



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Pennsylvania Governor Wolf Congratulates 54 New Parole Agents at PA State Parole Graduation**

**HARRISBURG** – Governor Tom Wolf congratulated the fifty-four men and women joining the ranks of the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole during graduation ceremonies today, the highest number of graduates in the agency's history.

"I am proud to offer my congratulations to the men and women graduating today as Pennsylvania's newest parole agents," said Governor Wolf. "These agents serve as vital members of the support system of those re-entering their communities after incarceration, a role that I know will be fulfilling both professionally and personally."

"Training new agents is one of the most important missions of this agency," said PBPP Chairman Leo Dunn. "Each agent will be working with formerly incarcerated people who are going to affect the community – they will have the power to get those individuals the assistance they need to help reintegrate them into society upon their release."

"Our professional development curriculum is critical to developing the skills of probation and parole staff in achieving the mission of public safety and reducing recidivism," added Dunn.

The training program now includes:

- EPICS: Effective Practices for Community Supervision is designed to further incorporate evidence-based practices within the confines of a typical parolee supervision contact;
- Up-to-date training by medical professionals on infectious diseases, substance use disorders and recovery programs and mental health issues;
- Enhanced defense tactics to ensure the safety of the agent and the parolee;
- Recognition of gangs and other security threat groups;
- Specialized case management of sex offenders and mental health;
- Using risk and needs assessments to assist with successful parolee reentry into the community; and
- Training to help assess domestic violence situations and responses to *Protection from Abuse* orders.

"When the joint training program began in 1978, it was basic skills course lasting just five days," said Dunn. "Now, the training has evolved into a multi-faceted curriculum reflecting the unique nature of agents as part law enforcement officer, part counselor, part social worker and part job counselor."

The board recognized Mark Gaulty as the class valedictorian. Agent Gaulty was presented with the honor for achieving the score of 97.6 percent. Agent Corey Lindell received the marksmanship award.

Governor Tom Wolf was the keynote speaker. In addition, Chairman Dunn; Luis Rosa, Director

of the Office of Reentry and Quality Assurance; and Christian Stephens, Director, Office of Field Probation and Parole Supervision addressed the graduates.

Members of the 128th Basic Training Academy (BTA) class were assigned to various areas throughout the state.

Below is a list of graduates and their new duty stations.

- Agent Jeffrey Alloway, Reading Sub Office
- Agent Michele Anthony, SCI Huntingdon
- Agent Mary Anne Beish, SCI Albion
- Agent Tonia Bottino, Philadelphia West
- Agent Melissa Brennan, SCI Chester
- Agent Robert Brentano, Allentown District Office
- Agent Mary Brotzman, SCI Retreat
- Agent Jarred Brunner, Philadelphia Northwest
- Agent Ashley Carter, SCI Camp Hill
- Agent Megan Casner, SCI Smithfield
- Agent Jacquelynn Conners, Altoona District Office
- Agent Brian Coslett, Mon Valley Sub Office
- Agent Meggin Diltz, SCI Retreat
- Agent Ryan Fickinger, Philadelphia Northeast
- Agent Brian Goode, Harrisburg District Office
- Agent Mark Gaulty, North Shore Sub Office
- Agent Joel Gross, York Sub Office
- Agent Benjamin Groves, Allentown District Office
- Agent Marcy Hazlett, SCI Mercer
- Agent Nicole Hoisington, SCI Dallas
- Agent Seamus Hood, Philadelphia Northeast
- Agent Brian Kennard, Chester District Office
- Agent Matthew Leskawa, York Sub Office
- Agent Corey Lindell, Erie District Office
- Agent Nicholas Loguidice, Philadelphia West
- Agent Debra Mack, Mercer District Office
- Agent Frederick Manville, SCI Albion
- Agent Robert Marzzacco, Pittsburgh District Office
- Agent Joanna Matos, SCI Graterford
- Agent Roberta McCann, Lancaster Sub Office
- Agent Jeffrey Miller, SCI Rockview
- Agent Stefanie Mong, Mercer District Office
- Agent Krista Patla, SCI Dallas
- Agent James Pierce, Philadelphia Northeast
- Agent Laura Reichle, Philadelphia Northwest
- Agent Brooke Rhinehart, Mon Valley Sub Office
- Agent Joshua Ritchey, Altoona District Office
- Agent Andrew Rosebosky, SCI Pittsburgh
- Agent Michael Ruggiero, Altoona District Office
- Agent Justin Schaeffer, Chester District Office
- Agent Jessica Schwartz, SCI Pinegrove
- Agent Alyssa Shriner, SCI Camp Hill
- Agent Marnie Sommers, Erie District Office
- Agent Curtis Spagnola, York Sub Office

- Agent April Tiffany, Philadelphia West
- Agent Francis Venezia, Philadelphia West
- Agent Paige Wallace, North Shore Sub Office
- Agent Emily Warren, Philadelphia Northeast
- Agent Jeffrey Weaver, Philadelphia Northeast
- Agent Kiana Wilbern, Lancaster Sub Office
- Agent Brandon Williams, Chester District Office
- Agent Monica Wingate, Lancaster Sub Office
- Agent Tiffany Winik, Philadelphia West
- Agent Jody Zaragoza, PGH Special Needs Unit

The graduation ceremony took place at the Department of Corrections Training Academy in Elizabethtown.

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