

Law Enforcement Collaboration

pa board of probation and parole

The Board values its relationships with local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in each of its districts in order to enhance public safety. The Board has worked with law enforcement entities in four broad categories: 1) confidential informants; 2) information sharing; 3) committees and work groups; and 4) warrant enforcement/partnered patrols. This document outlines some of those initiatives within the parole districts.

Parole districts are organized into three regions:

- Eastern Region: Philadelphia and Chester Districts
- Central Region: Harrisburg, Allentown, Scranton, and Williamsport Districts
- Western Region: Pittsburgh, Altoona, Mercer, and Erie Districts

Confidential Informants

The Board's policies allow for cooperation with law enforcement for the purposes of requesting an offender to be a cooperative witness/confidential informant. Specific guidelines of the protocol are not public information, but they may be obtained by law enforcement agencies. The Board's overriding concern is whether or not involvement by the offender would jeopardize the safety of the offender or the community. CIs are normally requested for long-term assignments, but they are occasionally needed for immediate, short term assignments. The Board is able to expedite these immediate requests if it is made aware of the need for a quick turnaround. The vast majority of requests during this calendar year for using PBPP-supervised offenders as confidential informants have been approved.

Information Sharing

The Board and law enforcement at various levels continuously share information. This occurs in both informal and formal settings. Field staff work with law enforcement by providing valuable intelligence information whenever possible. The information sharing efforts are above and beyond the more informal, everyday occurrences that often take place between field agents and patrol officers.

Participation in Committees and Workgroups

Throughout the Commonwealth, Board employees participate in many more formalized collaborative efforts with law enforcement to improve public safety. These groups meet for diverse purposes such as providing for program updates to working together to solve criminal justice system problems. Often, these more formal settings serve as vehicles to share intelligence information.

Warrant Enforcement/Partnered Patrol Efforts

From large-scale operations to a simple ride-along, Board staff is regularly involved with other law enforcement agencies in activities that are primarily police work as opposed to more traditional community corrections work. This includes regularly conducting operations with the U.S. Marshal's Service. Currently, 44 Board agents are deputized U.S. Marshals, and another five agents are in the process of becoming deputized. The Board often asks for assistance from local law enforcement and in return offers its assistance.

Eastern Region

Information Sharing

- Parolee addresses and other intelligence is shared with the Philadelphia Police Department to map “hot-spots” to assist police in identifying patrolling priorities.
- Starting September 2010, Board staff will participate in police roll-calls on a bi-monthly basis
- Joint Board Deputy District Director and Supervisor/Police Captain meetings occur in each division on quarterly basis
- Monthly meeting between the Board Special Offenders’ Unit and the Special Victim’s Unit of the Philadelphia Police Department to discuss recent criminal activity and provide information if supervised offenders are suspects
- Formalized interaction and interfacing with Department of Homeland Security and FBI to review international travel requests by offenders
- Accelerated process in place to notify the Philadelphia Police Department’s Criminal Intelligence Unit when the most violent offenders abscond
- FAST (Fugitive Apprehension and Search Team) Unit works with HIDTA (High Intensive Drug Trafficking Areas) to share intelligence data and coordinate duplicated warrant and/or surveillance efforts (“de-confliction”)

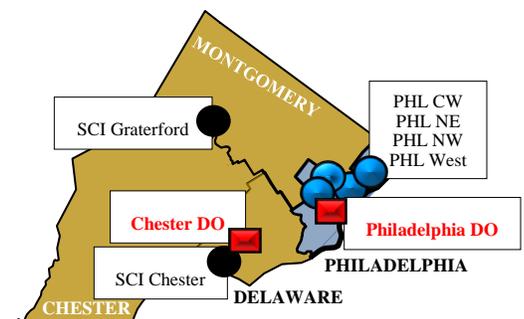
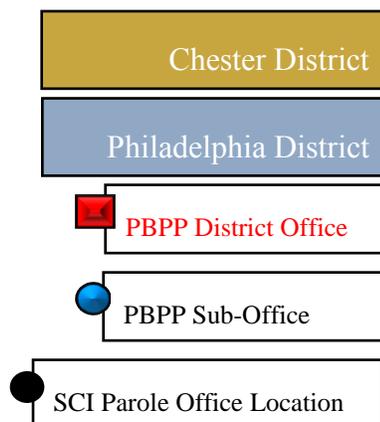
Participation in Workgroups or Committees

- U.S. Marshal Fugitive Task Force
- ComSTAT Meetings
- High Intensive Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)
- Southwest Detectives Division Working Group
- Project Safe Neighborhood Program
- Delaware County Crime Statistics Meetings
- Delaware County Chiefs Meetings
- Chester County Fugitive Task Force
- Cobbs Creek Task Force

Warrant Enforcement/ Partnered Patrol Efforts

- FAST Unit regularly works with federal, state, and local agencies on the U.S. Marshal Fugitive Task Force
- Coordinate with police on every arrest attempt by parole field staff in Philadelphia District
- Operation Pressure Point
- Nuisance Bar Sweeps
- Chester High Risk Offender Initiative with Chester Police Department

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Central Region

Information Sharing

- Provide electronic data consisting of offenders' addresses to Reading Police Department and Lehigh County to allow them to overlay crime reporting with addresses to identify patrol priorities
- Harrisburg Sex Offender agents work with Sex Offender officers at Dauphin County Probation and the City of Harrisburg's sex offender and Megan's law investigator
- Board staff participates in Wilkes-Barre Police Department roll calls by providing parole updates
- Local police in Williamsport District are provided with offenders' names and addresses
- Provide master list of offenders to Lackawanna County District

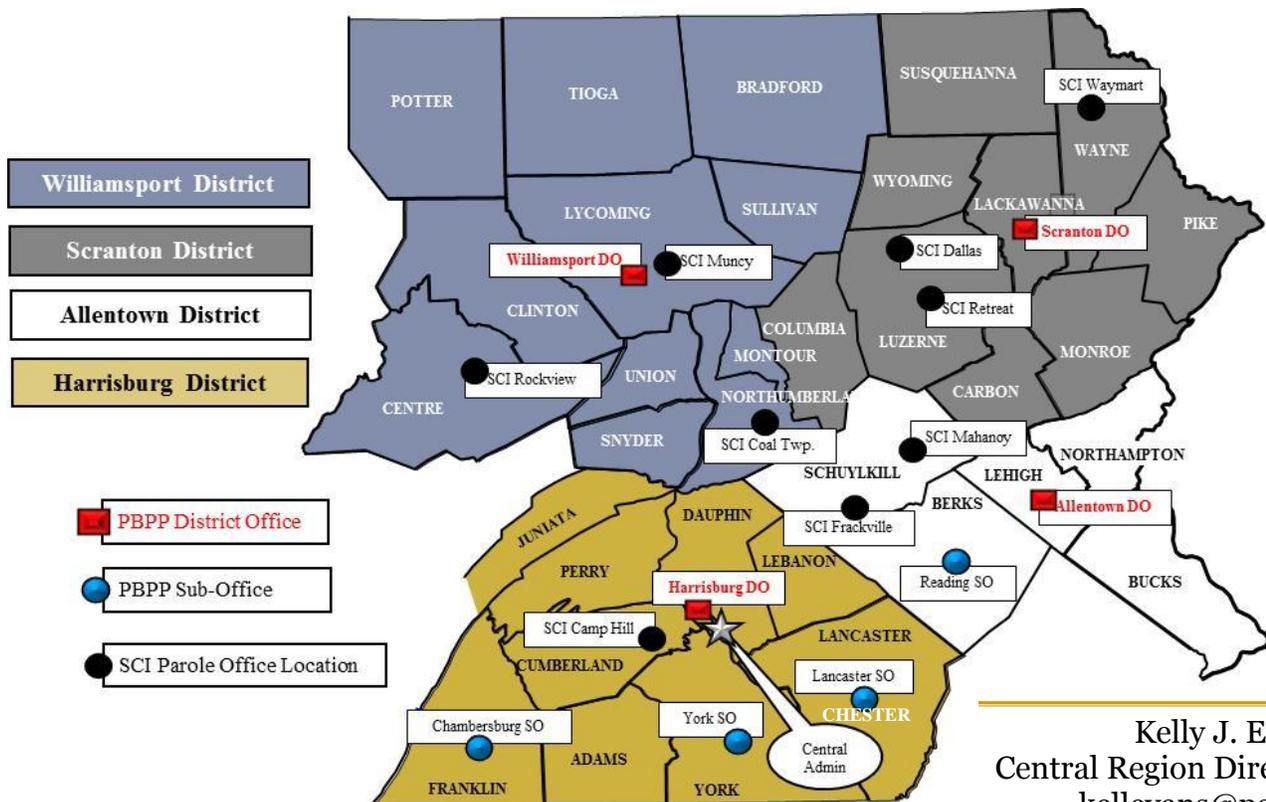
Attorney's Office and Scranton Police Department

Participation in Workgroups or Committees

- County Crime Meetings in Franklin, Lehigh, Bucks, Northampton, Berks, Schuylkill, Lycoming, Centre, Clinton, and Northumberland Counties
- Dauphin County Joint Gang Task Force
- Monroe County Monthly Investigators Meeting
- Hazleton Area Gang Task Force
- Wright Township Crime Prevention Meetings
- Cumberland County Monthly Crime Meeting
- 222 Corridor Anti-Gang Initiative

Warrant Enforcement/ Partnered Patrol Efforts

- Conduct bar sweeps/curfew compliance checks with local law enforcement in Reading, Harrisburg, and Lancaster
- Harrisburg FAST Unit regularly works with U.S. Marshals, PA State Police, Dauphin County Sheriff, and Dauphin County Probation
- Agents participate in operations with U.S. Marshals Service in Allentown and Reading
- Agents participated in a PA Attorney General and Northumberland County Drug Enforcement Task Force warrant round up
- Operation Safe Surrender
- Operation Triggerlock



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Western Region

Information Sharing

- Attend Police Chiefs' meetings with PSP and local police departments to share intelligence information
- Attend PSP sponsored intelligence briefings every other month that includes most police departments in order to discuss unsolved crimes and recent criminal behavior
- Mercer District provides list of offenders under active supervision to local police, district attorney's office, and Magisterial District Judges
- Involvement in police roll calls to share parole updates

Participation in Workgroups or Committees

- Chiefs of Police meetings - discuss law enforcement issues of

the day; often attended by local judges and the district attorney

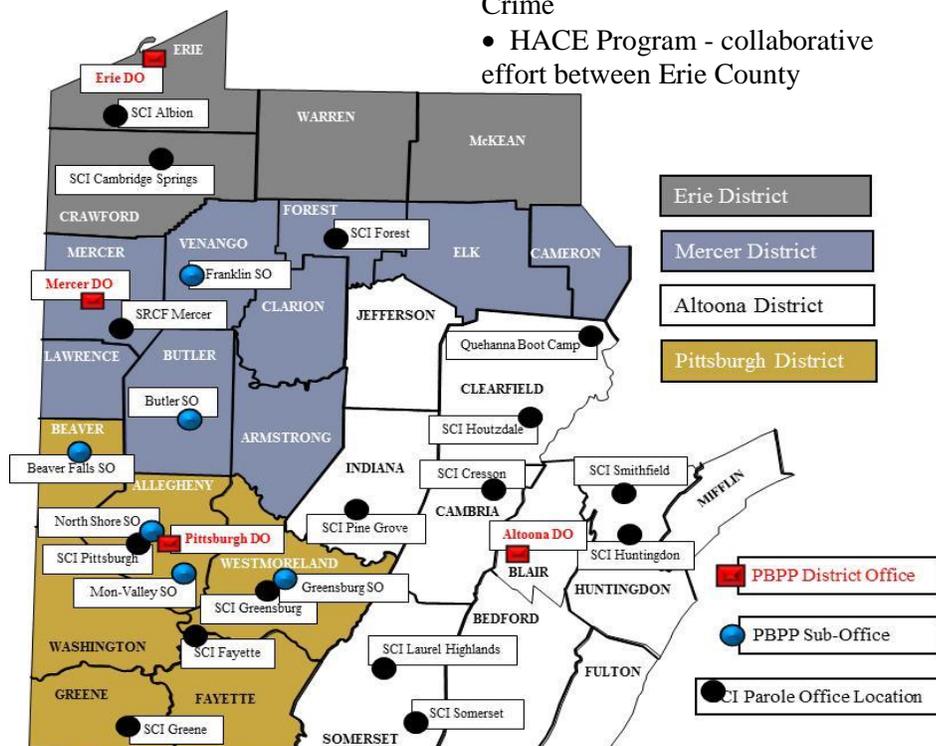
- DUI Advisory Board
- Mercer County Prison Board
- Law Enforcement Agency Directors of Western PA
- Criminal Justice Advisory Board Meetings
- Nuisance Bar Task Force
- FBI Gang Task Force
- Allegheny County District Attorney's Narcotics Enforcement Team
- STOP Grant Committee for Domestic Violence
- Communities that Care Prevention Board
- PA State Police Monthly Intelligence Meetings
- Venango County Pre-Release Board
- AWARE Advisory Board - anti-domestic and sexual violence group
- Sex Offender Containment Committee
- Weed and Seed meetings
- Pittsburgh Initiative to Reduce Crime
- HACE Program - collaborative effort between Erie County

Housing Authority and county probation, police, and state parole to increase safety of public housing

- Transportation Safety Administration's Aviation Liaison Support Team

Warrant Enforcement/Partnered Patrol Efforts

- Bar Sweeps in Altoona
- "Saturation Patrols" in Altoona, Erie, Mercer, and Pittsburgh
- Operation Falcon in Altoona, Erie, and Pittsburgh
- Board staff works with police in Mercer to enforce police warrants when PBPP offenders are involved
- Participate in Trigger-Lock Operations arranged by various police departments in Pittsburgh
- Participate in Nuisance Bar inspections in Allegheny, Washington, Westmoreland, Beaver, Fayette, and Greene Counties
- Participate in multi-jurisdictional (including federal, state, and local agencies) warrant enforcement efforts in Pittsburgh



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