

### OREGON BOARD OF PAROLE A SAFE AND JUST OREGON

## Ways & Means Committee Agency Presentation 2023-2025

DYLAN ARTHUR, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (Presenter) GRETA LOWRY, CHAIRWOMAN JOHN BAILEY, VICE-CHAIRPERSON PERRY WADDELL, POLICY ANALYST





## AGENCY OVERVIEW

#### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP**

Greta Lowry – Chairwoman
John Bailey – Vice-Chairperson
James Taylor – Board Member
Kelly Kuklenski – Board Member
Ronnee Kliewer – Board Member

- The Executive Director is Dylan Arthur
- An additional 23 FTE support 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.





## AGENCY OVERVIEW

#### **HISTORY OF THE BOARD**

- The State Parole Board was first established in 1911 and in 1969 became a full-time paid agency.
- The Oregon Board of Parole protects the public and reduces the risk of repeat criminal behavior through evidence and research-based release and community supervision



decisions. The Board also classifies registered sex offenders to a community notification level based on their risk to reoffend in the community and determines qualifications for reclassification or relief from registration.

The Board is a major partner in the criminal justice system through its release decisions, supervisory authority, victim engagement and support, and stakeholder involvement. The Board also maintains its partnership with the Department of Corrections through evidence-based supervision and intervention methods, as well as training and community education efforts.



#### THE BOARD OF PAROLE'S KEY PROGRAMS

- 1. Release hearings for parole eligible Adults in Custody (AICs)
- 2. Setting supervision conditions, sanctioning for post-prison supervision, issuing warrants and holding Morrissey hearings
- 3. Determining community notification level for registered sex offenders
- 4. Hearings to consider ending reporting requirements or reducing notification levels for individuals who qualify and are on the sex offender registry
- 5. Victim services
- 6. Administrative review of Board decisions



#### **RELEASE HEARINGS**

- About 8% of AICs have sentences eligible for parole; approximately 100 hearings a year
- Board appointed attorneys represent eligible AICs
- Psychologists conduct evidence-based validated risk assessments prior to certain hearings
- Board issues written decisions with reasoning and recommendations for rehabilitation



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#### SETTING SUPERVISION CONDITIONS AND SANCTIONING FOR POST-PRISON SUPERVISION (PPS)

- Reviews and issues supervision conditions for approximately 360 individuals releasing per month
- The Board reviews and processes approximately 900 sanctions a month
- The Board has jurisdiction & authority over approximately 17,000 individuals
- Board Hearings Officer conducts about 21 Morrissey hearings a month





### DETERMINING NOTIFICATION LEVEL FOR SEX OFFENDERS (SONL)

- Board conducts or contracts for risk assessments using evidence-based practices
- Most assessments utilize the STATIC-99R which is the most widely used sex offender risk assessment tool in the world
- On track to complete over 4,000 assessments per biennium
- Continue to work with subject matter experts in developing the program and policies



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

- Complete about 130 hearings per biennium
- Only those individuals classified as a Level One are eligible to apply to end their reporting requirement
- Entire history is reviewed, including risk assessments, polygraphs, treatment & supervision records, etc.
- Number of applicants petitioning for a hearing has increased every year since inception of program



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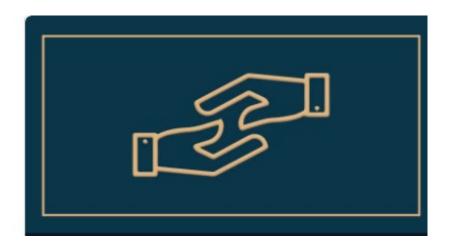


#### **VICTIM SERVICES**

Dedicated to victims' rights and working towards being more culturally responsive

#### Victims Specialist:

- Over 7000 registered victims have registered with the Board
- Connects with an average of 100 victims a month
- Notifies all Board registered victims at least 30 days prior to any hearing that affects the AIC's custody status





#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OF BOARD DECISIONS**

- Board Members draft approximately 12 administrative reviews per month
- Provide substantial reasoning and evidence for all decisions
- Work with Department of Justice to respond to filings in the Court of Appeals and other legal decisions
- Update and amend Oregon Administrative Rules in response to legal rulings and statutory amendments



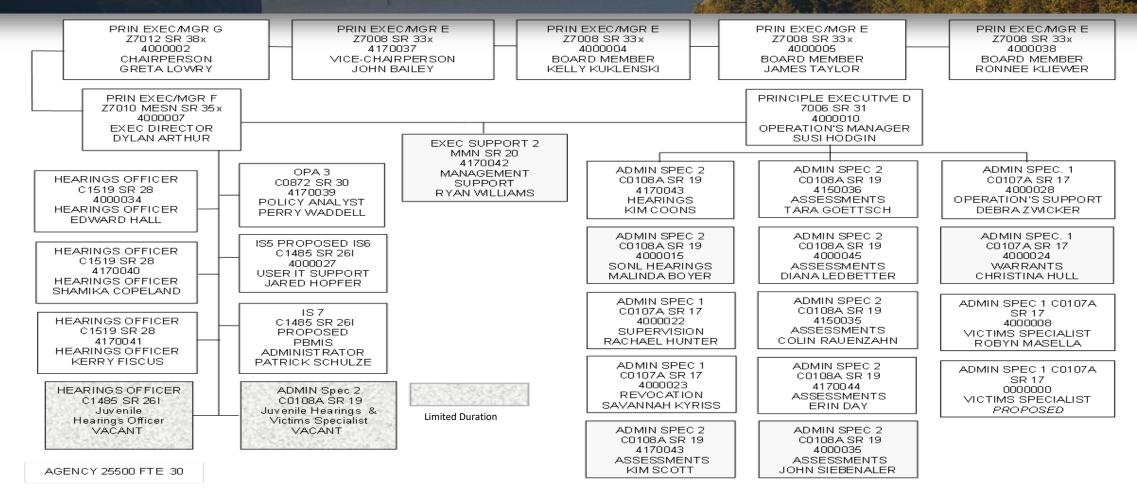


#### **SUMMARY**

- 1. Release hearings for parole eligible Adults in Custody (AICs)
- 2. Setting supervision conditions, sanctioning for post-prison supervision, issuing warrants and holding Morrissey hearings
- 3. Determining community notification level for registered sex offenders
- 4. Hearings to consider ending reporting requirements or reducing notification levels for individuals who qualify and are on the sex offender registry
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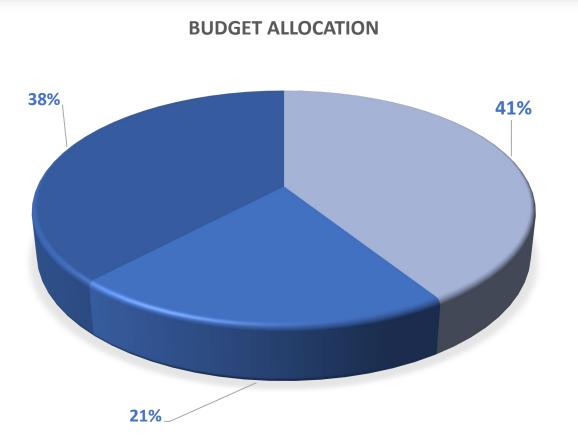


## AGENCY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





## 2023-25 GOVERNOR'S REQUEST BUDGET



Agency Request Budget: **\$13,298,851 General Funds** \$12,696 Other Funds 31 F.T.E.

<b>Sex Offender Program</b>	41%	\$5,754,529
Policy & Legal	<b>21%</b>	\$2,792,759
Parole Supervision	38%	\$5,053,563



### Summary of the Governor's Request Budget

The Board is almost entirely a General Fund agency.

#### **Policy Option Packages:**

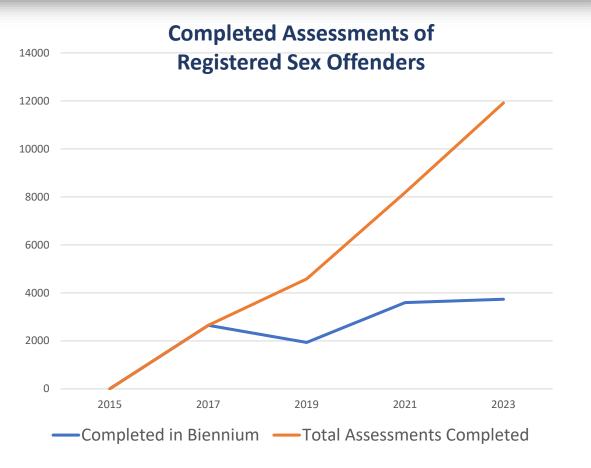
- 101 Electronic Document Management: \$460,088
- 102 New Position: Victim's Specialist: \$199,059
- 105 Juvenile Hearings Support: \$953,897

Total: \$1,613,044



# SEX OFFENDER NOTIFICATION LEVEL PROGRAM (SONL)

- HB 2320 (2015) directed the Board to adopt a sex offender risk assessment methodology and classify sex offenders into risk levels
- Legislative mandate to assess all new registrants (100/month), plus all historical registrants (~20,000 when program was created. 26,022 as of January 1, 2023)
- Currently, 1 FTE can consistently complete about 20-25 assessments a month
- Current staffing level can keep up with new registrants and make small headway on historical registrants





#### **SONL** Assessments of Historical Convictions

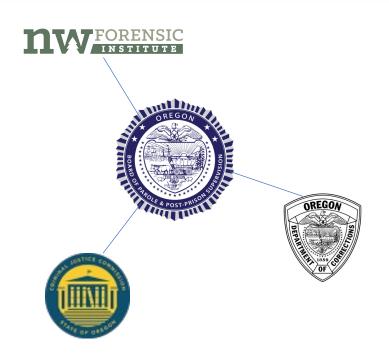
- The Board currently has 6 Board Assessment Specialists who conduct risk assessments. In addition, the Board contracts with examiners licensed in sex offense specific evaluations for females and individuals who do not qualify for Static-99R.
- Oregon adds between 85 and 100 new individuals to the registry each month.
- At current staffing levels, the Board will not meet the 2026 deadline for completing all historical registrants.





#### **TECHNOLOGY and DATA-INFORMED DECISION-MAKING**

- The Board of Parole contracts with Northwest Forensic Institute and other respected psychologists to conduct psychological assessments
- Pursuing funds for the implementation of an electronic document management system
- Collaborating with CJC for collection and analysis of data regarding Parole Board operations.





#### **INCREASE IN POPULATION WE SERVE**

- Measure 11 made murder convictions a life sentence with 25 year minimum, causing a continued increase in hearings since 2020
- Continued increase in hearings to end Sex Offender reporting requirements
- SB 1008 (2019) made juveniles convicted under Measure 11 eligible for a hearing after 15 years of incarceration. This will cause a significant short-term increase and a moderate long-term increase in hearings
- Recent Governor commutations made SB 1008 retroactive to 72 individuals





#### LEGAL COSTS

- The Board of Parole's legal costs are increasing.
- The number of lawsuits increases every biennium.
- Board decisions are subject to appellate court review and the Board pays DOJ to defend the agency on appeal.
- The Board also pays for consults with DOJ on complex legal matters.
- The Board prevails on nearly all legal challenges.



#### **Monthly Cost of Attorney General Fees**



#### **STEPS TAKEN TO REDUCE COSTS**

- Reduced contracted services
- Engage lawyers on staff for basic legal questions in lieu of relying on DOJ
- Hired programmer to update & improve our Parole Board Management Information System (PBMIS) to increase efficiency
- Currently in the process of converting 25,000 paper files into an electronic format
- Working with community corrections to help complete risk assessments on sex offenders
- Continued reductions realized in 2020 including: canceling of phone landlines, returning Board car to motor pool and cancelling other small contracts



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#### **CURRENT VACANCIES**

The Board is fully staffed and has filled all vacancies that occurred due to the pandemic. No long-term vacancies expected.

#### **COMMUTATIONS**

The increase in Governor's commutations has increased the Board's workload to accommodate the increase in AICs releasing to Post-Prison Supervision.

#### **PROJECTS**

The Board is requesting funds to scan offender records into an electronic records system. Currently, these records are stored on the floor of Board offices.





#### **CHANGES TO THE BUDGET BY BIENNIUM**

- 2107-2019 3 new Board Assessment Specialists (BAS) added for Sex Offender Notification Leveling Program. Total of 7 BAS.
- 2019-2021 Budget reductions due to pandemic: 3 positions ended. Total of 4 BAS. Hearings begin for registered sex offenders who petition the Board for a reclassification to a lower notification level or petition for relief from the obligation to register in Oregon.
- **2021-2023** 2 new BAS added by legislature. Total of 6 BAS. No programs initiated.



## Unresolved and Emerging Issues

These issues remained unresolved for 2021-23:

• None

#### These issues have emerged after publication of the Governor's Budget:

• Due to the dearth of defense attorneys available statewide, the Board has realized a significant issue in securing quality legal representation for AIC's. In response the Board increased the contract award for these services. To budget for this issue, the Board is asking for an additional increase of \$178,600 in general funds.



### PROPOSED LEGISLATION

#### Allow Parole Officers Working for Board to Continue PERS qualification

- The Board proposes to add Board of Parole to list of PERS police and fire qualifying agencies.
- Board of Parole is a "criminal justice agency" under 181A.265(3)(g) and employs parole officers under ORS 181A.355.
- Parole officers working for other public safety agencies in Oregon are already included in the definitions for PERS including DOC.
- Board consulted with Oregon PERS for appropriate language.



The Oregon Board of Parole has 8 key performance measures (KPMs).

**KPM 1: Recidivism** – For those under parole board release authority, the recidivism rate for 2022 is 0%, down from 15% in 2021. This is trending down since 2019.

**KPM 2: Orders of Supervision** – For 2020, the parole board issued 96.8% of its release orders prior to an adult-in-custody's (AIC) release. This is trending up and exceeds target of 95%.

**KPM 3: Victim Notification** – The Board of Parole's Percentage of notifications sent to active registered victims no later than 30 days before any hearing rating in 2022 was 100%. This target has been at 100% since 2016.



**KPM 4: Arrest Warrant -** Percentage of warrants received by the Board in which the warrant is issued within 5 days in 2022 was 98.7%. This exceeds target of 94.2%.

**KPM 5: Revocation -** Percentage of revocations for offenders who violate their conditions of supervision in 2022 was 6.4%. This exceeds the target of 10%.

**KPM 6: Discharge of Supervision -** Percentage of supervision expiration orders completed within 5 days of discharge from supervision in 2022 was 87.87%, within 5% of target.

**KPM 7: Administrative Review -** Percentage of review responses completed within 60 days in 2022 was 92%, exceeding target of 70%.

**KPM 8: Customer Service** – The Board of Parole's customer satisfaction rating in 2022 was 95% and met Board target.



Measure	Target	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Parole Recidivism within 3 years	15%	15.8%*	17%*	16.2%*	15%*	0%*
Orders of Supervision completed before release	95%	-	94.4%*	94.25%*	73% *	96.8%*
Victim Engagement within 30 days	98%	100%*	100%*	100%*	100%*	100%*
Arrest Warrants completed within 5 days	94.2%	99.99%*	99.99%*	99.99%*	81%*	98.7%*
Revocations as percent of sanctions	10%	-	3.7%*	4%*	5.4%*	6.4%*
Discharges from Supervision completed within 5 days	91.50%	-	99.4%*	99.83%*	83.7%*	87.8%*
Administrative Reviews completed within 60 days	70%	23%*	89%*	95%*	95%*	92%*
Customer Service satisfaction	95%	95%*	92%*	95%*	97%*	95%*



**Proposed Changes to our KPMs** 

• No changes proposed



- Due to mandatory costs associated with running an agency, the vast majority of our 15% reduction would be taken out of personal services.
- The cuts would result in the Board being unable to fulfill many statutory obligations, including the continued classification of sex offenders into a notification level, holding relief from reporting hearings, and cause a significant delay in the processing of supervision sanctions, victim services, and records request responses.



1 of 3 Pages

ACTIVITY OR PROGRAM	DESCRIBE REDUCTION	AMOUNT AND FUND TYPE	RANK AND JUSTIFICATION
Program or Activity Not Undertaken	Effects of This Reduction. Include Positions and FTE in 2023-25 and 2025-27	General Fund	
MAINTAIN VACANCY IN STAFF POSITION: OFFICE SPECIALIST (4000029)	WILL CONTINUE INEFFICIENCIES AND INCREASE WORKLOAD ON OTHER STAFF.	GF - \$138,530 1 FTE	REDUCTION IN SUPPORT SERVICES WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
LAYOFF 1ST AND 2ND OF 6 POSITIONS BOARD ASSESSMENT SPECIALISTS AS2 (4000035) (4150035)	LAYOFF OF 2 FTES WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY COMPLETE STATUTORILY REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS BY THE PRESCRIBED DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 1, 2026 (ORS 163A.100). WORK WOULD BE SHIFTED TO OTHER STAFF, RESULTING IN ADDITIONAL DELAYS.	GF - \$428,617 2 FTEs	REDUCTION IN STAFF WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES AND CONTINUE SOME ASSESSMENTS, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.



2 of 3 Pages

ACTIVITY OR PROGRAM	DESCRIBE REDUCTION	AMOUNT AND FUND TYPE	RANK AND JUSTIFICATION
Program or Activity Not Undertaken	Effects of This Reduction. Include Positions and FTE in 2023-25 and 2025-27	General Fund	
REDUCE 3RD OF 6 POSITIONS BOARD ASSESSMENT SPECIALIST TO HALF TIME AS2 (4170043)	REDUCTION OF .5 FTES WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY COMPLETE STATUTORILY REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS BY THE PRESCRIBED DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 1, 2026 (ORS 163A.100). WORK WOULD BE SHIFTED TO OTHER STAFF, RESULTING IN ADDITIONAL DELAYS.	GF - \$107,132 .5 FTE	REDUCTION IN SUPPORT SERVICES WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
LAYOFF 1 OF 2 BOARD HEARINGS OFFICER HEARINGS OFFICER (4170040)	REDUCTION IN STAFF WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES AND CONTINUE SOME ASSESSMENTS, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.	GF - \$318,778 1 FTE	REDUCTION IN STAFF WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES AND CONTINUE SOME ASSESSMENTS, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
Layoff ISS7 (40000037)	REDUCTION IN SUPPORT SERVICES WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE PROPRIETARY COMPUTER SYSTEM AND CAUSE INEFFICIENCIES AND ERRORS TO ESCALATE.	GF - \$249,061 1 FTE	REDUCTION IN STAFF WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES AND CONTINUE SOME ASSESSMENTS, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.



3 of 3 Pages

ACTIVITY OR PROGRAM	DESCRIBE REDUCTION	AMOUNT AND FUND TYPE	RANK AND JUSTIFICATION
Program or Activity Not Undertaken	Effects of This Reduction. Include Positions and FTE In 2023-25 and 2025-27	General Fund	
Layoff Board Member (400000037) (Not included in 10% reduction.)	REDUCTION WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO KEEP UP WITH HEARINGS, ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEWS AND APPROVALS FOR SUPERVISION.	GF - \$363,795 1 FTE	REDUCTION WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
Layoff Executive Support position (4170042) (Not included in 10% reduction.)	REDUCTION OF STAFF MEMBER WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO MAINTAIN EFFICIENCIES AND INCREASE WORKLOAD ON OTHER STAFF.	GF - \$178,407 1 FTE	REDUCTION WILL INHIBIT THE BOARD'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE CERTAIN STATUTORY DUTIES, BUT IT WILL NOT CEASE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.
CSL \$11,794,572		Total: \$1,784,320 15% Target: \$1,769,186 Difference: \$15,134	8 positions, 7.5 FTE



## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

DEI is central to the Board's functions, priorities, and employee culture.

#### **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION**

- The Board has an active DEI Committee that works to move the agency intentionally towards being a more diverse, inclusive, and equity-centered agency that helps foster a culture of inclusiveness where employees are valued, respected, accepted and encouraged to fully participate in the organization
- Implementing trainings related to cultural competency and culturally responsive practices
- Promoting staff inclusion by creating opportunities for individuals to share personal perspectives and insights
- Reviewing demographic data regarding registered victims for analysis and improving victim services



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### OREGON BOARD OF PAROLE A SAFE AND JUST OREGON

## Thank you!

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