

OREGON BOARD OF PAROLE A SAFE AND JUST OREGON

Senate Judiciary Committee Agency Presentation 2021-2023

MICHAEL HSU, CHAIRPERSON GRETA LOWRY, VICE-CHAIRPERSON DYLAN ARTHUR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



AGENCY OVERVIEW

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Michael Hsu – Chairperson

Greta Lowry – Vice-Chairperson

James Taylor – Board Member

John Bailey – Board Member

There is currently one vacant board position that will be filled in the 2021-23 biennium.

Executive Director is Dylan Arthur. 15 additional FTE in support of agency operations.











AGENCY OVERVIEW

MISSION STATEMENT

The Board of Parole supports a safe and just Oregon by supporting positive change in individuals while maintaining accountability. Through engagement of partners, development of compassionate policies, and respect for diversity, our strong and valued workforce strives for a better future for our state.

LONG TERM GOAL

To set the standard for parole boards in evidence informed decisions, innovative tools, and effective operations.



PRORITIES

COMPASSIONATE POLICIES

- Committed to treating survivors of crime and justice involved individuals with dignity and respect
- Recognize need for individualized supervision and release planning

BUILDING SUCCESS

• Coordinate and collaborate with local Community Corrections departments and Department of Corrections to ensure the best chance of success upon an adult-in-custody's release to the community.



PRORITIES

EVIDENCE-INFORMED DECISION MAKING

- Use research and data based tools (empirically validated) when measuring an individual's risk to reoffend.
- Implement procedures to assess the treatment needs of justice involved individuals to promote rehabilitation and accountability.

LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

- Research, explore, and attend trainings to examine implicit bias, culturally specific practices, and how to build diverse and inclusive workforce
- Continual education focused on identifying innovative ways to support rehabilitation



THE BOARD OF PAROLE'S KEY PROGRAMS

- 1) Release hearings for parole eligible AICs
- 2) Setting supervision conditions, sanctioning for post-prison supervision, and holding Morrissey hearings
- 3) Determining notification level for sex offenders
- 4) Hearings to end reporting requirements and reduce notification level for people on sex offender registry
- 5) Victim services
- 6) Administrative review of board decisions



RELEASE HEARINGS

- Limited population (murder, aggravated murder, dangerous offender, pre-1989 convictions)
- Board appointed attorneys work with certified law students to represent some AICs
- Psychologists conducts evidence based and validated risk assessments prior to hearings
- Board issues written decisions with reasoning and recommendations for rehabilitation





SETTING SUPERVISION CONDITIONS AND SANCTIONING FOR PPS

- Reviews and issues supervision conditions for approximately 350 AICs a month
- The Board reviewed 6,742 sanctions last year
- Approximately 26,000 individuals on supervision
- Hearings officer holds about 23 Morrissey hearings a month





DETERMINING NOTIFICATION LEVEL FOR SEX OFFENDERS

- Completes approximately 2,200 assessments and levelings a year
- Increased number of assessments completed in 2019-2021
- Dedicated to evidence-based practices, including the use of STATIC-99R and accompanying research
- Work with subject matter experts to develop program and policies





HEARINGS TO END REPORTING REQUIREMENT OR REDUCE NOTIFICATION LEVEL FOR SEX OFFENDERS

- Completed 79 hearings in 2020
- Only low risk individuals eligible to apply to end reporting requirement
- Will review entire history, including risk assessments, polygraphs, and treatment records
- Anticipate increase in applicants as program grows



VICTIM SERVICES

- Over 6000 registered victims
- Dedicated to victim rights and working towards being more culturally responsive
- Notifies all registered victims at least 30 days before hearing





ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

- Board Members draft approximately 15 administrative reviews per month
- Provide substantial reasoning for all decisions
- Work with Department of Justice to respond to court-appointed appeals and legal decisions
- Update and amend Oregon administrative rules





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DIVERSITY, EQUITY, and INCLUSIVENESS

- Increase trainings related to implicit bias and culturally responsive practices
- Promote staff inclusiveness by creating opportunities for staff to share personal perspectives and insights
- Review demographic data regarding victims and individuals on supervision
- Work with DOC to facilitate restorative justice dialogue
- Promote and encourage staff to explore DEI learning opportunities

APAI ONLINE SPEAKER SERIES!

September 14: Adrien Lawyer Transgender 101

September 28: Dr. Brandon Mathews Understanding Implicit and Explicit Bias in Parole Board Decision-Making

> October 19: Meg Garvin Victims' Rights: The Positive Impact They Can Have

November 2: Sylvie Blanchet Gendered Parole: An Exploration of Trauma-Informed and Gender-Responsive Approaches to Parole

November 16: Dr. Ralph Serin Why Paroling Authorities Should Integrate RNR and Desistance: The Importance of Assessing Protective Factors



PROPOSED LEGISLATION

- HB 2035 Provides that person required to report as sex offender in this state due to conviction from another jurisdiction may not petition for relief from reporting requirement in this state unless person is no longer required to report as sex offender in jurisdiction of conviction.
- HB 2036 Authorizes Board to discharge person from parole or post-prison supervision prior to end of supervision term for specified medical reason if compatible with best interests of person and community. Requires board to provide notification for registered victims prior to final decision.
- SB 41 Provides that Department of Public Safety Standards and Training certification of a person employed by State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision does not lapse if person meets certain requirements.
- SB 42 Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) Police and Fire Designation for certain Board staff members who have contact with AICs and offenders



OREGON BOARD OF PAROLE A SAFE AND JUST OREGON

CONTACT INFO

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