

CCJJJ: Sex Offense/Sex Offender Task Force
FY 2012 CCJJ Recommendations
October 14, 2011
[As approved]

FY12-SO2. Develop collaborative training programs.

Individuals from, but not limited to, the Sex Offender Management Board, the Judicial Department, law enforcement, the Department of Corrections, and the EPIC project* shall collaborate to develop and provide a uniform curriculum of sex offender training modules that could be offered to various groups (supervising officers, treatment providers, community corrections staff, State Board of Parole, judges, legislators, law enforcement, etc.).

(*The Evidence-Based Practice Implementation for Capacity project would require funding to continue beyond its current funding conclusion date. See cdpsweb.state.co.us/cccj/epic.html)

DISCUSSION: It is anticipated that training could be offered more frequently and consistently through this collaborative effort to address such topics as information on the Lifetime Supervision Act, an overview of the SOMB standards, motivational interviewing, and trauma informed treatment.

FY12-SO3. Improve the collection and consistency of data to evaluate the impact of the lifetime supervision act.

A committee shall be created including, but not limited to, representatives from the Department of Corrections, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, the Division of Criminal Justice, and the Judicial Branch, to evaluate and improve the consistency of data collected across agencies to facilitate the study of the impact of the Lifetime Supervision Act. The collaborating agencies should identify and resolve the gaps and inconsistencies in electronic databases. The agencies shall review and provide recommendations to improve the annual Lifetime Supervision Report by July 1, 2012.

FY12-SO7. Charge the Refinement Working Group of the Sex Offense/Offender Task Force or a succeeding group as designated by the CCJJ to work in collaboration with, but not limited to, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Department of Corrections, and Probation, to study the potential, long-term cost savings related to the placement of sex offenders in community corrections (with enhanced per diem) relative to the costs of the retention of sex offenders in or revocation of sex offenders to DOC. This work must be completed by January 1, 2012.

DISCUSSION: It is expected that the intermediate placement option in community corrections for sex offenders determined to be appropriate for this placement will result in a cost savings relative to placement or retention in the Department of Corrections. This cost savings could fund the increased availability and the enhanced per diem of this intermediate community corrections option. The average length of stay for the treatment of specific and appropriate offenders may be shorter in community corrections than if these offenders are retained or returned to the Department of Corrections. Due to the potential wait time for treatment and for parole release, the length of stay in DOC is likely to extend well beyond the stay for the necessary treatment in community corrections. This recommendation would support the implementation of Recommendations #5.

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FY12-SO8. The Office of Community Corrections in the Division of Criminal Justice in collaboration with the SOMB shall work with the CACCB* and the GCCAC^ on training for community corrections board members regarding the Lifetime Supervision Act and sex offender supervision.

*DISCUSSION: Community corrections board members are especially cautious about accepting sex offenders into community corrections programs. Training to address the standards and specifics of treatment and supervision of sex offenders could enhance understanding and inform the evaluation of sex offender application for community corrections programs. (*Colorado Association of Community Corrections Boards; ^Governor's Community Corrections Advisory Council)*

FY12-SO10. Increase treatment resources at DOC.

DISCUSSION: Expanded treatment resources would increase the availability of treatment for the backlog of wait-listed lifetime supervision offenders (indeterminate sentence) and provide treatment to sex offenders with determinate sentences.

FY12-SO12. Conduct regular and ongoing training on Lifetime Supervision and sex offender management as a part of the required Parole Board member training.

DISCUSSION: The necessity for this training should be added to the list of topics in the annual training schedule in the Colorado State Board of Parole Policy Manual [CRS 17-2-201 (1) (e) requires specific hours of parole board member training and (3) (c) requires a Parole Board Policy Manual].

FY12-SO13. The State Board of Parole and treatment staff of the DOC Sex Offender Treatment and Monitoring Program should develop a regular system of feedback when sex offenders who meet SOMB criteria are denied parole.

DISCUSSION: Without creating liberty benchmarks, the intent is to increase the communication between parole board members and treatment staff.