

Post-Incarceration Supervision Task Force

Date: March 10, 2009, 9:00 - 11:30 AM

Attendees:

David Kaplan, Chair
Christie Donner, Task Force Leader
Lacey Berumen, Executive Director, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)
Kerry Cataldo, DCJ
Kim English, DCJ
Tim Hand, Deputy Director of Regional Operations (Parole)
Pete Hautzinger, District Attorney (via phone)
Paul Herman, Consultant
Greg Mauro, Community Corrections
Germaine Miera, DCJ/Researcher/Facilitator
David Michaud, Parole Board Representative
Dianne Tramutola-Lawson, CURE
Carolyn Turner, CURE
Doug Wilson, State Public Defender

Absent:

Regina Huerter, Manager of Denver Public Safety
Carl Blesch, DCJ/Community Corrections

<p>Issue/Topic:</p> <p>Welcome</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>David Kaplan welcomed the group and reviewed the day's agenda.</p>
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<p>Issue/Topic:</p> <p>Review of the PIS 2009 <i>Revised</i> Goals and Timeline</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <p>Reviewed the document that Paul Herman put together about BP-57: Outside Agency Analysis and Assistance for the Parole Board. The tasks and responsible parties that have been identified are...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NIC Technical Assistance Providers would primarily focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the board to identify sanctioning goals (philosophical, normative, and systems) • Assisting the board in defining policy objectives for structured decision making • System mapping of key decision making points in the release and return process. 2. The Colorado Division of Criminal Justice would primarily focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzing the CARAS and Parole Action form data and report the information in a quarterly memo to Parole Board members • Working with DOC to obtain return to prison outcome data and thereby provide stakeholders with most comprehensive recidivism information • Working with the Parole Board to discuss results of Parole Board data and use the information can be used to improve decision making. • Requesting additional resources from the General Assembly for the FY 2011 budget cycle to ensure the ability to comply with audit recommendations. 3. The Colorado Department of Corrections would primarily focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the Board to ensure that accurate and meaningful data are collected and reported on Parole decisions by the Board and parole releases by the Department. • Working with the Board to ensure mutual understanding of their duties related to reporting of parole decisions and formalize the process in a memorandum of agreement. 4. The Colorado Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice and it Reentry Oversight Committee and Post Incarceration Task Force would primarily focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the parole board to clearly understand its current release decision making elements; to identify the current policy and practice; to identify targets of change in that policy and practice to bring it more into line with the Board's goals and objectives. • Working with the parole board to understand the current parole revocation decision elements; to identify the current policy and practice; to identify targets of change in that policy and practice to bring it more into line with the Board's goals and objectives.
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The proposed strategy is...

Phase I: January-June 2009

Release Decision Making Elements

- The use of risk assessment instruments (CARAS)
- The use of instruments that identify criminogenic needs
 - *Currently the board is not addressing the criminogenic needs*
- Statutorily mandated elements
- Specific offender file material
 - *DOC is not providing the Parole Board with the information needed.*
 - *DOC and Parole Board need to sit down and discuss what information is needed*
- Written release guidelines
- Written policy and procedure (Parole Board Manual)
 - *Should be on a website so people can access them*
- Hearings and hearing schedules, types, purpose, timing, etc
- Types of hearing decisions
- Setting of conditions

Revocation Decision Making Elements (what is the severity and risk the offenders impose?)

- The use of risk and need instruments in revocation decision making
- The use of parole revocation guidelines, based on the severity of the violation and the risk posed by the offender
- Hearing types, schedules and the parties involved
- Types of decisions

Phase II: July-December 2009

Parole Structure Elements

- Define the **purpose** of parole
- Define the preferred **structure**
 - Identify current structure
 - Identify the preferred structure
 - Identify gaps between the current and preferred structure
- Written policy and procedure
- Performance measure
 - Monitoring the process
 - Evaluating the impact

In addition...

- Will look at Board membership, qualifications, and appointment process
- Training for Board members
- Align policy and practices of DOC Parole and Parole Board

Issue/Topic:

Parole Board

Action:

Paul Herman and Kim English are

Discussion:

Kim talked about the three hour training she did with the Parole Board members on Saturday February 28, 2009, where she learned that the Parole Board...

- Members are not necessarily operating on the same page as one another.
- They have little time for communication.

going to meet with Pete Weir to discuss this issue (proceed with a commitment by Governor and invite Stephanie Villafuerte and Governor Ritter to a PIS task force meeting).

- Has been told that they are appointed to be independent of one another.
- Does not have any control over DOC's case management.
- By and large the board is not addressing criminogenic needs.

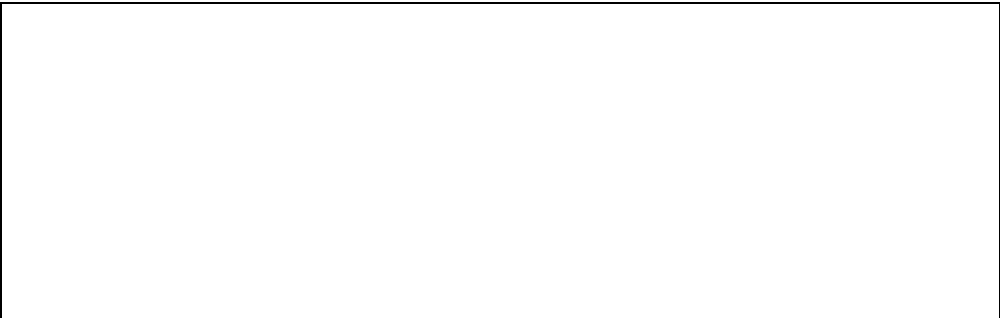
Issue/Topic:	Discussion:
<p>Training of Parole Board Members</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>Paul Herman is going to email (via Germaine) the PIS task force a Parole Board Orientation Training Manual from another state to review.</p>	<p>There is no official training from Parole Board members. They are currently partnered up with a more experienced Parole Board member. Their background does not require them to have any criminal justice experience.</p>

Issue/Topic:	Discussion:
<p>Update on the Parole Release Decision Making</p>	<p>Christie Donner provided the PIS task force with an educational resource about the parole system, the state board of Parole, parole decisions (discretionary vs. mandatory), duties of the Parole Board chairperson, and the statutory mandates of parole.</p>

Issue/Topic:	Discussion:
<p>PSI recommendation update</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>L-11: Get an update from Carl Blesch regarding this recommendation.</p> <p>L-12 and BP-60: Tim Hand is going to be meeting with Ari Zavaras and Jeaneene Miller on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 to review the ideas that Tim and his assistant directors came up with. After Wednesday's meeting, Tim will email Germaine to let her know how this meeting went and what will be moving forward.</p>	<p>L-11 – Promote Partnerships for Correctional Facilities. Carl Blesch was not present to report on this recommendation.</p> <p>L-12 - Early Terminations of Parole. After the last meeting, Tim and three assistant directors met and tackled this initiative. They came up with some ideas, but Tim was not able to present on them. He first wanted to review them with Ari Zavaras and Jeaneene Miller.</p> <p>BP-60 - Date Certain Release for Community Corrections. After the last meeting, Tim and three assistant directors met and tackled this initiative. They came up with some ideas, but Tim was not able to present on them. He first wanted to review them with Ari Zavaras and Jeaneene Miller.</p> <p>CS-64 - Credit for Time Served. Christie Donner mentioned that this was passed 63-1 in the House and approved in the Senate Judiciary Committee.</p> <p>CS-65- DOC (Parole) Technical Violations Unit. Tim Hand mentioned that they are still waiting to see if their JAG grant was approved to help implement a technical violations unit concept.</p>

Issue/Topic:	Discussion:
<p>Educating the Colorado Legislators</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>The idea of educating the legislators</p>	<p>Doug Wilson mentioned that he testified before the Judiciary Committee on Monday, March 9th, and felt that they do not really understand the Criminal Justice System. He suggested we provide them with a 5 day long Criminal Justice 101 training when the legislator is out of session.</p>

is going to be presented to Pete Weir. This would be a day long Criminal Justice 101 training that would be possibly offered three times during the summer. The entire legislative body would be invited to attend.



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<p>Priorities issues for the PIS task force and how to address them</p>	<p>Priority #1: Need for support of the Governor's office.</p>																																																																			
Action:	A. Release Decision Making Work Elements																																																																			
<p>The three groups (Statutory Release Guidelines, etc; Hearings, etc; and Policy and Procedures) should meet and present an update at the April meeting.</p>	<p><i>Question: Do we need more people to assist in doing this work?</i></p>																																																																			
	<p>1. Statutory Release Guidelines, Statutory Conditions on Parole, Current Practice of Parole Board, and the Use of the Risk Assessment</p>																																																																			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and assess the statutory release guidelines and statutory conditions on parole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The goal of reviewing is to simplify, get greater clarity, and understand the direction. 																																																																			
	<p>2. Hearing-Schedules-Types/Purpose</p>																																																																			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify current practices • Identify potential improvements • Identify strategy (statutory and/or administrative) to move forward 																																																																			
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	<p>How we are going to accomplish these work elements:</p>																																																																			
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Return to the Revocation Decision
Making Work Elements.

B. Revocation Decision Making Work Elements

1. Alignment between Parole Board and DOC Parole
 - Assess data
 - Assess current policies and practices
 - Suggest improvements
2. Should we look at revocations and cost benefit.

We were not able to finish addressing this issue, so we will return to it next time.

Next meeting April 7, 2009

9-11:30AM

150 East 10th Avenue