on parole, conditional release, or split probation sentence. Offenders released to a detainer, released in error, deceased, or transferred to another jurisdiction are not included. An offender may be released multiple times but is only counted once per release year.

Offenders are tracked for a period of time from date of release based on the year of return: 1st year returns are tracked for 12 months, 2nd year returns are tracked for 24 months, 3rd year returns are tracked for 36 months, 4th year returns are tracked for 48 months, and 5th year returns are tracked for 60 months.

Total DOC population: The chart below shows the recidivism rate for the entire DOC offender population. The DOC uses a five-year recidivism calculation. Therefore, the recidivism rate for the entire DOC offender population is 42.7%.

	Total Releases	1st Year Returns	%	2nd Year Returns	%	3rd Year Returns	%	4th Year Returns	%	5th Year Returns	%
2004	13,691	2,736	20.0%	4,374	31.9%	5,295	38.7%	5,892	43.0%	6,328	46.2%
2005	13,550	2,485	18.3%	4,188	30.9%	5,124	37.8%	5,762	42.5%	6,234	46.0%
2006	13,032	2,301	17.7%	3,827	29.4%	4,736	36.3%	5,376	41.3%	5,875	45.1%
2007	12,650	2,235	17.7%	3,732	29.5%	4,646	36.7%	5,265	41.6%	5,731	45.3%
2008	12,833	2,141	16.7%	3,676	28.6%	4,643	36.2%	5,277	41.1%	5,727	44.6%
2009	12,933	2,026	15.7%	3,579	27.7%	4,543	35.1%	5,103	39.5%	5,519	42.7%
2010	14,738	2,195	14.9%	4,055	27.5%	5,135	34.8%	5,777	39.2%		
2011	14,176	2,165	15.3%	4,005	28.3%	5,065	35.7%				
2012	14,429	2,256	15.6%	4,061	28.1%						
2013	15,193	2,349	15.5%								

(Source: Department of Public Safety & Corrections)

Parole Releases: The chart below shows the recidivism rate for those released on parole supervision after having been granted Parole by the Board. The five-year recidivism rate for parole releases is 34.4%, markedly lower than the total DOC population. With the use of risk assessment tools, it is anticipated that this recidivism rate will improve.

	Total Releases	1st Year Returns	%	2nd Year Returns	%	3rd Year Returns	%	4th Year Returns	%	5th Year Returns	%
2004	13,691	2,736	20.0%	4,374	31.9%	5,295	38.7%	5,892	43.0%	6,328	46.2%
2005	13,550	2,485	18.3%	4,188	30.9%	5,124	37.8%	5,762	42.5%	6,234	46.0%
2006	13,032	2,301	17.7%	3,827	29.4%	4,736	36.3%	5,376	41.3%	5,875	45.1%
2007	12,650	2,235	17.7%	3,732	29.5%	4,646	36.7%	5,265	41.6%	5,731	45.3%
2008	12,833	2,141	16.7%	3,676	28.6%	4,643	36.2%	5,277	41.1%	5,727	44.6%
2009	12,933	2,026	15.7%	3,579	27.7%	4,543	35.1%	5,103	39.5%	5,519	42.7%
2010	14,738	2,195	14.9%	4,055	27.5%	5,135	34.8%	5,777	39.2%		
2011	14,176	2,165	15.3%	4,005	28.3%	5,065	35.7%				
2012	14,429	2,256	15.6%	4,061	28.1%						
2013	15,193	2,349	15.5%								

(Source: Department of Public Safety & Corrections)

Cost Avoidance

YEAR	PAROLE COMPLETION RATE	COMPLETION RATE OVER BASELINE YEAR	ANNUAL COMPLETIONS IMPROVED OVER BASELINE YEAR	Annual COMPLETIONS IMPROVED AND COST AVOIDANCE OVER BASELINE YEAR		Cumulative COMPLETIONS IMPROVED AND COST AVOIDANCE OVER BASELINE YEAR	
				Baseline year	Baseline year	Baseline year	Baseline year
FY 11	14%	Baseline year	438	Baseline year	Baseline year	Baseline year	Baseline year
FY 12	19%	5%	537	99	\$262,191.60	99	\$262,191.60
FY 13	19%	5%	548	110	\$291,324.00	209	\$553,515.60
FY 14	19%	5%	547	109	\$288,675.60	318	\$842,191.20
FY 15	18%	4%	519	81	\$214,520.40	399	\$1,056,711.60

For the purpose of estimating cost avoidance, it is assumed a parolee will, on average, be released at least four months prior to the offender's good time mandatory release date. As the majority of offenders who appear before the Committee on Parole are housed in a local jail facility, cost avoidance was calculated using the average cost per day for local jail facilities. The DOC's average cost per day for incarceration in a local jail facility is \$24.39. The average cost per day for parole supervision in the community is \$2.32. The cost avoidance is calculated as follows: 120 days x local jail facility cost minus parole supervision cost (# of improved parole releases x 120 days early release x \$22.07).

Note: FY 12, 13, 14 previous annual reports reported completion rate over baseline year as 4% when it was actually 5%. This % has been corrected with this FY 15 report.

EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY HEARINGS AND SCREENINGS

The Louisiana Constitution gives the Governor the power to grant Executive Clemency. This is the process through which the Governor considers requests for granting reprieves, commutations of sentence, pardons after conviction, requests to forgive fines and forfeitures. A reprieve is a temporary relief from, or postponement of, execution or criminal punishment of a sentence. Commutation means a permanent reduction of sentence or punishment, such as changing a death sentence to a life sentence, or changing a life sentence to a fixed number of years. A pardon request asks that a criminal record be expunged, or removed, from the public record. Incarcerated offenders may submit an application for clemency to the facility's classification office, where additional background information is gathered and subsequently submitted to the Board of Pardons & Parole. Persons who are not incarcerated submit an application directly to the Board.

During fiscal year 2015, the Board screened and performed an administrative review of 314 applications for clemency. Of those screened the Board determined that 176 (56% of those reviewed) warranted a hearing before the Board. During the year, the Board conducted a total of 171 clemency hearings. Results of those hearings are indicated in the following chart. The recommendation by the Board to the Governor is non-binding.

FY 2015 Clemency Data	
Applications received	804
Applications reviewed by Board	311
Applicants granted clemency hearing	176
Applicants denied clemency hearing	138
Clemency hearings conducted	171
<i>Relief Requested</i>	
Commutation	101
Executive Pardon	70
<i>Action Taken by the Board</i>	
Favorable Decision	103
Unfavorable Decision	51
Taken Under Advisement	17
Cases Sent to the Governor	89
Cases Under Preparation to send to Governor at FYE	14

Contact Information



MARY FUENTES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
225.342.6624
MFUENTES@CORRECTIONS.STATE.LA.US

Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole
Post Office Box 94304, Baton Rouge, LA 70804
Tel 225.342.6622
Fax 225.342.2289
<http://www.doc.la.gov/contact-pardons-and-parole>

The 2015 annual report was prepared by the Board and staff of the Louisiana Board of Pardons & Parole.