



Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole

Victims' Voice Law Takes Effect

September was an historic month for victims and for the Parole Board. As of September 1, a new law went into effect to allow registered victims of crime in Pennsylvania to have another choice as to how they would like to provide their victim impact statement to the Parole Board.

The Victims' Voice Law, signed by Gov. Corbett on June 18, amends the Crime Victims Act to allow a victim or the victim's representative the option to provide testimony on how the crime impacted their life directly to the Board members who will decide their case.

When Gov. Corbett signed the bill he recognized how far the commonwealth has come in establishing victim's rights since he began his law enforcement career 37 years ago, and that there is still more to be done. This new law is another milestone in Pennsylvania to achieve justice for crime victims. [CLICK HERE for the Fact Sheet: Victims' Voice Law.](#)

By the Numbers

Approximately 38,000 offenders are under parole supervision. This number has grown by 41.4% in 10 years. Even with this growth, the Board has successfully managed its population, improved its process, reduced its recidivism rate and significantly reduced the number of offenders who fail to report for supervision. To learn more about how the Board holds itself accountable, [CLICK HERE](#) to review the Board's performance measures.



Understanding PA Parole

In Pennsylvania, state-sentenced inmates are eligible for parole release at their minimum sentence date. Parole is a privilege, not a right; it is not automatic or guaranteed. The Board makes more than 22,000 parole decisions each year. The Board begins the process of gathering required information for the parole interview months prior to the minimum sentence date and the offender is interviewed approximately three to four months prior to this date. Decisions to grant or deny parole are based on extensive information in the case file, actuarial assessments, the proposed reentry plan, the interview with the offender and the discretionary judgment of the decision makers. [CLICK HERE for Fact Sheet: Understanding the Parole Process.](#)

New Board Members Confirmed

On Oct. 1, the Senate confirmed the nominations of Ms. Leslie M. Grey and Mr. Edward L. Burke as new members of the Board and reappointed Mr. Lloyd A. White. Ms. Grey has practiced law in Pennsylvania for over 27 years and most recently was a deputy attorney general with the Office of Attorney General. Mr. Burke began his criminal justice career in 1982 and prior to his appointment was a parole supervisor at SCI-Rockview. Mr. White has been confirmed by the Senate for three terms and was acting chairman from June 2011 to January 2012. [To learn more about all of the Board Members, CLICK HERE.](#)