



FLORIDA PAROLE COMMISSION

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FLORIDA PAROLE COMMISSION Monthly Accomplishments' Report October 2010

FEATURED MONTHLY CASES

On October 13, 2010, the Commission held the Initial Hearing of Inmate Dennis Flanagan, DC# 108876. Inmate Flanagan was sentenced in 1987 to life with 25 years minimum mandatory for the sexual battery by vaginal intercourse upon a child under 12 years of age. Inmate Flanagan also had multiple 1987 convictions for lewd or lascivious acts upon a child. The Commission set Inmate Flanagan's presumptive parole release date at January 7, 2112, and scheduled his next interview for June 2017.

On October 20, 2010, the Commission heard the case of Paula Carroll, Inmate #155250. Inmate Carroll was sentenced to five years prison in 1975 on a charge of stolen property. She escaped shortly after entering prison and was recaptured in 2010 following an anonymous tip. While out on escape for nearly 35 years and living under an assumed identity, Inmate Carroll had no further encounters with law enforcement. Based on the non-violent nature of the offense, no judicial objection and the manner in which Inmate Carroll comported herself while out in the community albeit under an alias, the Commission granted parole to Inmate Carroll, effective November 9, 2010.

~ MONTHLY RCR PENDING CASE UPDATE~

As of October 1, 2010, there were 89,691 pending RCR cases. There were 40,419 application cases and 49,272 were EOS/TOS(eos/expiration of sentence; tos/termination of supervision) cases.

~CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE~

The month of October was a busy month for the Florida Parole Commission. The Leadership Team and Commission employees pushed forward on several proposals and initiatives, held and attended hearings and meetings, and met a variety of reporting deadlines both with the Governor's Office and the Florida Legislature. The following is an overview of our activities for the month.

In addition to the three public hearings held by the Commission on October 6th, 13th, and 20th, the Commission's Leadership Team participated in a Leadership Workshop held on October 7th which was led by Dr. Evelyn Ploumis-Devick of the Department of Corrections. The purpose of the Workshop was to explore and learn about "servant-leadership" and to participate in team-building exercises. This Workshop was held at no expense to the Commission, and a follow-up meeting is scheduled for November 19th at Commission headquarters. A special thanks to Secretary McNeil for allowing Dr.

Ploumis-Devick to assist the Commission and its Leadership Team during this time of transition. This Workshop proved to be very educational, inspirational and a necessary training for those attending.

On Thursday, October 21, 2010, the Commission welcomed many guests and retired and former employees to an Open House at its new headquarters. Among the guests attending were representatives from the Executive Office of the Governor, Department of Corrections, the Parole Qualification Committee, and private attorneys/advocates. Tours were provided by employees of the new facility and a brief recognition ceremony followed, which was co-hosted by the Commissioners.

Other happenings: On October 20th, the Panhandle Group of the Department of Correction's Re-entry Advisory Council attended the Parole Commission Hearing and later that day held its meeting at Commission headquarters; representatives of the Department of Children and Families Mental Health Unit also met with the Commission on the 20th in an effort to assist the Commission resolve its need for mental health evaluation/risk assessment reports in lieu of legislative assistance. At present, this item remains among the Commission's Legislative Proposals as it remains unresolved. A Correspondence Tracking System was implemented for mail received by the Chairman's Office. Mail requiring a response referenced letters of support for inmates, inmates asking for hearings, and general letters regarding proposed release plans.

In an effort to address the pending RCR cases, Chairman Pate continued her review of the Clemency caseload from both an internal and external perspective. Chairman Pate met with Dean Thomas Blomberg, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Florida State University, to explore creative solutions in addressing the RCR pending cases and also implemented internal changes to handle the caseload in a more expeditious manner. This current initiative is described as PHASE ONE and will officially begin on November 1, 2010.

And, finally, but certainly not least, history was made at the Florida Parole Commission on October 26, 2010, when the Governor and Cabinet unanimously voted to appoint Cassandra D. Jenkins of Tallahassee for the remainder of Commissioner Fred Dunphy's term, beginning on January 5, 2011 and ending June 30, 2014. This is the first time in Florida's history that the composition of the Commission will be all female. Chairman Pate and Commissioners Monica David and Fred Dunphy congratulate Ms. Jenkins on her appointment and look forward to working with her on the Commission. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the agency, and she is welcomed wholeheartedly.

COMMISSION SECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Administration: Drafted and submitted the LBR; Received 100% compliance for prompt payment; assisted with planning and attended the Servant-Leadership Workshop; finalized the Bonus calculation and peer review forms; drafted Request to Travel Procedure Directive and processed Request to Travel forms; requested budget authority for additional VOCA grant funds; assisted in submitting Davis Productivity Award; provided information to employees during open benefits enrollment; attended

Personnel officer, Purchasing Director, and Director of Administration meetings; coordinated FPC IT issues with DC; submitted programming request to DC IT to both websites; submitted RCR numbers to the Governor's office; researched information for Employee Recognition Program; coordinated work of the Parole Qualifications Committee; attended DMS purchasing training; and attended the FCCD State Board meeting.

Clemency Administration: Assisted with drafting the LRPP (provided numbers, conducted reviews of document); assisted with drafting the RCR Proviso Report due to the Legislature October 1 (provided numbers, conducted reviews of document); continued to work steadily on all clemency cases, including quality assurance RCR reviews; director attended the Re-entry Advisory Council meeting with Chairman Pate; and on September 23, 2010, the Commission presented 81 clemency cases for the Board's consideration at the 3rd quarterly Clemency Board Meeting.

Communications and Legislative Affairs: Attended the Servant-Leadership Workshop; completed the FY 2009-10 Proviso Report 10/1 to the Legislature; fielded Phone Calls & Media Requests for 10/6, 10/13, and 10/20 Commission Hearings; coordinated and drafted Transition Briefing Documents; met with Committee reviewing RCR Legislative Training Materials; finalized October 4 nomination for a FPC 2010 Davis Productivity Team Award; assisted with coordination of October 21 Agency Open House; worked with the Governor's Legal Office on Public Records' Request issues; drafted and edited documents for Chairman's Office as requested; prepared and distributed press release on new Commissioner appointment; visited with key legislative staff; worked with Governor's press office on several media responses; and represented Chairman and presented Commission's LBR overview for OPB & media on 10/28.

Executive Clemency: Attended and participated in Leadership Training; assisted in the preparation of the RCR Proviso Report due to the Legislature October 1 (provided numbers, conducted reviews of document); chaired Legislative Training Material committee activities; reviewed training materials and submitted a report on recommendations for updating training materials; fielded an unusually high volume of calls relating to RCR inquiries due to upcoming November 2 general election.

Legal: Prepared briefing and transition documents for new Commissioner appointee; responded to public records requests from the Miami State Attorney and Public Defender Offices on information to be used at a death penalty sentencing hearing for Ana Cardona. The jury recommended resentencing to death on October 14, 2010. Two orders received in October were: (1) Collier v. FPC: The inmate filed a petition challenging his Conditional Release Supervision. The Court upheld the bundling of the inmate's sentences for eligibility for conditional release. The Court further rejected the inmate's constitutional challenges to the conditional release statute. (2) In Ronet v. Office of Executive Clemency, Mr. Ronet was seeking to have the Courts force the Office of Executive Clemency to grant him a full pardon and restoration of his civil rights. The Court dismissed the action finding it had no jurisdiction to consider the case.

Operations: Staff conducted the following interviews and hearings in the month of October: Parole Interviews – 80; Revocations Interviews – 266; Hearings - 69, totaling - 415 interviews and hearings during the month; seven inmates were granted parole; staff coordinated and attended leadership workshop; staff is working with Legislative Affairs on several research projects; and the Tampa regional office (Region V) is working selflessly on the following philanthropic activities: collecting shoes for domestic violence victims and children; collecting food for holiday meals; participating in a Light the Night Walk in honor of Harry Singletary to raise money for Leukemia/Lymphoma; and, fundraising for the next Special Olympics. This is in addition to their FSECC efforts.