



FLORIDA PAROLE COMMISSION

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FLORIDA PAROLE COMMISSION Monthly Accomplishments Report

August 2013
~CHAIR'S MESSAGE~
Tena M. Pate

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Executive Clemency Office for their diligence and hard work in processing an abundance of pending RCR applications over the past several months. Clemency staff successfully reduced the amount of applications to be screened for eligibility under the focused leadership of clemency coordinator Julia McCall. Because of these efforts staff will now be able to provide more prompt and timely status updates to applicants. A job very well done!

Also in August, the Florida Parole Commission (FPC) participated in several activities throughout the state including the Florida Sheriff's Association Conference. FPC Legislative Affairs Director, Kevin Reilly, attended the event and interacted with statewide leaders vital to advancing the priorities of the Commission. Staff also participated in a Restoration of Civil Rights (RCR) event in Saint Petersburg, hosted by Representative Darryl E. Rouson. Like other RCR events, this was an opportunity to join state legislators in identifying and informing constituents of their clemency eligibility.

The Commission continues to be proactive with the training and education of its employees, and as Chair, it's been my personal mission to keep all levels of staff informed. This month, central office staff participated in two educational opportunities. The first was an ADA Workplace training, which outlined appropriate interactions with our new building mates from the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. The training allowed us to view an individual's talents regardless of disability, as well as how to communicate properly and provide assistance if needed. Staff also participated in diversity training which focused on increasing cultural awareness, and the inclusion of different identity groups to promote better teamwork.

In closing, the Commission is steadily moving toward the common goal of excellence and this month leadership staff participated in its third goal setting meeting to address internal functions and ideas for better service. This year long activity encouraged staff to set measurable goals and benchmarks to obtain throughout the year. Thus far, the team has made great strides and I look forward to sharing the completed outcomes, which will have positive effects for both the Commission and for the state we serve.

Please read the full August monthly report below for additional information regarding Commission activities.

COMMISSION SECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Operations Shana Lasseter, Director

The Division of Operations remains in "full-steam ahead" mode. Team members in both central office and the field continue to work hard and accomplish great things on behalf of the citizens of Florida. Below is snapshot of some of the activities currently underway in the FPC field offices across the state.

Region 1

RA Tom Hamilton and I visited several locations in Shalimar, Florida on August 28, 2013 in hopes of finding an appropriate venue for the Commission's October 9, 2013 hearing in Okaloosa County. After our tours, it was decided that the hearings will be held at the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office (OCSO). Sheriff Ashley and his team could not have been more welcoming and willing to accommodate the Commission's needs for its meeting in October. The Commission will utilize the OCSO's Training Room for the meeting as well as two additional rooms within the OCSO for victim and inmate supporter waiting rooms.

Region 2

Region 2 has taken the lead in preparing for a Commission hearing in its region in January 2014. A request to use the Atlantic Beach Commission meeting room, which FPC utilized in 2011 for a hearing, has been submitted.

Region 3

With the closure of Brevard C.I., the FPC Region 3-Cocoa staff needed a new home. With the Department's assistance, staff is currently in the process of relocating to the Titusville P&P office temporarily, where they will remain until a build out of the Melbourne P&P office is completed in early 2014. Upon completion, FPC Region 3 will be headquartered in Melbourne.

Region 4

The Commission requested to acquire additional office space at the Department of Corrections' Broward P&P 17-2 office, in Lauderdale Lakes, which houses the FPC Broward office. FPC currently occupies 5 offices at this location and recently requested 1 additional office to meet operational needs. The Department provided 2 additional offices for FPC staff. The cooperation and assistance FPC has been provided over the years relating to the matter of the Commission co-locating with the Department is truly appreciated.

Region 5

The Pinellas Ex-Offender Re-entry Coalition will be sponsoring their annual Showcase of Services on October 25th. Region V staff is preparing to participate in the program this year assisting with registration and clemency issues.

Office of the Commission Clerk

Cases Docketed:

Parole	113
Conditional Medical	1
Conditional Release	306
Addiction Recovery	39
TOTAL	459

Month	Paroles		Conditional Medical Release	
	Granted	Denied	Granted	Denied
August	0	2	0	1

Featured Case:

Delroy Gibson #068516 was committed to the Department of Corrections on June 5, 1979. On September 2, 1997, Gibson met his wife in a utility room of a building. They had been separated for due to marital problems and Gibson had previously threatened his wife with a knife. In the utility room, the Gibson strangled his wife with a rope and a television antenna wire. After being advised of his constitutional rights, he stated "I love my wife. I did not plan to kill her." Gibson was sentenced on May 21, 1979 for Second Degree Murder and received a Life sentence.

Subsequently, Gibson was paroled on November 26, 1985 and deported to Jamaica. He illegally returned to the United States and received a five and a half year sentence in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Gibson's parole was later revoked on July 12, 1995, and his presumptive parole release date is currently set for October 17, 2013. The Commission reviewed his effective interview on the August 21, 2013 docket and voted to decline to authorize parole at this time.

Imaging

- August 2013 totals for Imaging Inmate Records (IRIS):

Completed Documents	3,061
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Revocations

Warrants Issued	146
Cases Reviewed and Prepared for Docket	202

Include Parole, Conditional Medical Release, Conditional Release, Addiction Recovery Release and/or Control Release.

Featured Case:

DC#116423 – Control Releasee Scott Drippon – On November 26, 1991, Scott Drippon was released to control release supervision for 1 year. Prior to being released, Drippon served a 3 year sentence for Uttering Forgery, Armed Burglary and Grand Theft and released to community control for a term of 2 years. While on community control, he committed and was convicted of another Burglary, Grand Theft and Trafficking Stolen Property in and was sentenced to 8 years 6 months.

Upon being released to control release, through Interstate Compact, Drippon moved to Ohio, where he committed Murder, Burglary, Aiding in Escape and Carrying a Concealed Weapon, in which he received 20 years to LIFE, in 1993. Drippon has waived his control release hearing and has requested the Commission make a final decision on his case, in his absence while serving his Ohio sentence.

Training

Supervisor Kim Dickey attended the Chair's Strategy and Goal meeting. Revocation continues to cross-train and test the new warrant application. Also, Ms. Dickey attended training at the Department of Highway Safety, for the new re-designing of DAVID (Driver and Vehicle Information Database).

Victims' Services

	August 2013
Victims' requests for information on parole, conditional release, and conditional medical cases	250
Victims Located	42
Status updates to victims on parole, conditional medical and clemency cases	920
Assisted victims who attended parole or clemency hearings	49

Field Services' Statewide Activities and Totals

	August 2013
Monthly Interviews and Hearings Conducted:	
Parole Interviews	83
Revocation Interviews	284
Revocation Hearings	73
Total Interviews and Hearings for the Month	440

REGION I:

- COURTESY INTERSTATE COMPACT TASKS:
 - Region I performed three notices.
- PENDING CLEMENCY CASES:
 - With a hearing: 696
 - Without a hearing: 154
 - Total Cases: 850

- TRAINING:
 - Rhonda Morris completed her NCIC/FCIC recertification.
 - Nell Simmons completed her NCIC/FCIC recertification.
- COURTESY INTERSTATE COMPACT TASKS:
 - Region I performed one hearing.

REGION II:

- COURTESY INTERSTATE COMPACT TASKS:
 - Region II received 5 requests for Courtesy Preliminary Hearings.
- PENDING CLEMENCY CASES:
 - With a hearing: 953
 - Without a hearing: 173
 - Total Cases: 1126
- PERSONNEL ACTION:
 - Examiner Cliff Rowan came off his probationary period and on to permanent status on 8/13/2013.
- TRAINING:
 - Regional Administrator Mills Rowland went through the new Limited Access Certification Course.
- COMMUNITY SERVICE:
 - Examiner Cliff Rowan is a volunteer through the Florida Gaurdian Ad Litem program in Columbia County.
 - Examiner Gary Fox is a volunteer and coach with the Special Population Activities Recreation Council (SPARC) in Volusia County.
 - Regional Administrator Mills Rowland is a Supervision Group Leader for the Stephen Ministry through the Beach United Methodist Church and the Church of Eleven22.

REGION III:

- COURTESY INTERSTATE COMPACT TASKS:
 - Region III had no requests for the month of August.
- PENDING CLEMENCY CASES:
 - With a hearing: 1112
 - Without a hearing: 154
 - Total Cases: 1266
- TRAINING:
 - Clemency training held at August 12 staff meeting.
- MISCELLANEOUS:
 - Kevin Tiller attended the Brevard County Public Safety Council meeting on 8/7/13.
 - Ocala staff visited Cocoa for a meeting/training and field work reviews. Region staff enjoyed a cookout for lunch.
 - Cocoa Office relocation plans finalized with move dates set, truck rental, storage rental, coordination with DC for temporary space move in, copier relocation, phone relocation, IT needs requested, and lots of packing.

REGION IV:

- COURTESY INTERSTATE COMPACT TASKS:
 - 8 - Parole Notice of Hearing
 - 1 - Parole Probable Cause Hearing
- PENDING CLEMENCY CASES:
 - With a hearing: 2,490
 - Without a hearing: 349
 - Total Cases: 2,839
- TRAINING:
 - Richard Konior and Cindy Zimmerman attended training August 19, 2013, given by the Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole regarding Responding to Citizens with Mental Illness.
- MISCELLANEOUS:
 - Hugo Sierra, an intern from Florida International University (FIC) attaining a Bachelor of Science double major in Criminal Justice and Political Sciences, started his internship in the Miami Office.

During his internship he will be trained in the area of preparing/conducting clemency investigations, revocation interviews and hearings, parole interviews and other areas.

- Cavell Mason, started as a volunteer in the Miami Office. She recently graduated from Florida International University (FIU) with a Master of Science in Criminal Justice. She is currently working directly with the Miami staff in the area of clemency investigations. We would like to extend our thanks to Ms. Mason for contributing 3 days a week of her time as a volunteer and assisting our office in an area where help is needed the most.
- Eric Flores, an intern from Keiser University majoring in Forensic Investigations, completed his internship in the Broward Office. During his internship he was trained in the areas of clemency investigations, revocations and parole interviews. He was an excellent intern and we all wish him the best of luck.

REGION V:

- COURTESY INTERSTATE COMPACT TASKS:
 - 6 requests for Probable Cause Hearings received.
- PENDING CLEMENCY CASES:
 - With a Hearing: 1226
 - Without a Hearing: 278
 - Total Cases: 1504
- TRAINING:
 - Melinda Strickland and Cathy Aylstock attended the FCCD Annual Criminal Justice Training Institute in Orlando 8/26/13 – 8/29/13.
- COMMUNITY SERVICE:
 - Region V collected six boxes of school supplies and donated them to Ms. L. Zimmerman's Palm River Elementary School kindergarten class for the first day of school, August 20, 2013. Mary Williams arranged delivery to the class.
 - Daystar in Pinellas County provides food, rent assistance and toiletries to indigent families. Region V staff had the opportunity to make donations to Daystar through Patti Razor.
 - Florida State Representative, Darryl Rouson hosted a Civil Rights Restoration Workshop in St. Petersburg at the Enoch Davis Center on 8/31/13. Helen Williams-Lester, Cathy Aylstock, Lori VanCamp, Melinda Strickland and Patti Razor represented FPC and assisted attendees.
- MISCELLANEOUS:
 - Bob Read, his wife, Linda, and the Pasco County Rotary Club in Trinity, FL funded a summer music program and purchased recorders for the New Port Richey Boys & Girls Club, who performed at the Rotary Club on 8/9/13. The Rotary Club is hoping to do the same for the Lacochee Boys & Girls Club soon, also in Pasco County.

Administration

Gina Giacomo, Director

The Division of Administration's primary accomplishments in the month of August 2013 included: Achieving 100% prompt payment on invoices. The Commission is the only state agency to achieve 100% in setting of performance expectations in People First. All of the Commissions hard copy procedure directives have been scanned and saved on the network.

Conducted research for the Commission's budget request and Legislative proposals issues; submitted request for many updates to FPC websites and working with DOC IT to revise Commission website; Assisted with Employee Enrichment program; participated in work group for DVD of Victim Services; Had all OPS staff complete a dual hire acknowledgment form; received four hard drives from department of Agriculture at no cost to the Commission; Completed the Statewide Financial Statement Closeout for FY 12-13; Responded to the Debt Collection survey; Prepared Administration Business report; Submitted the Casualty report; Completed and submitted the OPS justification report; Submitted the performance management training report; Submitted Submit VOCA information; Participated on the Operations conference call; Submitted the FY 14-15 Account Design & Exposure Base Inquire and completed the Temporary Employment Staffing survey.

Division employees attended trainings on the following topics, (2) FASAAD Administration, (2) Purchasing, (2) Human Resource, (1) FACTS training, (5) Disability Interaction Training, (1) FSECC Payroll Coordinator training, (1) FSECC

Webinar, (1) FSECC SAC training, (1) LASPBS training, (1) Goal meeting, Schedule 1 and 1C training, Interagency Advisory Council meeting and training, and (1) P-card meeting.

Office of Clemency Investigations
Steve Hebert, Director

Pending Clemency Cases September 1, 2013

Types of Clemency Cases	August 2013
RCR Cases	13,166
Without a Hearing Cases (1,719)	
With a Hearing Cases (11,447)	
Non-RCR Cases*	7,955
Total Pending Clemency Cases	21,121

* Full Pardon, Specific Authority to Own/Possess/Use Firearms, Remission of Fines, Commutation of Sentence and Request for Review.

Highlights / Accomplishments for the month of August 2013 for the Office of Clemency Investigations include:

- On August 1, 2013, Steve Dawson, who has been a Parole Examiner in this office since 2006, was selected to fill the Administrative Analyst position. He will be responsible for working on capital punishment clemency cases for submission to the Commissioners and Clemency Board.
- On August 2, 2013, the Director of Clemency Investigations joined the FPC Leadership Team for a Follow-up Session on Strategy and Goal Setting for 2013. Updates on the progress and/or completion of goals for each office were provided, and plans for the next quarter were discussed.
- August 8, 2013, the Director of Clemency Investigations provided training to the Regional Administrators and Supervisors during a conference call to include procedures related to clemency investigations and the Rules of Executive Clemency.
- On August 15, 2013, Ora Wilson, who has been an OPS Parole Examiner in this office since March 2011, was selected to fill a part-time shared Parole Examiner position. She will primarily be conducting Restoration of Civil Rights eligibility investigations.
- The Director and all members of the office attended two separate valuable training sessions this month: “Diversity Training” and “Effective Interaction: Communicating With and About People with Disabilities in the Workplace.”
- Staff in this office assisted in the development of clemency information for agency reports such as the Long Range Program Plan, Performance Measures, and Legislative Budget Requests.
- Conducted capital punishment clemency investigations and coordinated interviews for death row inmates.
- Conducted Request for Review investigations for commutation of sentence applications.
- Conducted quality assurance reviews of all clemency investigations completed by regional field offices.
- Reviewed Restoration of Civil Rights cases for eligibility prior to sending them out to field offices for in-depth field investigations to be conducted.

Office of Communications
Molly Koon Kellogg, Director

- Coordinated and responded to various public records and media requests.
- Provided informational brochures to various organizations for restoration of civil rights events.
- Completed Clemency Timeline project for website.
- Redesigned and updated media kits.
- Created new executive clemency flier for distribution at public events.
- Submitted APAI article regarding victim’s services.

Executive Clemency
Julia McCall, Clemency Coordinator

This month we will be saying goodbye and thank you to the famous OPS “Night Shift”. This group consisted of Central Office staff members Jamil Jefferson, Shane Bozman, Sandra Rozier, Dawn Mikola and Billie Zetrouer. The Night Shift has worked diligently afterhours for several months and has been a major contributor to our success in assisting in the processing of all of the applications for Restoration of Civil Rights that had not yet been reviewed. Those applicants determined eligible have received notification of such and been forwarded to the next step in the process; the investigation by the Office of Clemency Investigations.

There still remains several thousand pardons and firearms that we will be working in the future as well as the daily clemency application submissions received in our office.

Another noteworthy item is that Ingrid Passetti, our newest OPS employee hired in July has communicated bilingually with 22 applicants who would have otherwise not been able to receive first hand assistance regarding their clemency concerns. Ingrid is available throughout the Central Office and has been of assistance in other areas of the agency as well.

As of August 27th, the Web Page for the Florida Parole Commission has received 1,202,020 visits with 911,855 searches for Restoration of Civil Rights grants, 97,349 names were located and 61,862 certificates have been printed. This web page was established in 2008 and has proven to be an excellent customer assistance tool. Currently there are 375,257 certificates available for printing.

Legal Office
Sarah Rumph, General Counsel

The legal office received three orders from the courts since the last summary which provide good information:

1. Wilson v. FPC: the conditional releasee challenged his eligibility for conditional release since he had received a split sentence. The Court rejected the releasee’s arguments based on the clear interpretation of § 947.1405(2), F.S. (2001), from the perspective of the Staff Analysis from HB 245-2001.
2. Pouncey v. DOC & FPC: Parole-eligible petitioner challenged his exclusion from participation in the Mutual Participation Program as well as a denial of a reduction to his PPRD. The Court held that the petitioner did not establish a right to release since he was not eligible for MPP, by statute, and even inclusion in MPP does not establish a right to release on parole. Furthermore, the Court rejected the argument that the petitioner was entitled to a reduction of his PPRD.
3. Callahan v. FPC: In this case, the Court dismissed the cause as moot after the Commission completed its review under Alday since that was the relief that the petitioner had been seeking.

Office of Legislative Affairs
Kevin Reilly, Director

FLORIDA SHERIFF’S ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Attended the 2013 Florida Sheriffs Association Summer Conference, during the weekend of events Kevin Reilly, Legislative Affairs Director was able to have strategic conversations with organizational leaders who play an important role in the criminal justice field. He was also able to have several meetings with elected legislative leaders who are vital to advancing the priorities of the Commission.

The office is continuously conducting ongoing constituent relations regarding various Commission functions.